



EMS Pipeline Services



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Practical Solutions Exist for Natural Gas Quality and Interchangeability, EMS Says**

(Houston) . . . EMS Pipeline Services, LLC believes natural gas quality and interchangeability issues are complex but also solvable based on best practices by developing practical approaches and methods to address the different challenges through hardware, software, and operations and maintenance solutions while adhering to effective and optimal pipeline operations, integrity, safety, risk mitigation, and management.

On February 28, 2005, the Natural Gas Council (NGC) filed two reports: White Paper on Liquid Hydrocarbon Drop Out in Natural Gas Infrastructure (“Hydrocarbon Liquid Drop Out White Paper”) and White Paper on Natural Gas Interchangeability and Non-Combustion End Use (“Interchangeability White Paper”). Representatives of the NGC summarized the reports at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) March 2, 2005, Open Meeting. FERC issued a Notice Seeking Comments on the reports. FERC stated in its Notice that it will use the two reports and comments received in considering decisions addressing issues of natural gas quality and interchangeability.

In a filing with FERC, EMS stated it is essential for FERC to formulate strategic policy which focuses on providing effective regulatory support, sets a level playing field, and encourages policy and standards which maximize natural gas supplies to the United States.

EMS also stated that FERC should adopt the key principles and recommendations of the NGC reports. FERC should encourage the LNG/natural gas industry(s) to conduct, as applicable, real-time and 24/7-based metering, measurement, recording, monitoring, historical trending, and accounting of the hydrocarbon dew point cricondenthem value and Wobbe Index factor as part of the gas quality sample processing steps.

Subsequently, EMS said, the use of this additional data would enable the LNG/natural gas industry(s) to address any deviations or variations in hydrocarbon dew point cricondenthem value and out-of-tolerance values in the Wobbe Index at the gas quality sampling source and take immediate corrective action through hardware and/or operations and maintenance solutions.

Additionally, EMS articulated, through effective FERC policy and regulatory support, the above recommendations will further equip the LNG/natural gas industry(s) with a tangible means to deal with issues related to natural gas quality and interchangeability in the real world of business, commerce and industry.

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