

NEWS

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NGSA applauds FERC for its stepped-up efforts to improve the current affiliate rules

Washington, D.C. – The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) today submitted comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on its proposal to improve its existing affiliate rules for both electric and natural gas suppliers, saying, "It is no secret that we have long been in favor of stronger regulations over the relationships between interstate natural gas pipelines and their affiliates," said Patricia Jagtiani, NGSA Vice President of Regulatory Affairs. "The only way to ensure a truly competitive market is through strong and clear codes of conduct on energy affiliates. We applaud FERC for this proactive and strong regulation of the market."

NGSA submitted comments to FERC in response to its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) issued October 26, 2001 (RM01-10-000), re: Standards of Conduct for Transmission Providers.

Jagtiani continued, "We have asked FERC for further clarification on some issues we feel need to be addressed so our members can be confident that they can continue to effectively run their businesses while complying with the rules. All segments of the energy industry are interdependent and rely on communications to ensure natural gas gets to market. We know that FERC's intentions are not to hinder that communication; therefore, we are asking for standards that are well-defined and straightforward to administer, and that are clear about what lines of communication are open, and which ones are closed."

NGSA represents integrated and independent companies that produce and market the majority of the natural gas produced in the United States. NGSA is actively involved in pursuing regulatory and legislative issues that affect the association's members. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages expanded use of natural gas and supports regulatory and legislative actions that foster competitive markets.