

Arizona's 'Gas' Problem



The Deception of Gas

Gas utilities and their industry partners have spent millions of dollars trying to convince Arizonans that the fossil fuel is “clean,” and that appliances, such as gas stoves, are superior to electric ones.

Expensive ad campaigns like “cooking with gas” go back decades. In Arizona, Southwest Gas has contributed thousands in campaign cash and lobbied politicians to outlaw local communities from converting their buildings to electric.

Gas companies won't tell you what the public at large is just beginning to learn: **Gas poses significant public health and safety risks and negatively impacts consumers.**

A Threat to Our Health

As Southwest Gas fights to preserve profits, they neglect to tell you that gas, a fossil fuel, emits harmful pollutants in your home and contributes to respiratory illnesses. One combustible pollutant is Nitrogen Dioxide – NO₂ – a toxic gas the EPA says can prompt breathing problems and aggravate asthma, especially in children and seniors.

DID YOU KNOW?

Running a stove or oven for just 45 minutes can produce indoor pollution levels that **would be illegal outside.***



*Source: Environmental Health Perspectives

A Threat to **Our Safety**

When gas lines leak, rupture or become damaged, the gas released can cause fires or explode, potentially resulting in injuries, deaths and massive damage to homes, businesses and communities.

Consider this: Gas is so volatile that a single leak in a neighborhood can trigger evacuations.

In Sept. 2021, the Arizona Corporation Commission began investigating Southwest Gas in connection with gas leaks that resulted in [evacuations and an explosion in Greater Phoenix](#).

State regulators do not maintain a database of gas leaks or explosions, so the public is largely unaware of this public safety risk.

DID YOU KNOW?

Major pipeline incidents occur roughly

once every three days.*



*Source: Climate Nexus

A Threat to **Our Climate**

Methane, the main component in gas, is a harmful fossil fuel. Gas appliances are connected to a vast network of pipelines and wells and storage facilities that can leak methane end to end.

Controlling Methane Gas Emissions

In August 2021, the UN released an unprecedented report on climate change, calling it a code red for humanity. The report puts a spotlight on how cutting methane emissions is critical to slowing global warming. Arizona has proposed goals of achieving 50% clean power by 2032. To do this, we must transition from the use of methane gas.

A Threat to **Our Economy**

Arizona is not a gas-producing state.

Every BTU of gas burned for electricity production is imported – a lost opportunity to power our state with clean energy and create homegrown jobs.

Gas burned in Arizona's homes and buildings is processed hundreds of miles away and brought to the state through pipelines. When gas burned for electricity production is imported, we lose opportunities to power our state with clean energy and create homegrown jobs.

Stranded Assets

Companies like Southwest Gas spend billions of dollars on pipelines and facilities. And when new, cleaner, and less expensive technology comes along, consumers too often are left paying for outdated, dirty fossil fuel plants even if they are no longer being used.