Written Response to Questions from the 8/27 Climate Business Plan Public Meeting

The following questions were asked during the Climate Business Plan public meeting held virtually on August 27, 2025.

1. **What is [the] status of renewable gas?**

Washington Gas is actively pursuing several RNG opportunities across the DMV. The Company will provide additional information as it becomes available.

2. **What were some of the selection criteria for the geothermal pilot?**

Washington Gas filed its proposal for a thermal energy network pilot system with the Maryland Public Service Commission in Case 9749, No. 47 on July 1, 2025. Washington Gas undertook a methodical and stepwise process to select its pilot site, addressing criteria set out in the WARMTH Act. The statutory criteria included:

(i) how the pilot system will develop useful information for the adoption of regulations governing thermal energy network systems;
(ii) how the pilot system furthers GHG emissions reduction goals;
(iii) how the pilot system advances financial and technical approaches to equitable and affordable building electrification;
(iv) how the pilot system creates benefits to its customers, employees, and society at large;
(v) how the pilot system contributes to avoiding costs to electric distribution and transmission systems and gas pipe replacement;
(vi) the extent to which the proposal gives priority to underserved or overburdened communities, as defined; and
(vii) safety, reliability, operations, maintenance, customer complaint resolution, and emergency response.

Washington Gas worked with local community groups and representatives from candidate sites to further narrow the list and ultimately select a proposed location. Throughout the process, Washington Gas was guided by principles of reasonableness, feasibility, and long-term flexibility.

More information about the pilot proposal can be found in the Company's filing, which is available on the Maryland Public Service Commission's website in Case 9749.

3. **[A]re the [meeting] slides available?**

The recording of the meeting is posted on the CBP micro-website at: https://washingtongasdcclimatebusinessplan.com.

4. **Can you talk about certified natural gas, [and] who does the certification? Why do reductions at the producer count in DC?**

Certified natural gas (CtNG) is verified by independent third-party organizations—such as Equitable Origin, MiQ, and Project Canary Trustwell—each with its own standards and audit processes. There is no single industry-wide standard, but these examples are commonly used and recognized in North America. Generally, CtNG is natural gas that has been certified by an independent third party as having been produced in a manner that meets specific, verifiable environmental standards for methane emissions in its value chain.

CtNG is graded according to its methane intensity, which is the ratio of methane emitted to the quantity of natural gas produced. The certification process requires credible and transparent supporting data for effective differentiation, along with a commitment to continuous improvement. The market-driven effort underway aims to be cost-effective and efficient, driving progress toward a credible product differentiation scheme. The certification process includes robust, data-driven transparency, as well as rigorous and credible verification practices.

Since production-level emissions are accounted for in the 15-Year Plan as upstream emissions, it is appropriate to include any production-level GHG emissions associated with certified natural gas compared to the basin-level estimates.

Responses as provided on September 05, 2025.