



**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

**12:45 pm – 1:45 pm**

**Skyrocketing Prices:  
Ohio's Natural Gas Utilities**

*Moderator:* David F. Proaño, Esq., *Partner*  
**BakerHostetler**, Cleveland, Ohio

Dan Weekley, *President & General Manager, Ohio Distribution,*  
**Dominion Energy**, Richmond, VA

Andrew Duckworth, *President,* **Utility Pipeline Ltd.**, Canton, OH

Vanessa Hamilton, *Executive Vice President, Business Development,*  
**Utility Pipeline Ltd.**, Canton, OH

Paul Leanza, Director, Gas Supply, **IGS Energy**, Dublin, OH TX

Glenn Benson, *Partner,* **BakerHostetler LLP**, Washington D.C.

27th Annual Ohio  
**Energy Savings & Management**  
**C O N F E R E N C E**

**Page 2 - Questions for Panelists (3-4 Minute Reply)**

- Mr. Weekley:** In a recent report, the U.S. Energy Information Administration estimated that domestic natural gas consumption averaged a record 88.7 billion cubic feet per day in 2022, a 6% increase from 2021, and on that frigid December 23 we all still remember, natural gas consumption in the U.S. lower 48 states reached a daily record high of 141.0 billion cubic feet. From the perspective of a large natural gas utility such as Dominion, when looking at these figures, what do you see as the most significant constraints to ensuring that the demand for natural gas is met reliably and efficiently?

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- Mr. Duckworth:** We have witnessed significant volatility in natural gas prices over the past year. Market observers cite to a number of reasons why that volatility has occurred, including inflation and the war in Ukraine. Utility Pipeline owns natural gas distribution utilities and also provide gas distribution management services in five states. From your perspective, what do you think is the biggest impediment to commodity price stability in the future?

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- Mr. Leanza:** Coming from the perspective of a competitive natural gas supplier such as IGS Energy, how have market participants, especially commercial and industrial end-users, reacted to volatile market conditions from a supply procurement perspective, and what strategies have proven to be the most resilient and cost-effective for commercial and industrial end-users during such times of price volatility? *[Follow up]* Before moving on, could you quickly comment on your view of the biggest impediment to commodity price stability in the future?

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- Ms. Hamilton:** One of the services provided by Utility Pipeline is providing gas distribution management services to natural gas cooperatives. Natural gas cooperatives providing gas distribution services to their members are sometimes overlooked for their role they play in natural gas markets. How have natural gas cooperatives managed delivery and supply issues during times of constraint and volatility, and is there any unique aspects of their service model that make cooperatives able to adapt to rapidly changing market conditions?

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- Mr. Benson:** As an attorney with an active practice before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, are there any recent rulings, new rules or policies established for the wholesale markets that have most substantially affected issues of production, transportation, supply and demand?

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## Page 3 - Questions for All Panelists (2-3 Minute Reply)

2. Just over one year ago, on February 24, 2022, Russian forces invaded Ukraine. The war in Ukraine has been widely cited as having a global impact on energy prices, and natural gas prices in particular. What impacts have you seen in the natural gas markets affecting Ohio users that can be directly attributed to the Ukraine war, and what can we do in the future to mitigate against the impact of such global events on energy markets?

*Answers in Order by Panelists:* **Mr. Weekley, Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Leanza, Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Benson**

3. We have witnessed recent initiatives at both the federal level and state and local levels to potentially limit or prohibit the use of natural gas stoves or in new housing construction. In planning infrastructure and supply issues, how should we account for the potential for these initiatives now and in the future, what do you think these recent initiatives mean for the development of new natural gas production, pipelines and infrastructure

*Answers in Order by Panelists:* **Mr. Weekley, Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Leanza, Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Benson**

4. Sustainability initiatives continue to be a hot topic of discussion in the energy sectors, including the increasing deployment of renewable generation resources and the use of carbon offset credits. What initiatives do you think will have staying power, what are the markets demanding in terms of sustainability issues, and how are your companies approaching these issues?

*Answers in Order by Panelists:* **Mr. Weekley, Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Leanza, Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Benson**

5. **[Time permitting]** What initiatives or policies should federal and state regulators focus on to ensure that natural gas remains a reliable and cost-effective energy solution that will power our continued growth as a country and especially continued business investment in Ohio?

*Answers in Order by Panelists:* **Mr. Weekley, Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Leanza, Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Benson**