



**National Propane Gas Association Submission:
“S. 2754, American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2019: Written Testimony
and Questions for the Record.”
04/08/2020**

The National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) is the national trade association of the United States propane industry with a membership of approximately 2,8000 members, along with 38 affiliated state and regional associations representing all 50 states. NPGA’s membership includes retail marketers of propane that deliver the fuel to the end-user; propane producers, transporters and wholesalers, and manufacturers and distributors of equipment, containers, and appliances. Propane is an abundant clean domestic fuel that can be used in many applications to help the U.S. significantly reduce emissions. Due to its excellent thermodynamic properties, propane is also an environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional refrigerants.

The introduction and consideration of S. 2754, the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2019, is an important step in addressing one of the many climate challenges facing the global economy. For more than three decades, government and industry have worked together to phase down the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and more recently, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). While the Federal Government has made progress since the Montreal Protocol, the widespread use of HFCs continues to harm the environment and accelerate global warming. S. 2754 would commit the United States to a timetable for phasing down these harmful substances while incentivizing and supporting the creation of new domestic technologies.

The Committee should be aware that propane is a clean alternative fuel that offers immediate emissions reductions in refrigeration, as well as throughout the transportation, industrial, agricultural, and home-heating sectors. The Federal Government must continue to avoid subscribing to a single-source solution strategy, which will have adverse short and long-term effects on the environment and economy.

In 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency approved R-290, a propane refrigerant, as a viable refrigerant alternative to both CFCs and HFCs. The refrigerant has an extremely low Global Warming Potential, especially when used in closed systems, and also has zero Ozone depletion potential. Moreover, R-290 systems are 20 percent more energy efficient than R-404A and other HFCs.

Emerson, a domestic manufacturer, has capitalized on the opportunity presented by R-290 and has introduced technologies that have been rolled out throughout the U.S. by large retailers like Whole Foods and Target. This technology allows companies to achieve emissions reductions and phase out harmful HFCs.

On behalf of NPGA and our member companies, I look forward to working with the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works to address the issue of humanmade refrigerants and other substances.

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