## NET-ZERO EMISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES FOR GAS UTILITES

CIBO Virtual Environmental Committee Meeting March 9, 2022

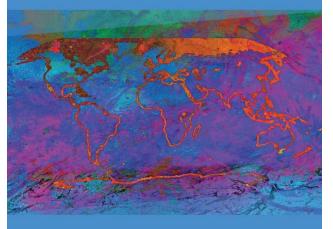
> Rick Murphy Managing Director - Energy Markets



### **Climate Change is a Defining Challenge**

Addressing climate change will require fundamental changes in energy use and reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout the economy. INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON Climate Change Climate Change 2021 The Physical Science Basis

Summary for Policymakers





WGI



**IOCC** 



### Net-Zero Emissions Opportunities for Gas Utilities

An American Gas Association Study prepared by ICF



## **Project Objectives and Approach**

- Evaluates the wide array of opportunities for gas utilities to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions goals
- Provides in-depth assessment of illustrative pathways to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions for gas utility customers by 2050
- Identify policy and regulatory actions to accelerate net-zero ambitions through gas infrastructure and technologies

### There are many gas utility solutions to reducing emissions



Decarbonization planning and implementation must support five key tenets



Affordability

Reliability

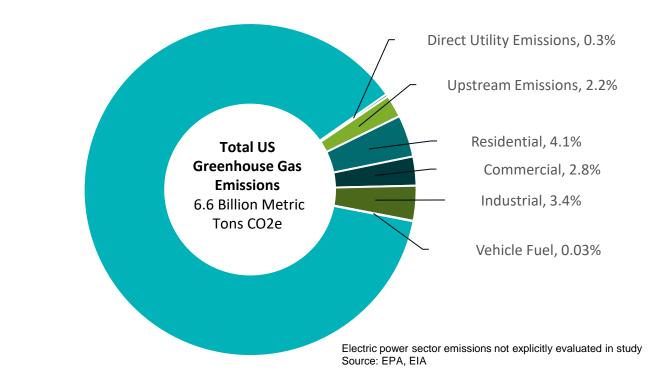
Resilience

Feasibility



# Gas Utility Associated GHG Emissions: 13% of total U.S. GHGs.

Gas Utility Associated GHG Emissions by Category 2019





### **Gas Customer Decarbonization Pathways**

## Each illustrative pathway reaches net-zero emissions for gas utility customers by 2050

#### **Gas Energy Efficiency Focus**

Significant demand reductions from gas heat pumps, utility efficiency programs, and building shell retrofits.

#### **Hybrid Gas-Electric Heating Focus**

Coordinated gas and electric infrastructure planning and optimization through use of hybrid gas-electric integrated heating systems.

#### Mixed Technology Approach

"All of the above" scenario with fuel-neutral policy where customers choose from a range of applications.

#### **Renewable and Low-Carbon Gas Focus**

Prioritizes the decarbonization of the energy supply and limit impacts on customers to make major changes in energy equipment and infrastructure.



### **Assumptions and Other Considerations**



- Baseline EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2021 (Ref Case)
- Net-zero requirements assumed economy-wide
  - Power generation & transportation not modeled
- Customer pathways include end-use sectors served by gas utilities
  - LNG exports not included
  - Propane / electric / fuel oil customers not modeled
- National-level results
- Costs must be based on highly-local factors outside analysis scope

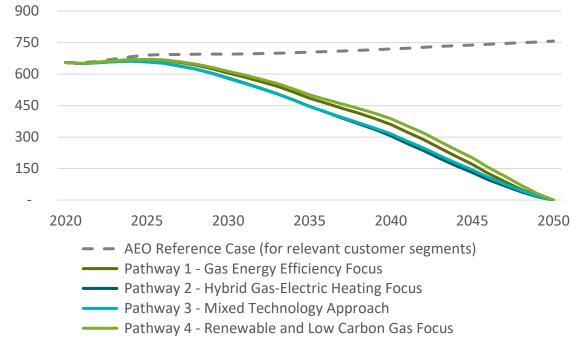


## Every pathway was designed to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions.

**Aillion Metric Tons of CO2e** 

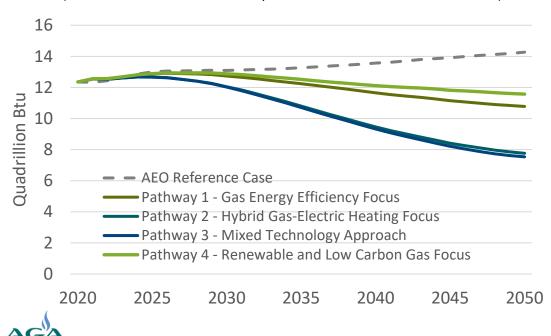


- Emphasis was placed on developing pathways showcasing a diversity of scenarios
- There are many potential pathways to net-zero that include gas utility solutions and infrastructure.
- The number of natural gas customers grow in all pathways



## All pathways require significant gas demand reductions achieved through energy efficiency

#### **Total Gas Demand in Study Scope**



(Residential, Commercial, Transportation, & LDC Industrial Customers)

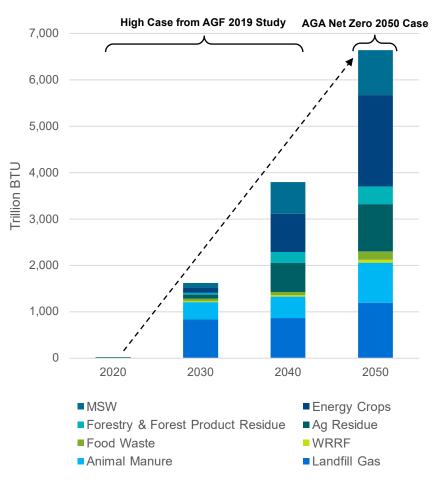
#### 2050 VS 2020 % Change

	Total	Res	Com	Ind	Transp
AEO Reference Case	+16%	-3%	+13%	+32%	+413%
4. Renewable and Low Carbon	-6%	-9%	-5%	-13%	+413%
1. Gas EE Focus	-13%	-23%	-11%	-11%	+413%
2. Hybrid Heating	-37%	-54%	-46%	-19%	+413%
3. Mixed Approach	-39%	-52%	-44%	-29%	+413%

### All pathways studied incorporate a significant expansion of renewable natural gas (RNG) and hydrogen

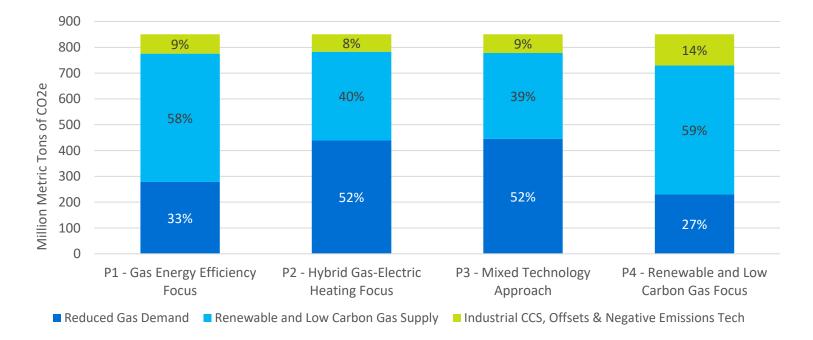
- The renewable natural gas and lowcarbon supply mix is underpinned by a significant resource potential expansion compared with the American Gas Foundation (2019) study
- Low-carbon fuels technology are evolving rapidly.
- RNG resource development is a key strategy to unlocking gas decarbonization opportunities.

#### Comparison of 2040 and 2050 Cases for RNG Supply



## The relative contribution of measures varies by pathway, showcasing a diversity of potential approaches

#### Summary of Types of 2050 Emission Reductions



rican Gas Association

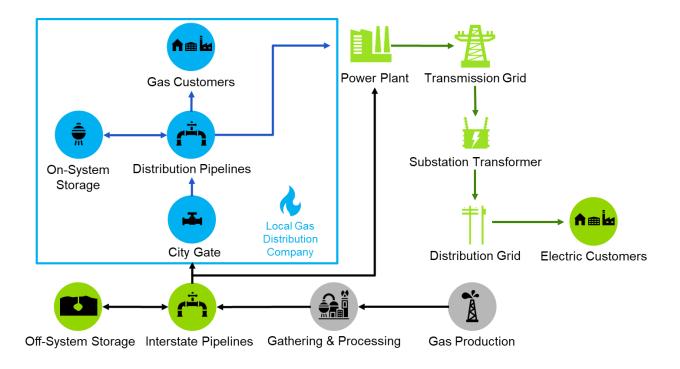
## Ability of gas infrastructure to store and transport large amounts of energy represents an important and valuable resource

#### 2.5 2 **Quadrillion Btu** 1.5 0.5 0 JAN **FEB** MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC Electricity Natural Gas

2020 U.S. Electric and Natural Gas Consumption Across all Customer Segments



## An integrated approach to decarbonization is needed that leverages the gas and electricity systems





Stakeholders should consider gas decarbonization strategies



### Value in multiple approaches

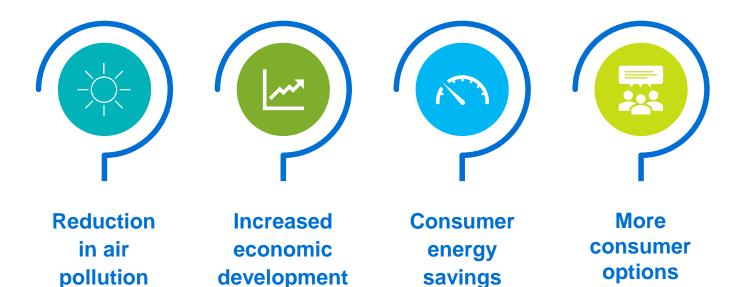
Leverage existing infrastructure

Reduce transition costs and complexity

Maintain flexibility to respond to changes in technology or the market

Leveraging both gas and electric systems lowers risks

## Additional community and customer benefits of gas utility strategies to decarbonization





## Supportive policy and regulatory approval will be essential for gas utilities to achieve net-zero emissions.

- Expanded Utility Energy Efficiency and Demand-Side Management Programs
- Create Market Structures and Incentivize Demand for Renewable and Low Carbon Gases
- Coordinated Gas and Electric
  Planning
- Utility Regulatory Updates
- Address Cost Allocation and Consumer Equity Issues
- Considering methods to compensate gas customers for system cost savings





AGA and the natural gas utility industry will enable gas utility emissions reduction solutions through activities and initiatives in seven key areas.



# **Questions?**

