

## 2026 Members

### DEALER MEMBERS

AmeriGas Propane LP  
 Blossman Gas, Inc.  
 Cajun Propane of Lafayette  
 Ferrellgas  
 Harrell Gas, Inc.  
 Jim's South Butane Propane  
 LacoX, Inc.  
 Lake Arthur Butane Co.  
 Lassalle Gas Co., Inc.  
 Metro Lift Propane  
 National Welding Supply Co.  
 Neill Gas Inc.  
 O'Nealgas  
 Pinnacle Propane  
 Reed Inc.  
 Sabine Country Butane Gas  
 Scott Petroleum

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Gas Equipment Co., Inc.  
 Hercules Transport Inc.  
 Lin's Propane Trucks  
 Martin Gas Sales  
 Midstream Transportation Co. LLC  
 Quality Steel

### AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ABC Home Services, Inc.  
 Anthony's Feed & Farm Supply  
 Country Store  
 Courville's Farmer Mart Inc.  
 Crowder Center  
 Grolee Express Inc.  
 Lass Discount Food Mart  
 Maxi Mart/Gas Allocations  
 Poydras Junction Hardware  
 Propane Industrial Gas  
 Railside Feed & Supply, LLC  
 Riverview RV Park

**February 2026**

# E-Newsletter

## Six More Weeks of Winter...

Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Groundhogs Day indicating six more weeks of winter instead of an early Spring. In the century's old tradition, Phil has only been right about 35% of the time (although if you ask the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club aka the Inner Circle, they would claim he has a 100% accuracy rate!). I kind of believe him this year though, at least for the northern part of the U.S!

The first LPGA board of directors meeting will be Wednesday, March 11 at Walk-On's Sports Bistreaux (3838 Burbank Drive) in Baton Rouge. Lunch will be at 11:30 am with the meeting to follow at 1:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. Please make plans to join us.

2026 LPGA membership dues and information have been sent out and are available via our website. All current members and recent non-members should have received the information. We are happy to assist in any way that we can to facilitate memberships. Please make every effort to turn your dues in as soon as possible so there is no lapse in benefits for your company. If you are missing information or have any questions regarding membership, please let us know. We appreciate each and every one of you!

As always, if you have any questions or need any information regarding the association, please contact the LPGA office at 225-763-8922 or email our Executive Director Randy Hayden at [randy@ccilouisiana.com](mailto:randy@ccilouisiana.com).



**Meeder  
Equipment**  
When Quality Matters.™



Give us a call...  
Your Meeder Equipment Company Representative  
in Louisiana is:

**Joe Ezernack**



Cel. (903) 530-6954 • [joez@meeder.com](mailto:joez@meeder.com) • [www.meeder.com](http://www.meeder.com)

RP Custom Trailers & Service  
Service LUmber Company of Oak  
Stanford's True Value Rental  
Wesco Gas & Welding Supply Inc.  
Xtreme Hardware LLC

**This is the most current list of paid members we have as of February 25, 2026. If you have any questions or need membership information, please reach out to the LPGA office. Thank you to those members who have already paid and turned in dues for 2026.**

**SAVE THE  
Date**

**2026 APGA/LPGA  
SUMMER  
CONVENTION**

June 28-July 1, 2026  
Hilton Hotel  
Pensacola Beach, Florida

## 2026 Calendar of Events

**March 11, 1:00 pm:** First Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Walk-On's Sports Bistreaux-Baton Rouge.

**April 16-21:** Southeastern Convention & International Propane Expo, Music City Center-Nashville, TN.

**June 7-9:** NPGA Propane Days, Hilton Washington, DC-Capitol Hill.

**June 29-July 2:** APGA/LPGA Annual Summer Convention, Hilton Hotel-Pensacola Beach, FL.

**June 30:** Second Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, Hilton Hotel-Pensacola Beach, FL.

**September 2026:** Third Quarter Board of Directors Meeting-Date and Location TBD.

**November 5-6:** State Leadership Summit, The Capital Hilton-Washington, DC.

**December 2026:** Fourth Quarter Board of Directors Meeting-Date and Location TBD.

## PERC Every Day Safe

The Every Day Safe Program is designed to help propane companies strengthen their safety culture, one habit, one goal, one day at a time. This step-by-step program encourages company leaders to identify and address gaps in their safety policies, procedures, and daily practices. By combining trusted PERC resources with fun, interactive materials, your company leader will create a customized plan for your team to help enhance safety habits every day to protect industry members and the customers you serve. Every Day Safe is here to support you. When we all build safer habits, our whole industry gets stronger. Learn more at [propane.com/EveryDaySafe](http://propane.com/EveryDaySafe) or enroll now.



# Building Relationships with Trade Allies

Trade professionals such as residential builders, HVAC and plumbing contractors, and real estate agents are more than just service providers; they are key decision-makers. When a homeowner is considering a new heating system or choosing between gas and electric appliances, they look to these experts for advice. By partnering with these professionals, propane marketers can ensure that propane's benefits are effectively communicated at the point of decision.

## A Three-Step Approach to Strategic Engagement

**Identify Local Partners:** The first step is to locate potential allies within the community. Marketers are encouraged to look toward professional organizations like the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association (PHCC) or the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). To assist in this process, PERC provides specialized training through its online Learning Center, offering marketers the tools they need to make meaningful initial connections.

**Share Valuable Resources:** Once relationships are established, the goal is to provide these partners with the resources they need to succeed. PERC offers a wealth of free training courses and programs through

its website. One standout initiative is the Propane Construction Research Program, which offers up to \$1,000 per home for builders who integrate propane systems and appliances. By sharing these resources, marketers position themselves as valuable partners who contribute to the success of the builder or contractor.

**Invest in Education:** Building for the future means investing in the next generation of trade professionals. PERC's HVAC Technical School Grant Program has already awarded grants to more than 100 schools across the country. These grants facilitate hands-on training in propane technology, ensuring that future contractors are comfortable and competent with propane systems. For marketers, this represents a long-term strategy for market growth and stability.

## Strengthening Market Presence

The ultimate goal of these efforts is to grow propane usage and maintain market share in a rapidly evolving residential market. By building strong, collaborative relationships with trade professionals and educational institutions, propane marketers can create a robust network of advocates for their product.



## Give Builders and Contractors More Reasons to Choose Propane

### PERC RESOURCES HELP MARKETERS ENGAGE KEY PARTNERS THROUGH FUNDING AND EDUCATION

Residential builders, HVAC and plumbing contractors, REALTORS®, and educators influence critical energy decisions. PERC equips marketers with practical tools to build stronger relationships with these partners — including research and demonstration programs, post-secondary curricula, and investment support they can use right away. Stronger partnerships help grow gallons and protect residential market share.

Put these tools to work at [propane.com/providers](https://propane.com/providers)



# PERC Letter to the Washington Post: Less Fear, More Facts in Gas Stove Conversation

To the Editor,

The latest Washington Post article on emissions from cooking on gas stoves essentially rehashes what we've learned from decades of study: all cooking, regardless of ignition source or heating method, produces emissions, and we should mitigate those emissions. Far from being cause for alarm, these studies reinforce the value of common-sense precautions.

A 2022 study by GTI energy found that cooking on an electric range produces two to three times more particulate emissions than cooking on a natural gas or propane range. In 2024, the Post itself reached a similar conclusion with an experiment to measure nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter concentrations while cooking on gas and induction stoves. They found that the air quality (as measured by air quality index) in the test kitchen while burgers were cooked on the induction stove was worse than with the gas stove. Where is the backlash against induction stoves?

It all boils down to one thing: proper ventilation. If you're cooking on a stove, make sure you have a working range hood or exhaust fan and use it every time. Check the filter regularly to make sure it's clean and replace it if necessary. As the Post eloquently concluded in 2024: "What worked best to reduce pollutants in our experiment? Opening the windows, and circulating fresh air with a fan and an air purifier. Particulate and NO<sub>2</sub> readings fell close to near zero within three to four minutes after doing that."

Imagine if we spent more time educating the public on safe stove use and less time fearmongering. We might make real progress on health and safety that way.

*Tucker Perkins*

*President and CEO, Propane Education & Research Council*



## LCR.iQ™ METER REGISTER AND DATA CONTROLLER



- HIGH-RESOLUTION HD DISPLAY
- LARGE DIGITS FOR EASY VIEWING
- CONFIGURABLE FUELING DATA
- SMART KEYS FOR GUIDED OPERATION
- LARGE KEYS FOR EASY OPERATION
- PANEL MOUNT ENCLOSURE OPTION
- METER MOUNT BASE



**Atlanta GA**  
(800) 241-4155

**Houston TX**  
(800) 334-7816

**Little Rock AR**  
(800) 643-8222

**Chandler OK**  
(800) 763-0953

**Indianapolis IN**  
(800) 241-1971

**Richmond VA**  
(800) 368-4013

**Dallas TX**  
(800) 821-1829

**St. Louis MO**  
(800) 423-4685

**Fayetteville NC**  
(800) 447-1625

**Kansas City MO**  
(800) 821-5062

**Sebring FL**  
(800) 821-0631

[www.gasequipment.com](http://www.gasequipment.com)



*Tracy Wells*

# 2026 State Taxman

Most businesses in the propane industry are categorized as pass-through entities. As a result, a company's profits/losses are reported on the business owner's individual state income taxes. However, our industry is also home to companies that are categorized as corporations and are subject to state corporate tax rates.

A new year means new state tax laws went into effect. According to the Tax Foundation, which is a nonprofit dedicated to shedding light on tax policy, the current individual income and corporate tax structure across the states is as follows:

## 2026 State Income Tax Structure

- 8 states have no income tax: AK, FL, NH, NV, SD, TN, TX, and WY.
- 15 states have a flat income tax: AZ, CO, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KY, LA, MI, MS, NC, PA, UT, and WA (applies only to capital gains).
- 27 states have a graduated income tax: AL, AR, CA, CT, DE, HI, KS, ME, MD, MA, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, VA, VT, WI, and WI.

In 2026, the five states with the highest personal income tax rates, in order, are California (13.3%), Hawaii (11%), New York (10.9%), New Jersey (10.75%), and Oregon (9.9%).

## 2026 State Corporate Income Tax Structure

- 6 states have no corporate income tax: NV, OH, TX, SD, WA, and WY.
- 2 states have no corporate income or gross receipts tax: SD and WY.
- 44 states have either a flat or graduated corporate income tax structure: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, VA, WV, and WI.

In 2026, the five states with the highest corporate tax rates, in order, are New Jersey (11.5%), Minnesota (9.8%), Illinois (9.5%), Alaska (9.4%), and Maine (8.9%).

NPGA will continue to work with the state associations on legislation impacting the state business climate for all companies involved in the U.S. propane industry. For more information, contact NPGA's Senior Director of State Affairs, Jacob Peterson at [jpeterson@npga.org](mailto:jpeterson@npga.org).

## Rinnai Vent-Free Fan Convectors

Rinnai Vent-Free Convectors push heat to the farthest reaches of the room, evenly warming larger spaces. Each model is 99.9% efficient for hard-to-heat rooms, maximizing cost savings and comfort for your home.

### More heat. Less Fuel. More Savings

- Consistent Temperature
- Flexible Installation Options
- User-Friendly Controls
- Modulating Technology
- Oxygen Depletion Sensor
- Electronic Ignition
- Easy Maintenance
- Evenly Distributed Warm Air

With a convection fan, warm air is distributed throughout the space, providing comfort even in faraway corners. Temperature output control maintains efficiency when heat isn't needed. By eliminating vents or ducts, places where heat typically gets lost, virtually all the warm air gets delivered to the room.



Rinnai unit shown...  
FC510P • Propane • 5,600-10,000 BTU  
9.6" deep • 19.4" H • 19.2" W • 22 lbs.

  
Your questions answered by the people who know propane equipment.

800.448.9504  
[bergquistinc.com](http://bergquistinc.com)  
Bergquist Storefront 24/7

## You Need Drivers – ACE ELDT Services Can Help!

The National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) provides the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) required for CDL and HAZMAT Endorsement. Since February 2022 when the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA) established their regulation, the program has helped thousands of drivers complete the required training. The online services offered by NPGA allow companies to train their drivers in-house while ACE handles all the administrative and compliance matters.

Let ACE Services help your company save time and money by enrolling your drivers into one of the offered ELDT courses: CDL Class A, CDL Class B, and/or HAZMAT Endorsement (HME).

Learn More and Enroll: <https://www.npga.org/impact/workforce/entry-level-driver-training/>  
Questions? Please contact [ELDT@npga.org](mailto:ELDT@npga.org).

# New Proposed Rules for Clean Fuel Credits

On February 6, the Internal Revenue Service proposed new regulations regarding the clean fuel production credit, aimed primarily at biofuels, such as renewable/bio-propane made from vegetable and seed oils, and manure. The proposal aims to expand consideration for domestic production of biofuels, increase credit rebates, and diversify the transportation fuel market. Most importantly, eligible fuel for the tax credit must be suitable for use in transportation, but need not be actually used in transportation. Therefore, transportation-grade renewable propane used for heat would be eligible for the credit.

The rule, Section 45Z – Clean Fuel Production Credit is a technology-neutral federal tax credit enacted under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, and later extended and modified by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025, recorded in Title 26 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1 and 48.

The 45Z credits apply to the producers of transportation fuels with low lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions. Under the new amendments, producers will be able to qualify for rebates under a broad range of production methods, replacing older fuel-specific tax incentives that screened out fuels made as by-products. The proposed amendments clarify that credits will be applied only to source producers of fuels, not transporters or consumers. Producers are defined as processors who alter source-elements into useable fuels—which in the case of propane, applies to the refiner. The credits will apply retroactively to all fuels sold during 2025 and thereon until the end of 2029.

Specific fuel eligibility is determined using the **DOE's 45ZCF-GREET lifecycle modeling framework** already in use. The up-to-date GREET model will be required for each year of tax filing, eliminating grandfathered statuses based on previous years' standards. Additionally, GREET will now disregard indirect land-use changes, including unintended emissions from the cultivation of previously fallow land, reducing emissions portfolios for biofuels. One of the largest new points of interest is a requirement that producers be American-owned or controlled and use American-sourced feedstocks to produce fuel. No specific fuels are highlighted in this new regulation for favor by evaluators, levelling the playing field for new and improved biofuels.

45Z establishes a base credit of twenty cents per gallon,

equivalent for fuels under 50 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/MMBtu and a maximum credit of up to one dollar per gallon. Paragraph (b)(20)(iv) of the proposed amendment provides the lower heating values of some non-liquid fuels for qualifications purposes: The lower heating value of low-GHG dimethyl ether is 12,417 Btu per pound, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) (other than propane from HEFA) is 19,873 Btu per pound, and LPG (propane from HEFA) is 18,568 Btu per pound.

## How 45Z Impacts Propane

45Z explicitly recognizes low-greenhouse gas LPG—including bio-propane—as a qualified transportation fuel eligible for tax credits. This is a major structural shift, as bio-propane now receives equal policy treatment with SAF, renewable diesel, ethanol, biodiesel, and renewable natural gas. Because bio-propane is co-produced alongside renewable diesel and SAF, the new amendments to 45Z encourage large refinery expansions that automatically increase bio-propane output, making renewable propane economically attractive, even though it is a byproduct, driving supply scaling, lowering costs and expanding market availability over time.

Under the new amendments, bio-propane qualifies for very high 45Z credit values because it typically scores well below the 50 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/MMBtu threshold required. There are also multiple production pathways that may qualify for near-maximum credits, allowing producers to price bio-propane competitively. The extra earnings could help to expand current blending into conventional propane supplies and penetrate fleet, heating, industrial, and backup power markets dominated by non-renewable fuels.

## Next Steps

The proposed amendment will now undergo a comment and response period; Written or electronic comments must be received by April 6. A public hearing to address these amendments will be held on May 28, at 10:00 EST. Requests to speak and outlines of topics to be discussed at the public hearing must be received by April 6. Requests to attend the public hearing must be received by 17:00 EST on May 26, 2026.

To learn more about 45Z Clean Fuel Credits, contact Ben Nussdorf at [Bnussdorf@npga.org](mailto:Bnussdorf@npga.org) or Chris Wagner at [Cwagner@npga.org](mailto:Cwagner@npga.org).




# YOUR PARTNER

*in Safe, Dependable Propane Transport.  
Supporting you with consistency, safety, & care.*


## LOGISTICS

Contact Jenny Bannister

 936-590-6006

## WHOLESALE PROPANE

Contact Michael Mayo

 210-325-2046

## February Safety Tips of the Week from PERC

•Using Good Body Mechanics: Always factor in personal limitations before performing a job, and secure assistance when you need to do so. Even with the best techniques, some jobs should not be performed on your own.

•Reducing Slips, Trips, and Falls: Always perform a personal risk assessment for every job. This should take into account weather conditions, route and travel issues, and any special requirements of particular job sites. Examine your surroundings as soon as you arrive to know in advance if surfaces are wet or icy or if there are any other factors that could pose potential dangers.

•Properties of Static Electricity: The smallest static spark we can see or feel (about 3,000 volts) has double the energy required to ignite propane. Make sure you understand how to control static generation and provide safe grounding paths. If you have questions, ask your Supervisor.

•Static Discharge Prevention Tips: Most static electricity comes from the friction between materials, even if they

are non-conductive. Review your facility's processes and activities and take action to reduce any apparent risk.



**propane**

ENERGY FOR EVERYONE

# Storms Highlight Need for Propane Backups

As Winter Storm Fern brought arctic cold, ice, and heavy snow across much of the United States, the US Department of Energy (DOE) took steps to bolster grid reliability in Texas and other regions. On January 24, Energy Secretary Chris Wright issued an emergency order to support the Texas electricity grid and help prevent widespread power outages during the severe weather event. Without clean power from propane generators, datacenter operators were forced to resort to backup diesel generation, posing risks to the community.

Winter Storm Fern caused surging demand for electricity as millions of Americans turned up heating systems in frigid conditions, placing intense strain on regional grids. In Texas—where the grid is managed by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)—the risk of shortages prompted federal intervention. While ERCOT officials did not immediately forecast imminent rolling blackouts, DOE determined that proactive measures were necessary to mitigate the risk of power disruptions and protect public safety. Under the authority of Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act, the emergency order authorized ERCOT to deploy backup generation resources from industrial facilities, especially focusing on data centers and other large consumers to supplement the grid if needed. These backup generators, typically kept on standby for power outages, can supply substantial electricity during peak demand periods, helping avoid forced outages for residential customers. The emergency order was effective from January 24 through January 27, giving ERCOT targeted authority to direct backup generation as needed.

DOE estimated that more than 35 gigawatts of unused backup generation capacity existed nationwide that could be tapped to support grid reliability through the duration of Fern and subsequent storms through the end of winter. One gigawatt is roughly enough to power about 750,000 homes, meaning the total potential resource could play a significant role in preventing shortages. Secretary Wright emphasized that maximizing available generation resources was essential “to keep Americans safe during Winter Storm Fern.” He framed the action as part of broader federal efforts to ensure affordable, reliable electricity during periods of extreme weather.

Although Texas’ grid did not experience widespread, extended outages during Fern, unlike the catastrophic collapse seen during Winter Storm Uri in 2021, localized

outages still occurred in parts of the state, particularly in East Texas. Many residents endured power losses for hours or days as crews worked to restore service amid icy roads and fallen trees.

Similar authority to leverage power from large consumers like datacenters has been granted to grid operators in the Mid Atlantic, New England, and the Carolinas to deploy backup power or run generators beyond normal limits to reduce the risk of blackouts as cold weather persists through this week and demand strains the collective grid. As 150 million people remain under weather advisories and extreme cold warnings through the first week of February, the risk to life is paramount without proper heating fuel and emergency power. Propane remains a vital lifeline along the Gulf Coast where temperatures have dropped 15 to 30 degrees below normal averages, striking the heart of major population centers. Meanwhile, a bomb cyclone continues to leave its effects in the Carolinas after dropping a more than a foot of snow, contributing to thousands of flight cancelations and increased strain on the electric grid from populations drawing heavily on electric heating pumps and all-electric apartment services.

Energy officials have emphasized that grid reliability remains a priority as extreme weather patterns, including more intense winter storms, continue to test infrastructure. This highlights a dangerous situation for datacenters and ratepayers alike—ensuring that enough backup power generation and fuel is available to continue operations when the power authority cuts them off. As major consumers of electricity, datacenters will continue to be first on the block in extreme situations and rolling outages. As datacenters develop along residential and high-use corridors in the Texas Triangle, Northern Virginia, California, and elsewhere, the need for cleaner alternatives to diesel is becoming paramount. As presented in the whitepaper *Powering the Digital Age: Propane’s Role in Low-Emission Data Center Infrastructure*, propane offers the easiest, cheapest, cleanest solution possible at scale with no need for grid reliance or competition for power supply with ratepayers.

To learn more about propane’s role in the data center revolution, contact Nicholas Edward, manager of grants and agency engagement, and Austin Wicker, senior manager of state government affairs, at [nedward@npga.org](mailto:nedward@npga.org) and [awicker@npga.org](mailto:awicker@npga.org).