

New Report: Natural Gas Supply Collaborative Identifies Performance Indicators for Natural Gas Production

Washington D.C. (October 30, 2017) – The Natural Gas Supply Collaborative (NGSC) released a new report today that identifies 14 key environmental and social performance indicators for natural gas production. NGSC encourages natural gas producers to voluntarily report on these non-financial performance indicators.

NGSC is a voluntary collaborative of natural gas purchasers that are promoting safe and responsible practices for natural gas supply. Operating at the intersection of the natural gas supply chain and end-use customers, NGSC participants are increasingly being asked to address questions concerning natural gas production.

NGSC participants are some of the largest natural gas purchasers in the country and include: Austin Energy, Calpine Corporation, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, National Grid, NRG Energy, NW Natural, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and Xcel Energy. Collectively, NGSC participants deliver enough natural gas to meet the needs of more than 36 million U.S. households, and, as part of a portfolio of resources, generate enough electricity from natural gas to power almost 17 million U.S. households.

“The performance indicators are drawn from existing voluntary reporting frameworks and the report was shaped by the thoughtful feedback from a diverse set of stakeholders,” said Robert LaCount report co-author and Executive Vice President at M.J. Bradley & Associates. “NGSC participants are committed to ongoing engagement with natural gas producers and other stakeholders to build on this report and to highlight leading practices producers use to protect the environment and local communities.”

Natural gas plays a vital role in the U.S. energy mix, meeting 30 percent of U.S. energy needs in 2016. This abundant domestic resource currently provides significant economic and environmental benefits to customers in the electric power, residential, industrial and commercial sectors and across the U.S. economy, and in many parts of the country has helped enable an ongoing transition to a lower-carbon energy supply.

“Every day, we have millions of customers who rely on natural gas to heat their homes and businesses, and run their appliances. Also, as an electricity provider, natural gas powers many of our generating plants and provides us with an opportunity to integrate more clean, renewable energy on to our system,” said Cheryl Campbell, Xcel Energy Senior Vice President of Gas. “It is an environmentally beneficial and affordable fuel for Xcel Energy’s customers. As an industry, we all should be working with and encouraging our suppliers to share information and ensure there is transparency in its production.”

Natural gas producers continue to advance techniques for managing environmental, health, safety, and sustainability issues. Leading companies have also expanded their public disclosure to cover a wide range of stakeholder concerns, including those covered by the NGSC performance indicators. NGSC applauds these advances and encourages continued improvement.

“Transparency and disclosure of material supply chain sustainability topics in any sector are an integral part of a comprehensive sustainability strategy,” said Bruno Sarda, Vice President, Sustainability at NRG Energy. “More visibility on social and environmental

Press Release

practices in natural gas production will help foster new dialogues, drive new collaborative actions, and build stakeholder confidence.”

Broader information sharing supports a virtuous cycle where companies highlight their approaches to managing natural gas development, companies and stakeholders benefit from having more information on leading practices, and stakeholders and the public gain greater insights into how companies are protecting the environment and local communities.

“We care about the environmental footprint of our product, and we know our customers do too,” said Bill Edmonds, NW Natural Director of Environmental Management and Sustainability. “The environmental and social performance indicators outlined in this report highlight key topics of interest for natural gas purchasers and our stakeholders.”

This effort is not intended as a new reporting program. NGSC is encouraging natural gas producers to provide an accessible, clear, and thorough discussion of important environmental and sustainability issues through company websites and annual reporting. This type of voluntary reporting goes beyond demonstrating compliance with regulations and helps a company communicate directly with its stakeholders.

The four topic areas covered by the 14 environmental and social performance indicators are: (1) methane and air emissions, (2) water, (3) chemical use, and (4) community impacts and workforce safety. NGSC participants will work to promote and leverage the use of the performance indicators identified in this report and to advance additional opportunities to promote safe and responsible practices for natural gas supply.

The report, *Environmental and Social Performance Indicators for Natural Gas Production*, is authored by M.J. Bradley & Associates and is available along with a list of all the performance indicators at <http://www.mjbradley.com/NGSC>.

Media Contacts:

MJB&A:

Robert LaCount
(202) 347-7266
rlacount@mjbradley.com

Austin Energy:

Jennifer Herber
(512) 322-6514
Jennifer.herber@austinenergy.com

Consolidated Edison Company of New York:

Allan Drury
(212) 460-6915
drurya@coned.com

National Grid:

Shelby Doherty
(781) 907-3980
Shelby.Doherty@nationalgrid.com

NRG Energy:

Candice Adams
(609) 524-5428

Press Release

Candice.Adams@nrq.com

NW Natural:

Melissa Moore
(503) 818-9845
Melissa.Moore@nwnatural.com

Pacific Gas and Electric Company:

Tom Schmitz
(415) 973-3151
T4SO@pge.com

Xcel Energy:

Lisa Kiava
(612) 330-6851
lisa.kiava@xcelenergy.com

####