



March 10, 2025

Representative Chris Swedzinski
Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St Paul, Minnesota 55155

Chair Swedzinski and members:

I want to comment in opposition to HF 252 on behalf of the Minnesota Propane Association (MPA), which represents propane marketers, wholesalers, suppliers, distributors, and equipment manufacturers across the state.

Our members provide clean and critical energy to residential, commercial, agricultural, and industrial customers statewide. The state's propane industry provides thousands of good-paying jobs and contributes more than \$1.5 billion in economic activity annually.

Our concerns are the consequences of this bill on the propane industry and our ability to provide clean, affordable, and reliable energy to our customers.

We oppose HF 252 for the following reasons:

- This bill is unnecessary as Natural Gas Utilities can expand their services anytime by working with the PUC.
- This bill will allow Natural Gas Utilities, a monopolized energy source, an almost 400 percent expansion of their services without oversight by the PUC, creating an unfair advantage.
- Minnesota propane consumers can choose between multiple suppliers. This competition provides consumers with options to compare energy prices and services.

- Once the expansion and conversion of customers is complete, the consumer will have limited price protection, and switching back to their previous energy source would be cost prohibitive.
- Consumers may be burdened with higher costs for added infrastructure outside a municipality's corporate limits due to less density in connected services.

The Minnesota Propane Association wants to ensure that propane is integral to our energy mix. It has numerous benefits, including:

- Propane produces 2,500 btu per cubic foot, compared to only 1,000 btu per cubic foot for natural gas, meaning it takes 2.5 times as much natural gas to replace propane.
- Propane is made up of 73% hydrogen, while natural gas is made up of 70% methane.
- Methane has 80 times the warming power of carbon dioxide, while propane is listed as a non-pollutant that doesn't harm air, soil, or water.
- Propane is stored on-site, making it less vulnerable to reliability issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter

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