



NWGA Decarbonization Policy Statement

OBJECTIVES

- 1) Communicate a collective, positive, proactive vision of the role that the region's gas infrastructure plays in a deeply decarbonized economy.
- 2) Express policy-related values and principles that guide the NWGA's advocacy.
- 3) Constructively collaborate with policymakers and key stakeholders to meet climate goals through rationale and accountable policy and regulatory solutions.

VALUES

Safety: Our most profound shared value: protecting our workers, customers and contractors while safely delivering the energy needed by millions of households and thousands of businesses, institutions and industries across the Pacific Northwest.

Commitment: NWGA members are committed to delivering a sustainable, dependable and competitively priced energy future. We will share our expertise and promote the innovations necessary to achieve deep decarbonization.

Integrity: NWGA says what it means and means what it says. Our word is our bond, and we follow through on the commitments we make. We comply with the laws and regulations that govern our activities. We strive to present accurate and fair information.

Community Stewardship: NWGA members are a fundamental part of and invested in building up the communities that we serve. Our employees live, work and serve in those communities. We invest in local economic development and generously contribute time and treasure to local schools and philanthropies.

Engaged: Representing the region's providers of gaseous energy, the NWGA will be an active and constructive participant in regional decarbonization policy deliberations.

POLICY PRINCIPLES

The following are general concepts that direct the advocacy efforts of the NWGA relating to the role of natural gas infrastructure in supporting the objectives of proposed decarbonization policies:

- Prioritize an integrated, coordinated energy delivery system to strengthen reliability, affordability, and sustainability.
- Preserve the key role that natural gas infrastructure will play in a low-carbon future, along with utilities' obligation to serve customer demand.



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- Promote holistic, economy-wide decarbonization solutions that deliver regional benefits while recognizing the geographic and socio-economic distinctions of different utility service territories, including:
 - Stimulate the development and procurement of renewable and low-carbon fuels and promote investments in decarbonization innovations that continue the utilization of the region's gas infrastructure.
 - Encourage programs that allow customers to receive renewable and/or low carbon gaseous energy.
 - Encourage the use of our collective, modern infrastructure as a solution to decarbonization.
 - Encourage investments in energy efficiency and high-efficiency technologies to reduce customer GHG emissions and lower utility bills.
 - Encourage the reinvestment of revenue generated from carbon pricing and/or related government programs in clean technology and innovation to further decarbonize the molecules delivered by gas infrastructure; and
 - Reduce methane emissions from gas infrastructure to maximize the climate benefits of the energy it delivers.
- Leverage the inherent advantages of utilities (e.g., operational expertise, low-cost capital, long-term financial commitments, etc.);
- Preserve customer choice for families and businesses.
- Promote a healthy utility model that enables continued investments in system safety, reliability and growth.