### Winter Preparations

With a potentially complicated harvest and crop drying season and ever more difficulty in predicting winter forecasts, the propane industry is preparing for uncertainty in supply and demand this winter. NPGA continues to build on relationships with DOT and NASEO, which last year issued revised guidance on emergency declarations and waivers. Further, NPGA has deployed the Propane Logistics Analysis Network tool for marketers to maximize hours of service, available to all industry members via the NPGAction app or https://plan.npga.org. NPGA’s Supply and Logistics Response Team will continue its efforts using an “Early Warning Network” of marketers, transportation providers, propane wholesalers, state/regional associations, and industry experts to communicate logistical issues as they develop so NPGA staff can respond accordingly, including requesting assistance from government entities.

### FY 2020 Appropriations Requests

Appropriations requests for research development and demonstration projects through the Department of Energy provide a legislative opportunity to drive innovation and growth for the propane industry for years to come. This year NPGA submitted requests with over a dozen Appropriators, which resulted in the inclusion of propane in both House and Senate energy and water bills. NPGA continues to work with Congressional stakeholders to ensure propane is included in a final spending bill.

### Hours of Service Proposal

We’re encouraging FMCSA to finalize several proposed modifications to drivers’ hours of service requirements that could improve operational efficiency without jeopardizing the industry’s commitment to safety. A major priority for NPGA is the agency’s proposal to expand and extend the short-haul operation exception that is widely utilized by the propane industry for local and regional deliveries. NPGA is collecting membership feedback to advocate for modifications to the hours of service requirements that present the greatest benefit to the propane industry.