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**To:** Lt. Governor's OfficeLtGov@scstatehouse.gov  
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**Subject:** U.S. Leads World in Producing Energy, Reducing Emissions

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December 12, 2018

## U.S. Leads World in Producing Energy, Reducing Emissions

Dear Kevin,

The U.S. simultaneously [leads the world in production of natural gas and oil and in reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions](#)—a feat once considered impossible. Clean natural gas is now the leading source of electricity generation, driving U.S. carbon-dioxide emissions to their lowest levels since 1992. Further, the combined emissions of six key air pollutants dropped 73 percent between 1970 and 2016 even as GDP (up 253 percent since 1970), energy consumption (up 44 percent) and vehicle miles traveled (up 190 percent) increased.

The natural gas and oil industry has invested billions in technological advances, improving the environmental performance of our products, facilities and operations. We're producing [more natural gas more safely, and more cleanly](#), than ever. And when we export U.S. natural gas to global trading partners, we're also exporting a tool for climate progress to the world's worst polluters.

Through technological innovation and production of clean natural gas, the U.S. natural gas and oil industry is meeting the climate challenge head-on.

Sincerely,

**Mike Sommers**  
President and CEO  
API

### The Natural Gas and Oil Climate Opportunity

Contrary to the false narrative that increased energy production, economic growth and climate progress can't coexist, the natural gas and oil industry has accelerated the first two while facilitating the third, advancing climate goals. [Learn more about the industry's contributions to environmental progress](#) through clean natural gas, cleaner transportation fuel technologies and advances in capturing emissions from operations.

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