

## Introduction

The NW Coalition for Energy Choice (NWCEC) believes every consumer should have access to the energy that best meets their needs, and that energy should be affordable and dependable. Our coalition defends Washington and Oregon consumers' ability to choose natural gas against threats to ban its use.

**Join our coalition to protect energy choice in our region today.**



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## The Truth About Natural Gas in Oregon and Washington

- ✓ **Natural gas infrastructure spans over 74,000 miles, safely delivering critical energy to families and businesses, which could include Renewable Natural Gas and hydrogen.** <sup>1</sup>
- ✓ **77% of voters agree that communities need natural gas for energy reliability in case of heat waves, wildfires and winter storms.** <sup>2</sup>
- ✓ **Affordable natural gas heating bills can run close to 1/3 of the cost of electric heating.** <sup>3</sup> In fact, at least **77% of voters prefer natural gas for its affordability.** <sup>4</sup>
- ✓ **Natural gas supports hundreds of thousands of quality family-wage jobs.** <sup>5</sup>
- ✓ **In a recent survey, 75% of respondents agreed that families and businesses should have a choice of energy options to meet their needs.** <sup>6</sup>
- ✓ **Natural gas delivers warmth and comfort to more than 2 million households and 200,000 businesses, institutions and industries.** <sup>7</sup>

### Sources

<sup>1,7</sup> Aggregate of Oregon and Washington Utilities and Transmission Pipelines

<sup>2,4,6</sup> DHM Research July 2024 Survey of Oregon and Washington Voters

<sup>3</sup> Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<sup>5</sup> American Gas Association

Despite the popularity of natural gas and the overwhelming unpopularity of natural gas bans, some state and local officials are considering banning its use, restricting diverse energy choices, without consideration of cost and climate impacts to families and businesses.

In our aspiration to reduce carbon emissions, lawmakers must determine the likely harms to affordability and reliability. Because of heat waves, wildfires and winter storms, we need dual energy systems – both gas and electric. Many homes and businesses with natural gas can have energy even when the power is out, providing resiliency and safety for our communities.

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