

## It's Time to Sound the Alarm

### AND TAKE A BALANCED APPROACH TO CLEAN ENERGY

Efforts to ban highly efficient natural gas stoves, and other gas appliances, should raise alarm bells for the millions of Americans who depend on this essential energy every day. Across the country, anti-fossil fuel proponents have funded unrealistic studies and convinced officials to ban the direct use of natural gas in federal buildings and in new home construction.

The recent reports about these studies seem to indicate that indoor air quality (IAQ) is adversely affected by natural gas stoves and ovens. As an organization that has provided safe and reliable natural gas service for more than 65 years, we are committed to giving you the facts about natural gas safety. Natural gas stoves are not only safe, but also less expensive to use and provide unmatched cooking quality.

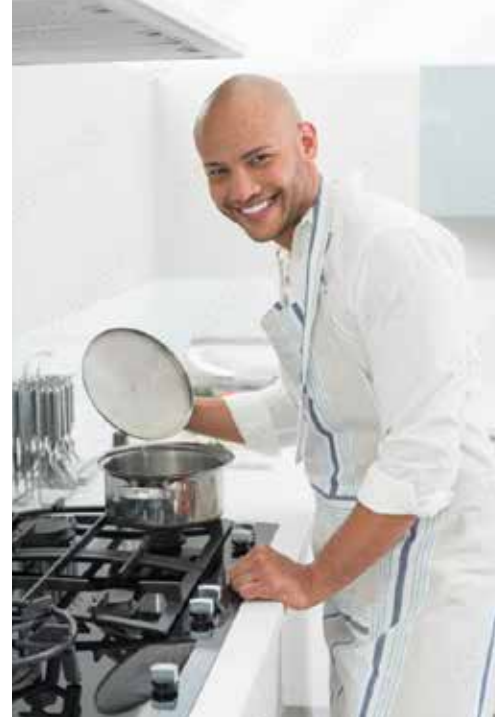
In response to reports about natural gas stoves, the American Gas Association clarified that many of the studies making these health claims relied on

questionable assumptions about airflow and ventilation that is inconsistent with a typical residential home. In fact, in one study the researchers' methods included sealing the kitchen with plastic sheets to minimize ventilation and airflow.

Indoor air quality studies have consistently found that the cooking process, whether electric or gas, represents the chief source of emissions.

Anyone who has burnt a meal or inhaled the smell of bacon has experienced some of the cooking process emissions that can temporarily impact IAQ. These pollutants can be easily addressed with appropriate kitchen ventilation.

As with all appliances, we encourage consumers to practice safety and follow manufacturer's guidelines which recommend installation of a vented hood, or use of a 'ductless' range hood that removes particulates through carbon filters.



## No Ban... Just Unattainable Efficiency Rules

Although the current administration indicated they would not ban natural gas stoves, the Department of Energy recently released a proposed rule updating energy efficiency standards that would ultimately make gas stoves (and other natural gas appliances, including a furnace) unaffordable to manufacture or purchase.

The use of these rules and regulations can slowly and methodically eliminate natural gas appliances from the market – all without congressional hearings or a new law.

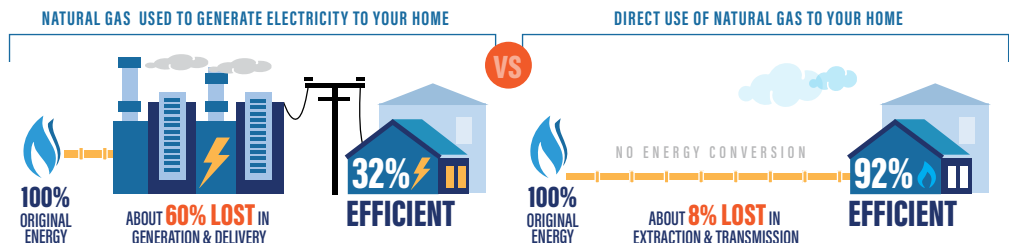
The main purpose of these efforts is to mitigate climate change by supposedly making buildings **zero-carbon**. The problem is, banning the direct use of natural gas by end users lowers energy efficiency when accounting for the full fuel cycle.

**Electricity must be generated from another fuel source**, and natural gas now accounts for almost 40% of power generation. When considering the full fuel cycle, at least half of the energy in natural gas is lost in electric generation and transmission.

**However, when delivered directly to the consumer, natural gas is 92% efficient.** It's also clean energy — **helping to reduce emissions**; reliable - **there when you need it**; and, affordable, **costing about a third less than electricity.**

## USE NATURAL GAS FOR WHAT IT DOES BEST

The most efficient, cost effective and environmentally friendly use of natural gas is to use it directly at the appliance in your home or business



# Efficiency and environmental awareness are important to all consumers

After all, efficiency also affects your pocket book. Research shows that consumers care about energy efficiency and normally purchase Energy Star labeled appliances — even before the government tells them they should. Good public policy balances economic and environmental objectives to advance the public interest. Policymakers should place more trust in markets to assure that electrification, when it occurs, will be for the good of society, not just for special interests. We encourage you to stay alert and be a champion for domestic and reliable energy.

Contact your congressman to share your concerns regarding energy policies, and advocate for common sense regulations that promote consumer choice, low energy costs, and stability for years to come.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Natural gas has become the nation's largest fuel source for electricity generation and an essential component of the clean energy mix that has helped reduce CO2 emissions by over 20% since 2000.

For decades, the country has grappled with how to produce the amount of energy we need to live comfortably and support the U.S. economy while also protecting the environment. Affordable, abundant natural gas is lowering CO2 emissions and helping us work toward a sustainable future.

## COSTLY REGULATION FOR MINIMAL GAIN?

Less than 9% of United States carbon emissions comes from the direct use of natural gas in homes and buildings. The U.S. emits about 15% of world carbon emissions. Thus, converting all buildings to all-electric and assuming that all electricity is produced from "clean" sources (which won't occur for some time) reduces worldwide emissions by less than 1.5%. According to climate models, that would not have a detectable effect on global climate, temperature, or sea level.

Ref: <https://www.cato.org/regulation/spring-2022/why-kill-natural-gas>

## CUSTOMER SERVICE PROGRAMS

### Feel the Heat

Feel the Heat is a payment assistance program that provides financial help with natural gas bills. The program is funded by caring customers and employees who add an extra dollar or more to their monthly bill payment. Donations are collected by the Authority, and used to assist qualified applicants. Screening and funding decisions are made through partner agencies located throughout the county.

**In 2022, the program was expanded with over 115 families receiving financial help through partner agencies, totaling just over \$35,000.**

#### NEED ASSISTANCE?

Qualified applicants include the elderly, or disabled with family incomes at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines; however, partner agencies may also refer cases based on emergency needs.

#### TO APPLY, CONTACT:

HOPE of Rock Hill  
Pilgrims' Inn  
Clover Assistance Center  
Fort Mill Care Center  
York P.A.T.H.  
Iron City Ministries



[ycnga.com/feel-the-heat](http://ycnga.com/feel-the-heat)

#### TIME TO ENROLL!

### Levelized Billing Program

Often referred to as budget billing, this plan sets a fixed monthly payment based on the past 12-months of gas usage at your residence. The Levelized Billing Program (LBP) allows you to stabilize your monthly energy costs by paying the same amount each month — preventing spikes in your bill. Instead of paying large bills in the winter and small bills in the summer, the amount is spread out over the year.



#### NO NEED TO RE-ENROLL EACH YEAR

Adjustments are made to LBP accounts each year after the May bill. The new payment amount will show on the next billing statement in June.



#### HOW TO ENROLL IN LEVELIZED BILLING

Call customer service **AFTER** you receive your May statement  
**(803) 323-5304**

#### STAY CONNECTED ALL YEAR

### Keep Service Active Over the Summer

Customers who disconnect for the summer, and later reconnect are charged a fee of \$125 which covers the cost of two service calls. Stay connected for just \$10/month and qualify for our Levelized Billing Program, which levels your gas bill over 11 months to a uniform payment. In addition, customers who have year-round use may be eligible for our Preferred Rate. Call Customer Service to be sure you're getting the best rate available for your usage.

stay connected

FOR ONLY

**\$10**  
PER MONTH

## UnBOX a great deal on a new gas grill!

Our premium stainless or cast iron grills are connected directly to the natural gas supply in your home. With a convenient and constant source of fuel, gas grills burn cleanly and offer the precision cooking you enjoy indoors, with the smoky flavor only a grill can provide.

### PURCHASING A NEW, BOXED GRILL WILL

**SAVE YOU UP TO \$450**

with **\$200 off our retail price** and a **savings of \$250** when you build and connect it yourself

There's no cookery here... just a searing good deal with a treasure chest of extras including free delivery, manufacturers assembly instructions & videos, plus a bristle-free brush\* that's safe for cleaning your fiery grates of goodness.

Offer includes free delivery of boxed grill. Additional costs may apply for installation of new gas piping and/or connection of grill. Cost for assembly and delivery is \$250 (waived for delivery of boxed grill). Service fee of \$75 for connection only. \*While supplies last.



*Marinate on this, but don't let it simmer too long*

**BOX SALE ENDS JUNE 30, 2023**

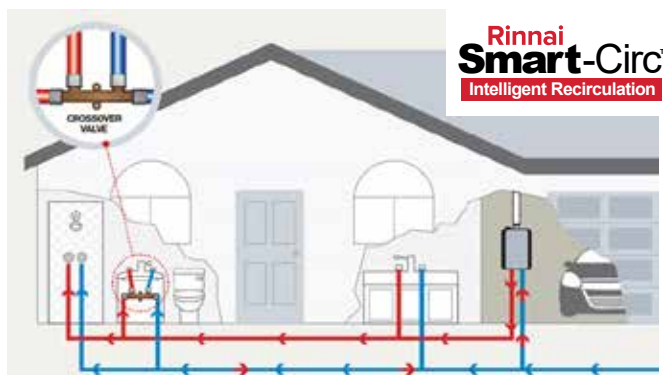
### FEATURED GRILLS



### NAPOLEON PRESTIGE PRO

Built to last with premium steel that boasts excellent corrosion resistance and construction. Comes with accessories including lighted knobs, side burner, interior lights, soft close cabinets and rotisserie. Plus, Napoleon's **best-in-class** manufacturer's warranty.

### PREMIUM BRANDS



## It's a Great Time to GO TANKLESS

**RECIRCULATION STANDARD ON NEW RINNAI MODELS**

The new Rinnai high efficiency tankless water heaters now offer recirculation. Rinnai Smart-Circ™ Intelligent Recirculation™ technology "learns" your hot water usage over a seven-day period, then schedules pump and tankless recirculation accordingly. Enjoy hot water during regular demand periods, while saving energy and money.

Rinnai tankless water heaters last up to twice as long as tanks and have twice the warranty length. Plus, they save energy by heating water only when it is needed.



**BROWSE ONLINE:**  
ycnga.com



**EMAIL US:**  
sales.installation@ycnga.com



**CALL SALES:**  
(803)323-5315

### SAFETY & AWARENESS

## Natural Gas Safety Inspections in Blacksburg & Western Rock Hill

**YOU MAY SEE US IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, AND EVEN IN YOUR YARD**

As part of our commitment to providing safe and reliable service, we conduct visual inspections and leak surveys on our pipeline system.



A typical inspection takes only a few minutes and is performed by a technician who uses a leak detecting device and walks the area between the gas main, located in the street or alley, to the gas meter beside your home. Inspections are completed outside your home or business during normal business hours and the technician will never ask to enter your home. If the gas meter is located behind your home or in a gated area, the technician will knock on your door. Prior to the inspection it is important that the meter is free of debris and accessible to the technician.



We work hard to maintain a safe and reliable system, and **YOU** play an important role in that process. Natural gas leaks are rare, but can occur due to faulty appliances, piping or maintenance. **If you suspect a gas leak, call us right away to inspect.**

### IF YOU SUSPECT A LEAK:

- Leave the area immediately and warn others to stay away
- Do not use a phone or device that could create a spark
- Call 9-1-1 and us at 866-201-1001 once you are safely away from the area

Natural gas has an odorant to aid in the detection of a leak. If you smell the gassy odor often compared to the smell of rotten eggs, don't ignore it. We respond to safety concerns **24/7, at no charge.**

# How Forced Electrification Will Negatively Impact You

As states and local communities look for ways to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, there has been a discussion about "electrifying" homes and buildings. This push for electrification means that natural gas appliances, heaters, stoves and fireplaces would be replaced by electric powered appliances in homes and businesses.

**Here's how short-sighted electrification policies will affect the 70 million U.S. households and businesses that currently utilize natural gas:**

## INCREASED COSTS<sup>1</sup>

- Electrification would increase average household-energy related costs and would require significant investments in electricity infrastructure.
- **Average household energy-related costs are estimated to increase by between \$750 and \$910 per year, or about 38-46%.**
- The total economy-wide increase in energy-related costs from residential electrification ranges from **\$590 billion to \$1.2 trillion.**

## LIMITED CONSUMER CHOICE

- Nearly **90%** of people surveyed who recently bought or plan to buy a house ranked having a home with natural gas service as "important" to them.<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly **70%** of consumers prefer natural gas homeheating, water heating and cooking.<sup>3</sup>

## DECREASED RELIABILITY

- Electricity is often affected by weather events and external factors that create power outages or inconsistencies.
- Interruptions in electricity supply caused by power outages **cost American consumers an estimated \$150 billion a year.**<sup>4</sup>



## NATURAL GAS FOR CONSUMERS

Electrification will cost consumers more, remove their ability to choose the best energy source for their family, and negatively impact the reliability of their household energy sources all without the promised environmental benefits. Compared to electrification, direct use of natural gas will deliver energy to consumers at **3X the efficiency and at 1/3 of the cost.**

- It is three times more efficient to use natural gas directly in homes and businesses.
- The source-to-site efficiency, which accounts for the energy required in the extraction, processing and transportation is 92% for direct use of natural gas.
- Natural gas generated electricity averages a source-to-site efficiency of 32%.

## IMPACTED HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

- Water Heaters/Tank & Tankless
- Gas Furnace
- Gas Stoves & Grills
- Gas Fireplaces
- Backup Generators
- Gas Clothes Dryers
- Pool Heaters

## REFERENCES:

(1) American Gas Association, Implications of Policy- Driven Residential Electrification | (2) NW Natural, Increase the Value of Your Home with Natural Gas | (3) Energy Solutions Center 2016 | (4) Galvin Electricity Initiative, The Electric Power System is Unreliable | (5) EPA Energy Star Program, What are the Site-to-Source Conversion Factors?

## IMPACTED HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

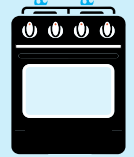
standard tank & tankless water heaters



gas furnaces



gas stoves & grills



gas fireplaces



back up generators



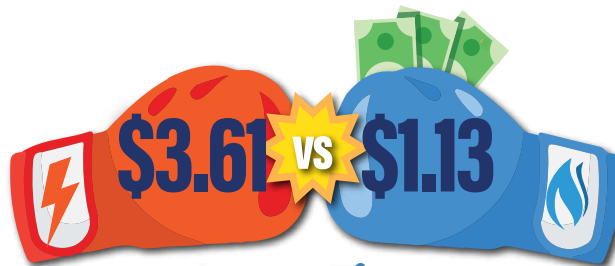
# What is 'EFFICIENCY'?

The goal of efficiency is to use the least amount of resources for the highest performance output. When it comes to energy efficiency and affordability the comparison is clear. Natural gas is more efficient than electricity from source (well) to site (customer). When you consider that electricity must be generated from another fuel source, natural gas is the clear winner.

## ELECTRICITY

The average cost per Kwh of electricity in our region is \$0.1235.\* To properly compare the price of electricity to the price of gas, the same common energy denominator must be used – BTUs (British Thermal Units). When converting 1 kWh at a cost of \$0.1235 per kWh to 100,000 BTU, the **converted cost is \$3.61.**

\*findenergy.com/sc/york-county-electricity/



**We have a Winner!**

- ☒ price
- ☒ performance
- ☒ reliability

## NATURAL GAS

Natural gas rates for Rate 10 (year-round) residential customers is currently \$1.13 per therm.

One therm = 100,000 BTU, so the equivalent energy **cost is \$1.13.**



**MEMORIAL DAY**

**MAY 29**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**JULY 4**

**LABOR DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 4**



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

Gas appliances may cost more initially, but lower utility bills, cleaner energy use, and reduced maintenance costs over the life of these appliances will more than make up that difference. With gas, you never stop saving. We offer rebates — [ycnga.com/rebates](http://ycnga.com/rebates) — when you switch to natural gas from another energy source.