

DAVID G. SCHRYVER, JR.

EXPERIENCE

January 2020 to
Present

American Public Gas Association, Washington, D.C.
President & CEO

- Establish and implemented operational and strategic policies for the association
- Serve as the President and CEO for the APGA Research Foundation and the APGA Security and Integrity Foundation
- Coordinate with the Board of Directors on the development of strategies that advance the goals of the association
- Develop and implement an annual budget.

September 2006 to
December 2019

American Public Gas Association, Washington, D.C.
Executive Vice President and V.P. for Congressional Affairs

- Managed APGA's legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts.
- Managed the government relations and communications staff.
- Assisted the President & CEO in handling administrative and personnel matters.
- Conduct interviews, hiring new staff, and providing employee orientation.

February 2004 to
September, 2006

American Public Gas Association, Washington, D.C.
Vice President for Congressional Affairs

- Represented APGA's legislative priorities in Congress and regulatory priorities before FERC, the CFTC and other federal agencies
- Established the APGA Public Gas Policy Council for elected and appointed officials from public gas communities.
- Planned and managed an annual government affairs conference in Washington, D.C.
- Served as APGA contact for national and trade press inquiries on APGA legislative and regulatory efforts.

July 2001 to
February 2004

American Public Power Association, Washington, D.C.
Senior Government Relations Representative

- Advocated APPA views on issues to Members of Congress and their staffs.
- Worked directly with Energy Committee staff in negotiating key APPA issues within comprehensive energy legislation.
- Drafted speeches, statements, position papers and congressional testimony.
- Assisted the Senior Vice President of Government Relations in coordinating the work of the legislative department.

September 2000 to
July 2001

Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Government Affairs Manager

- Managed and coordinated legislative/regulatory functions within CSU.
- Developed an annual legislative agenda approved by City Council.
- Created and chaired the CSU Legislative Committee.
- Appointed to the Colorado Water Congress and National Water Resources Association Board of Directors.

March 1996 to
September 2000

Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Government Affairs Specialist

- Assessed the impacts of state and federal legislation/regulations upon the individual department operations of the utility.
- Represented CSU's interests before trade associations to which the utility belongs such as the Colorado Water Congress, American Public Power Association, American Public Gas Association and Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities.
- Presented testimony before state committees on CSU's position on various issues.
- Appointed to Chair the Legislative Committee of the Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities.

March 1996
to April 1994

Adams & Reese, Washington, D.C.
Legislative Assistant

- Represented clients before Members of Congress, congressional committees and staff.
- Developed legislative strategies designed to achieve client objectives.
- Tracked and analyzed legislative/regulatory issues on behalf of the firm.
- Established and wrote a Washington Office Newsletter for distribution to clients and firm employees.

August 1987
to April 1994

U.S. Senator John Breaux, Washington, D.C.
Legislative Assistant

- Provided briefings and updates to the Senator on key legislative and regulatory issues.
- Tracked legislation on issues related to energy, transportation and the environment.
- Represented the Senators interests before coalitions and interest groups.
- Wrote floor statements for the Senator.

EDUCATION

Miami University, Oxford, Ohio (May, 1987)
Bachelor of Arts- Degrees in Political Science and History

- Obtained the Certified Association Executive accreditation in 2008.
- Completed the 4-year Institute of Organization Management in January, 2009.
- Member of the Board of Directors for the Center for Energy Workforce Development

Truth in Testimony Disclosure Form

In accordance with Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5)* of the *Rules of the House of Representatives*, witnesses are asked to disclose the following information. Please complete this form electronically by filling in the provided blanks.

Committee: Agriculture

Subcommittee: _____

Hearing Date: 03/25/2025

Hearing Title :

"The CFTC at 50: Examining the Past and Future of Commodity Markets"

Witness Name: Dave Schryver

Position/Title: President & CEO

Witness Type: Governmental Non-governmental

Are you representing yourself or an organization? Self Organization

If you are representing an organization, please list what entity or entities you are representing:

The American Public Gas Association

FOR WITNESSES APPEARING IN A NON-GOVERNMENTAL CAPACITY

Please complete the following fields. If necessary, attach additional sheet(s) to provide more information.

Are you a fiduciary—including, but not limited to, a director, officer, advisor, or resident agent—of any organization or entity that has an interest in the subject matter of the hearing? If so, please list the name of the organization(s) or entities.

No

Please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) related to the hearing's subject matter that you or the organization(s) you represent have received in the past thirty-six months from the date of the hearing. Include the source and amount of each grant or contract.

None

Please list any contracts, grants, or payments originating with a foreign government and related to the hearing's subject that you or the organization(s) you represent have received in the past thirty-six months from the date of the hearing. Include the amount and country of origin of each contract or payment.

None

Please complete the following fields. If necessary, attach additional sheet(s) to provide more information.

- I have attached a written statement of proposed testimony.
- I have attached my curriculum vitae or biography.

* Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5), of the U.S. House of Representatives provides:

(5)(A) Each committee shall, to the greatest extent practicable, require witnesses who appear before it to submit in advance written statements of proposed testimony and to limit their initial presentations to the committee to brief summaries thereof.

(B) In the case of a witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include— (i) a curriculum vitae; (ii) a disclosure of any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts, grants, or payments originating with a foreign government, received during the past 36 months by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness and related to the subject matter of the hearing; and (iii) a disclosure of whether the witness is a fiduciary (including, but not limited to, a director, officer, advisor, or resident agent) of any organization or entity that has an interest in the subject matter of the hearing.

(C) The disclosure referred to in subdivision (B)(ii) shall include— (i) the amount and source of each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) related to the subject matter of the hearing; and (ii) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government.

(D) Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form 24 hours before the witness appears to the extent practicable, but not later than one day after the witness appears.



American Public Gas Association

**Written Testimony of Dave Schryver
President and CEO
American Public Gas Association**

Before the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “The CFTC at 50: Examining the Past and Future of Commodity Markets.”

March 25, 2025

Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, members of the Committee, my name is Dave Schryver, the President and CEO of the American Public Gas Association (APGA). Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the Committee.

I am honored to appear today on behalf of the approximately 1,000 communities across the United States that own and operate their retail gas distribution entities. APGA’s members include not-for-profit gas distribution systems owned by municipalities and other local government entities, all directly accountable to the citizens they serve. Public gas systems focus on safely providing efficient, reliable, and affordable energy to their customers and support their communities by delivering fuel to be used for cooking, clothes drying, and space and water heating, as well as for various commercial and industrial applications, including electricity generation.

APGA’s number one priority is the safe and reliable delivery of affordable natural gas. If we are to fully utilize efficient, domestically produced natural gas at long-term affordable prices, natural gas production and transportation must occur at levels that sufficiently meet demand. However, equally critical is to ensure public confidence in the pricing of natural gas. This requires a level of transparency in natural gas markets, which assures consumers that market prices are a result of fundamental supply and demand forces and not the result of manipulation or other abusive market conduct.

Community-Owned Gas Utilities’ Engagement in the Derivatives Market

Community-owned natural gas utilities utilize the derivatives market as a risk management tool to protect consumers from volatile energy prices. As not-for-profit entities, these utilities do not engage in speculative trading but instead use derivatives to hedge against unpredictable fluctuations in the natural gas market. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission’s (CFTC) role in regulating these markets is critical in ensuring APGA members’ equitable engagement.

As previously mentioned, the primary goal of public utilities is to provide stable and affordable gas prices for their customers. To achieve this, they enter into over-the-counter (OTC) swaps and futures contracts to lock in prices for future purchases. This helps them to minimize the impacts

on consumers from sudden price spikes caused by unforeseen market disruptions such as severe weather events.

Without access to these hedging mechanisms, community-owned gas systems would have fewer options available to them to help minimize the impacts of costs associated with market volatility on their customers, leading to unpredictable and potentially unaffordable energy costs. The ability to manage risk through derivatives is a critical component of public gas systems' financial strategy and long-term planning.

Community-Owned Gas Utilities' Reliance on the CFTC to Protect Against Market Manipulation

The CFTC serves as the primary regulatory body overseeing derivatives markets, ensuring that these markets operate fairly and free from manipulation. Community-owned utilities rely on the Commission's oversight and principle-based regulation to prevent market abuses that could distort natural gas prices and harm consumers. History has shown that unregulated or under-regulated markets can be subject to manipulation by large financial entities. Market manipulation can have severe consequences, artificially inflating prices and ultimately increasing costs for end-users, including residential and industrial customers of public gas utilities.

By enforcing position limits, monitoring large trades, and investigating potential abuses, the CFTC helps to ensure that natural gas prices are a reflection of true supply and demand realities rather than speculative excesses. This role is vital in maintaining confidence in the market and ensuring that community-owned utilities can continue to use derivatives to help protect consumers from price volatility.

When financial entities engage in market manipulation or other market abuses, the consequences are felt most acutely by everyday consumers. Price spikes resulting from speculative trading force utilities to pass these artificially high prices onto consumers, leading to higher energy bills. Also, when industrial customers of public gas systems face higher energy rates, their production costs rise, leading to higher prices for consumers in the form of more expensive goods. By contrast, under strong CFTC oversight, markets function properly and prices remain more stable, reflecting real supply and demand conditions. The CFTC's ability to detect and deter such market distortions is critical to maintaining fairness and affordability in energy pricing.

The Importance of Enhancing Market Transparency

Transparency in the derivatives market is fundamental to maintaining fair pricing and ensuring that public utilities and consumers are not subjected to hidden risks. The CFTC's efforts to increase market transparency are critical in preventing manipulation and protecting consumers.

The implementation of the CFTC's Large Trader Reporting System and other transparency measures has provided regulators with better insight into market dynamics. Ensuring that all significant market participants are subject to robust reporting and oversight is essential to preventing another crisis driven by undisclosed, high-risk trading activities.

APGA member systems support continued improvements in data collection and reporting that allow regulators to detect irregular trading patterns before they become systemic threats. In recent years, the CFTC has made strides in expanding its reporting capabilities. Transparency benefits not just public utilities but also other end-users, energy producers, and the broader economy by fostering a more stable pricing environment.

Conclusion

Natural gas is a lifeblood of our economy and millions of consumers depend on natural gas every day to meet their daily needs. It is critical that the price those consumers are paying for natural gas comes about through the operation of fair and orderly markets and through appropriate market mechanisms that establish a fair and transparent marketplace. The CFTC plays an indispensable role in ensuring the integrity of the derivatives market, ensuring that community-owned gas utilities- and others- can continue to help protect consumers from significant price volatility. By preventing market manipulation and enhancing market transparency through principle-based regulation, the Commission is uniquely situated to create a fair and efficient market that benefits all stakeholders.

As Congress considers the future of financial market oversight, we urge continued support for the CFTC's mission and its authority to regulate the derivatives landscape. Maintaining a strong, well-resourced regulator is essential to ensuring that public gas utilities can continue to provide affordable and reliable energy to the communities they serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I look forward to answering any questions the Committee may have.