



# PROPANE EXCHANGE

Jan 2011 \* West Virginia Propane Gas Association

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

March 14-15, 2011	Spring Membership Mtg Embassy Suites Charleston, WV
April 16- 18, 2011	NPGA Southeastern Convention Atlanta, GA
June 14-15, 2011	Propane Days Hyatt Regency Hotel Washington, DC
June 21, 2011	Summer Membership Mtg. Bridgeport, WV



It's Time for Your Annual  
Investment in the West  
Virginia Propane  
Gas Association

## IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Only once a year does WVPGA ask you directly for money. That is when membership dues invoices are sent out and each member is asked to renew.

And January is that time! So WVPGA is asking for your prompt membership renewal. Invoices were sent out in December, but the sooner you renew, the more time and money can be focused on activities for 2011. Here are some of the things WVPGA has planned:

- **Winter:** Monitor WV Legislature for propane-related legislation and obtain hours of service relief when appropriate.
- **Spring Membership Meeting:** The topic is *Who's Running Your Company: You, Your Employees or Your Customers?*
- **Propane Emergencies Training:** April thru October.
- **Propane Days:** Annual legislative visit In June to meet with WV's representatives in Washington, DC.
- **Summer Membership Meeting:** The topic is *Marketer Technology Training covering residential applications related to filling the home, tankless water heaters and stand by & renewable hybrid generators.*
- **Certified Employee Training** in July & August.
- **Fall Membership Meeting:** September meeting with topic TBA.

Plus 4 issues of WVPGA's quarterly newsletter, *Think Safety*, monthly issues of *Propane Exchange* and postings on *Facebook* to keep you abreast of what's important in the propane industry.

So, please make sure that you renew today to keep WVPGA working for you.

## WVPGA ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROPANE EMERGENCIES TRAINING

The West Virginia Propane Gas Association is accepting applications for Propane Emergencies Training in 2011.

The intent of this educational program is to provide a part of the necessary formal training needed when addressing propane emergencies.

The training is based on commonly used practices, referenced laws, regulations, and industry standards, it is not meant to set a standard of operations for any emergency response organization. It is the responsibility of each attendee to remain current with industry procedures, regulations and product developments which may improve personal health and safety.

To find out more and obtain an application, visit [www.wvpropanegas.org](http://www.wvpropanegas.org).

**West Virginia Propane Gas Association**  
107 S. West Street, #825  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Telephone: 703-530-9772  
Fax: 703-530-9653  
[wvpga@aol.com](mailto:wvpga@aol.com)  
[www.wvpropanegas.org](http://www.wvpropanegas.org)



## What the Federal Tax Package Means for the Propane Industry

**Renewables** are not the only form of energy that benefited from Congress's passage of the tax credit package in December. Alternative transportation such as vehicles running on LPG so can also claim victory reports the Propane & Education Research Council.

**The package** extended the alternative fuels tax credit through the end of 2011 and also applied it retroactively to all of 2010. The Department of Treasury will announce a 180-day period this year when one-time claims can be made on tax credits for 2010.

**The Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit** will last until the end of the year and provides a 30% credit on a refueling facility's cost with a maximum of \$30,000. This means that consumers can enjoy a tax credit on alternative fuels like LPG while fueling facilities are being built to offer them places to buy their fuel.

## The Economic Impact of Marcellus Shale Development

Since 2002, drilling and development operations in the Marcellus Shale play have become an important component of the natural gas industry in West Virginia.

In order to quantify the economic importance of the Marcellus Shale development, the West Virginia Oil & Natural Gas Association commissioned a study which was recently released.



The economic impact estimates produced in this report illustrate that the oil and natural gas industry employed almost 10,000 individuals and paid more than \$550 million in wages.

This economic activity further generated a business volume impact of more than \$12 billion to the state's economy, generating more than 24,000 jobs. As for the Marcellus Shale play, drilling and development operations led to more than \$2.3 billion worth of business volume, generating around 7,600 jobs.

In contributing more than \$65 million in state severance taxes and \$88 million in property taxes to the state, the natural gas industry has led to a significant revenue windfall for West Virginia's state government. A copy of the full report may be found at [www.wvonga.com](http://www.wvonga.com)

## Important Message to Members

With less than a month remaining in the year, it is time to look forward to 2011.

WVPGA asks for your financial support only once a year in the form of your Membership Renewal.

Your membership dollars provide WVPGA with the funds to keep an office open and staffed. That way we are able to provide timely membership programs, CETP schools, updates to our websites, and even this newsletter.

When you renew, you also insure that the propane industry has representation at the State Capitol in Charleston by supporting our lobbyist.

Membership Renewals have already gone out. You may pay by check, money order or Visa or MasterCard.

Your prompt payment this month helps WVPGA be there for the future...as well as obtaining those valuable Hours of Service waivers when winter really hits!

Thanks for your support this year. Please renew promptly for 2011.

*Bill Kraft*, President

*Tom Osina*, Executive Director

## News from NPGA

### HHS Releases \$200 Million in Emergency Funding to States for LIHEAP



**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the release of \$200 million in emergency contingency funding to help eligible low-income homeowners and renters meet home energy costs.

**These Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** contingency funds will provide states, territories, tribes and the District of Columbia with additional assistance to pay heating and other home energy costs.

**LIHEAP** helps eligible families pay for home heating, cooling and other energy costs, as well as helping to weatherize eligible families' homes.

**The \$200 million in emergency contingency funds** released today are in addition to the basic LIHEAP funding made available to states under the continuing resolutions since October 1 totaling \$3.9 billion for Fiscal Year 2011.

**For West Virginia**, \$1,739,360 is allocated for State Contingency Funds while \$40,206,700 is the total allocated funds.

## NPGA Hours of Service Member Survey

**NPGA** is providing an online member survey to assess the impact of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) proposed Hours of Service Rules for Drivers.

**The survey** will gather valuable information that will assist NPGA in our response to FMCSA's proposed changes.

**The survey** will be available online at [www.npga.org](http://www.npga.org) and should take less than 30 minutes to complete. Survey results are completely anonymous. The survey is expected to be available by the end of January.

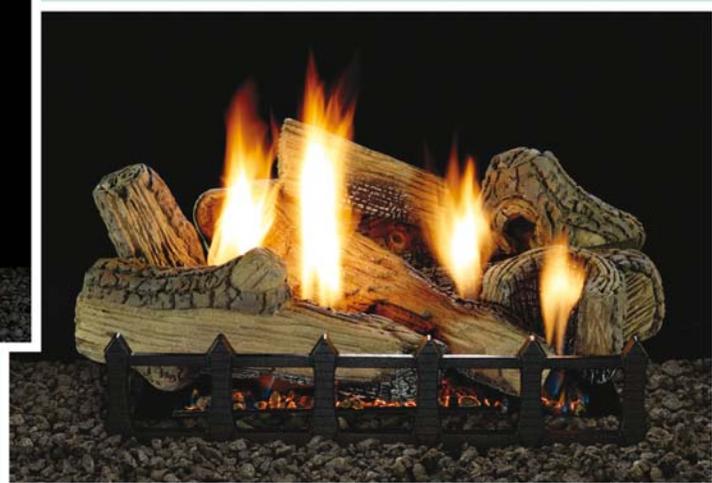
**Members** are asked to complete the survey by **February 14, 2011**. Public Comments to FMCSA are due **February 28, 2011**.

**For additional information or questions**, contact NPGA's Bob Elliott at [relliott@npga.org](mailto:relliott@npga.org).

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