

STATE ENGAGEMENT

ISSUE

Since state legislatures returned in January, tens of thousands of bills have been introduced, and of those, approximately 650 have been identified as potential threats or opportunities for the propane industry. NPGA is working with state and regional associations to detect, analyze, and respond to legislative proposals. This year, we have seen the largest growth in the category of bills presenting threats to fossil fuels and infrastructure, including carbon taxes and cap and trade.

ACTION

Since 2015, NPGA's State Affairs program has monitored more than 2,000 pieces of legislation with the potential to impact the industry, working in coordination with state and regional associations. NPGA utilizes a variety of monitoring tools including online platforms and alerts to proactively address issues to favor or neutralize the effects to the propane industry. Thus far, the use of online grassroots campaigns targeting legislators has proven incredibly effective.

OUTLOOK

Thus far, we have not seen significant threats from natural gas utilities trying to unfairly subsidize expansion. Instead, natural gas has been our ally in a number of states that have considered carbon taxes or faced threats to eliminating internal combustion engines. We are also seeing more proposals to "electrify everything," or move closer to zero net energy regulations. NPGA will provide assistance to state and regional associations to get members involved in key battles and develop tools for states and marketers to use in combating legislative and regulatory challenges.

FULL FUEL CYCLE EFFICIENCY

ISSUE

Full Fuel Cycle (FFC) analysis is the most accurate method to determine the total amount of energy consumed in any application. FFC accounts for the energy used in extracting, processing, and transporting fuels like propane or natural gas as well as the energy used in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity to the end user. FFC analysis enables an apples-to-apples comparison of propane with other energy sources to demonstrate propane's relative efficiency and low emissions profile. FFC analysis shows fossil-fuel-produced electricity is very inefficient when compared to propane.

ACTION

NPGA is advocating propane's FFC energy efficiency to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The agency is soliciting information on energy efficiency standards for residential and commercial appliances.

OUTLOOK

NPGA is promoting FFC analysis to highlight the total energy consumed and environmental impacts of all energy sources, in particular the relative efficiency and low emissions of propane. NPGA's support for FFC led DOE to incorporate FFC in analyzing appliance efficiency standards, and we are advocating for greater emphasis on FFC by DOE as well as other federal agencies to consider energy options accurately in the nationwide discussion on efficient energy infrastructure. .

CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH LEADING UP TO PROPANE DAYS

ISSUE

The propane industry faces a new political landscape in Washington, DC. With over 100 first-time members of Congress and a new Democratic majority in the House, efforts need to be made to overcome the loss of industry institutional knowledge by educating Congressional Members and staff.

ACTION

Since the beginning of 2019, NPGA has met with over 100 Congressional offices across Capitol Hill. Over the next 90 days, NPGA's advocacy team will continue to build momentum behind the industry's most important policy initiatives leading up to Propane Days 2019. Now more than ever, Congress needs to hear from propane industry leaders face to face.

OUTLOOK

NPGA's advocacy team will continue to lay the groundwork so that our industry can maximize the legislative impact of Propane Days. The propane industry has a great story to tell, and Congress needs to hear that story directly from NPGA members. The higher the number of NPGA members that attend Propane Days 2019, the louder the industry voice will sound.