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**Northeast Gas Association statement  
regarding Responsible Natural Gas Utility Planning,  
and the Levitan Analysis of a Flawed EDF Report**

**February 27, 2018...** In October 2017, the Northeast Gas Association (NGA) issued a statement on the Environmental Defense Fund's (EDF's) report on New England's electric and natural gas markets, calling the EDF analysis "profoundly misleading and inaccurate."

Today we reiterate that assessment in light of the release of Levitan & Associates' analysis of the EDF workpaper "Vertical Market Power in Interconnected Natural Gas and Electricity Markets."

As NGA said then, natural gas utilities plan prudently to ensure they have sufficient, reliable supplies of natural gas to meet customer needs. Natural gas utilities in New England and nationally are responsible for ensuring the safe and reliable delivery of natural gas to millions of consumers and businesses. The utilities are regulated by state and federal agencies to ensure safe and reliable operations, and that includes ensuring they have adequate supplies for their customers during all conditions, including challenging weather – when home heating demand is at its peak.

We find that the Levitan analysis, conducted on behalf of Eversource, provides a thorough, accurate analysis of how the natural gas system operates, how natural gas utilities meet regulatory requirements, and how natural gas utilities manage their supply and delivery systems to meet customer obligations.

The Levitan analysis comprehensively and conclusively documents the fundamental flaws and misleading analysis conducted by EDF.

NGA welcomes and encourages a fact-based debate about the regional energy system. The misleading and inaccurate EDF paper represented a disservice to the public and the energy industry. We are pleased that the Levitan study has definitively established the facts and set the record straight.

*NGA is a regional trade association that represents natural gas distribution companies, transmission companies, liquefied natural gas importers, and manufacturers and suppliers to the industry. These companies provide natural gas to approximately 13 million customers in nine states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont).*