



Dear James,

This month, we are celebrating the **American Gas Association's 105th birthday!** We know **the next 105 years will be even better as we continue to find solutions and innovate towards a brighter tomorrow.**

The industry has been essential in ensuring that nearly **187 million Americans** have access to affordable, reliable, and safe energy **24/7/365**, while helping our nation achieve its **energy and environmental goals.**

Happy birthday AGA!

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TOP TAKEAWAYS

[Empowering Consumer Choices: Analyzing the Impact of the ENERGY STAR PROGRAM](#)

In May, the EPA proposed to phase out the ENERGY STAR certification for natural gas furnaces and central air conditioners by December 30, 2024.

The proposed removal of ENERGY STAR labeling for natural gas furnaces is inconsistent with EPA's ENERGY STAR Products Program Strategic Vision and Guiding Principles, which recognizes that the specifications were designed *"to treat fuel types separately, so that consumers may find the right products for the fuel type in their home, as most make product replacements without switching fuel types."*

A recently published [AGA Energy Insights Analysis](#) reveals impacts that the ENERGY STAR program has on gas appliances and how the EPA's proposal to remove natural gas appliances will impact consumers.

- From 2015 to 2021, there was a continued increase in natural gas appliances purchases within the ENERGY STAR market.
- High-efficiency natural gas appliances are often the most cost-effective and lowest emissions option for consumers.

- Natural gas is the most affordable option for consumers and households with the average natural gas appliance costing significantly less than electric appliances.
- In a survey, 67 percent of homeowners stated that they wanted to purchase gas appliances that are energy efficient.

Dive Deeper: [Read the full analysis here.](#)

Take Action Today: Protect Consumer Choice for ENERGY STAR Household Appliances!

Tell the EPA to withdraw this proposal and keep natural gas appliances in the ENERGY STAR program! Click the graphic below to quickly submit a letter. The comment period ends June 22 - comment today.



AGA Commends Bipartisan Passage of the "Save Our Gas Stoves Act"

This week, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1640, the Save Our Gas Stoves Act, sponsored by Representative Debbie Lesko (R-AZ). This important bipartisan legislation, supported by 29 Democrats, amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prevent the U.S. Department of Energy from effective bans on entire classes of appliances under the guise of energy conservation standards.

Next Steps: Yesterday, the U.S. Senate introduced their version of the same bill, with bipartisan cosponsors. We will keep you posted on any developments.

Dive Deeper: Read AGA's press release [here](#).

"I am encouraged by the strong showing of bipartisan support for this commonsense legislation. Customers deserve the right to choose the appliances that are right for them and their families."

- Karen Harbert, President & CEO, American Gas Association

ICYMI: Natural Gas in the News

- **Fox News:** Meet the deep-pocketed climate nonprofit pushing gas stove ban with direct line to Biden admin, China links ([WATCH](#))
- **ROI-NJ:** We all hate natural gas? Not so fast, say energy experts — with facts and figures ([READ](#))
- **E&E News:** DOE finalizes national hydrogen road map ([READ](#))
- **Forbes:** Why You Should Doubt The U.S. Department Of Energy's Sudden Projection Of Falling Natural Gas Demand ([READ](#))

AGA on the Road

AGA recently participated in the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC) Annual Education Conference in New Orleans, LA.

- Sue Forrester, AGA's Vice President of Advocacy & Outreach, spoke on a panel about positive consumer views towards natural gas, customer growth and industry innovations.
- AGA also hosted an event, the Southern Soiree, welcoming over 100 conference attendees.
- Pictured below is John Gunnells, AGA's Senior Manager of State Affairs, who is sporting a plate of bacon to commemorate AGA's sponsorship of breakfast (and bacon cooked by natural gas).



SAVE THE DATE

AGA Government Affairs Forum

AGA is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 2023 AGA Government Affairs Forum scheduled for **October 1st-4th in Savannah, Georgia.**

This meeting is intended for federal, state, and local government affairs professionals as well as rate and regulatory professionals representing AGA member companies. The program will feature sessions focused on federal and state issues as well as combined sessions and an offsite field trip for all attendees. Please feel free to share this invite with colleagues you think might be interested in attending.

A draft agenda will be available soon!

You can register, secure a hotel room, and check out more information by clicking the link below.

[Register Here](#)

Questions? Let us know!

Sue Forrester, Vice President, Advocacy & Outreach (sforrester@aga.org)

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