

Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) Award Finalists

This award recognizes companies who are leading the charge to accelerate ESG and deliver quantifiable results.

Entry Requirements

 Criteria outlined must help to better determine the future financial performance of the company.

Submissions Overview

Environmental, Social & Governance Award Finalists		
Company Name	Program Name	ID Number
Atmos Energy	Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Homes Built in Partnership with Habitat for Humanity	ESG-5
Camfil Power Systems	Gas Turbine Carbon Intensity Reduction	ESG-6
Southern Company Gas	Southern Company Gas – Next Generation Natural Gas Initiative (NextGenGas)	ESG-7
CenterPoint Energy	Cross-compression	ESG-9
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation	Inaugural Sustainability Report and ESG Organizational Structure	ESG-10



Nomination ESG-5	
SGA Member Company Name	Atmos Energy
Program Name	Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Homes Built in Partnership with Habitat for Humanity
Program Description	Over the past year, Atmos Energy continued its 25-year partnership with Habitat for Humanity to sponsor new energy-efficiency homes for deserving members of our communities. Together with the Schlessman Family Foundation, we donated \$100,000 to help Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity build a Zero Net Energy (ZNE) home in Evans, Colorado. Showcasing the reliability and affordability of natural gas, a ZNE home demonstrates significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions by producing as much energy as it consumes over the course of a year with rooftop photovoltaic solar technology, high-efficiency ENERGY STAR natural gas appliances, top-rated insulation and windows, and other advanced weatherization features. Additional ZNE projects are underway in Dallas and Taylor, Texas.
Results of/Response to the Program	Each home varies based on several factors such as size, number of occupants, and location, but the average estimated monthly energy bill (for gas and electricity combined) ranges from \$50 to \$75.
Contribution to "Connecting People, Ideas & Information"	These ZNE homes demonstrate that natural gas is a part of the solution to achieve our low-carbon energy future. Consumers and builders can maintain their right to energy choice while having an energy-efficient, affordable, and low carbon footprint home. Not only are ZNE homes beneficial to the environment, they also showcase Atmos Energy's commitment to providing affordable energy to our communities. Affordable energy is critical to affordable housing. We are committed to Fueling Safe and Thriving Communities where we serve. It's important for the growth and economic development of communities to have access to affordable, reliable, and safe energy.
Supporting Documents	Click to view.
SGA Membership Category	Distribution



Nomination ESG-6	
SGA Member Company Name	Camfil Power Systems
Program Name	Gas Turbine Carbon Intensity Reduction
Program Description	Over a two-year period, Camfil tested new hydrophobic, EPA level gas turbine inlet filtration products to keep these gas turbine engines clean during operations. The intent was also to lower carbon emissions, which it did in a substantial way.
Results of/Response to the Program	By monitoring the gas turbine emissions, we were able to determine the carbon intensity reductions achieved based on keeping the engines clean.
Contribution to "Connecting People, Ideas & Information"	Camfil worked closely with several of our O&G customers to validate our research. This effort has helped us determine the carbon intensities saved by keeping the gas turbine clean during operation.
Supporting Documents	Click to view.
SGA Membership Category	Distribution



Nomination ESG-7	
SGA Member Company Name	Southern Company Gas
Program Name	Southern Company Gas – Next Generation Natural Gas Initiative (NextGenGas)
Program Description	 Southern Company's Next Generation Natural Gas (NextGenGas) strategy, a key component of our Net Zero Pathway, focuses on leveraging our company's market influence, collaborative drive, and low-carbon ambitions to accelerate meaningful emissions reductions across the natural gas value chain. At its core, this strategy focuses on supporting and accelerating the market for low-emissions, differentiated natural gas products (what we have termed NextGenGas) in order to advance our sustainability goals while delivering clean, reliable, and affordable energy to our customers. As part of our 2021 efforts supporting our NextGenGas strategy and to advance what we believe to be a critical solution for achieving industry-wide emissions reductions, we stood up a collaborative of likeminded local distribution companies - (the NextGenGas Coalition) - to share best practices and knowledge in pursuit of advancing the NextGenGas marketplace. Since formation in early 2021, the NextGenGas Coalition has convened monthly for members companies to share current experiences, market updates, and identified best practices in the NextGenGas marketplace. In addition, members of the Coalition have worked both individually and collaboratively to share their perspectives on NextGenGas with external industry and regulatory groups, providing educational opportunities to key stakeholders in the marketplace on relevant benefits, barriers, and efforts underway.
Results of/Response to the Program	 With the NextGenGas market continuing to quickly evolve, the creation of the NextGenGas Coalition has been well received by a wide variety of participating gas utilities as they work to advance their individual ambitions related to NextGenGas adoption and navigate the commercial and regulatory barriers and opportunities presented by this nascent market. Since the creation of the NextGen Gas Coalition, membership has grown to a total of eleven member companies represented by over 40 individuals.



	Throughout 2021 and to date in 2022, the Coalition has presented the topic of NextGenGas to six major industry organizations: The American Gas Association, Edison Electric Institute, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, One Future, and The Energy Solutions Center.
Contribution to "Connecting People, Ideas & Information"	 Throughout 2021 and into 2022, the NextGenGas Coalition met on a monthly basis to share market updates, company experiences, and identified best practices. Through discussions and collaborative input, Coalition members jointly developed a shared definition and minimum criteria for NextGenGas in addition to establishing a commitment toward continuous improvement in best practices and market transparency. Additionally, the Coalition's members companies have jointly organized educational engagements with multiple external industry groups to share perspectives, challenges, and ambitions with a broader range of stakeholders. To date, the Coalition has played a critical role in enabling the sharing of information and best practices among companies with a dedicated interest in advancing the environmental transparency and sustainability of the natural gas industry.
SGA Membership Category	Distribution



Nomination ESG-9	
SGA Member Company Name	CenterPoint Energy
Program Name	Cross-compression
Program Description	Limiting methane emissions from routine venting activities through culture change
Results of/Response to the Program	Positive culture change and reduction in methane emissions from venting
Contribution to "Connecting People, Ideas & Information"	Empowered employees to be on the front-end of an industry-changing practice
Supporting Documents	Click to view.
SGA Membership Category	Distribution



Nomination ESG-10	
SGA Member Company Name	Chesapeake Utilities Corporation
Program Name	Inaugural Sustainability Report and ESG Organizational Structure
Program Description	With the 2022 publication of the inaugural Sustainability Report, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation reaffirmed our environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments. We also implemented organizational changes to advance our ESG strategy and environmental sustainability initiatives by creating an Environmental Sustainability Office, with team members dedicated to our internal emissions reduction commitments and acceleration of the sustainability efforts of our customers and suppliers. Two new leadership positions have been dedicated to those efforts; environmental sustainability officer and director of ESG strategy and reporting. Additionally, we established an internal cross-functional ESG committee comprised of leadership across various disciplines.
Results of/Response to the Program	Chesapeake Utilities Corporation has increasingly emphasized ESG considerations as important factors in our strategic decision making. Our inaugural Sustainability Report highlights our commitment to sound ESG practices that will support Chesapeake's responsible growth. This report touches on our efforts to reduce emissions – across both our operational footprint and also for our customers. It also provides insight into our safety practices, employee engagement efforts, equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) initiatives, along with the support we provide to our local communities. Further, the report describes our governance policies and our approach to enterprise risk management, including the risks and opportunities presented by the nation's transition to a lower-carbon energy future. Our inaugural Sustainability Report also highlights our progress in meeting these goals and communicates a path forward. It is the next step in our commitment to environmental, social and governance responsibility. The collaboration of our team, in coordination with the oversight of our Board and its Committees, is reflected throughout our disciplined approach to matters and our decision-making process. That collaboration has resulted in ESG being interwoven in our strategic plan, enterprise risk management models, business trends and development opportunities, executive compensation program and business practices. The data in this report includes information gathered in 2019, 2020 and 2021, with emission data compiled for 2019 and



	2020. Team members across the Company participated in compiling the data, collecting the stories and designing the document. This project initiated new ESG-related benchmarking practices, including the development of a data collection/inventory management plan. Going forward, the newly established Environmental Sustainability Office will be responsible for coordinating our sustainable initiatives, including gathering and reporting emissions metrics in future sustainability reports. Our new leadership positions serve as a focus that ensures ESG initiatives will continue to be a guiding priority. The environmental sustainability officer leads our environmental sustainability efforts, including the identification and management of emission-reducing projects both internally and to support our customers' sustainability goals. The new director of ESG strategy and reporting assists in the advancement and execution of our strategic ESG initiatives, and leads the internal ESG committee, bringing together a cross-functional team of leaders across the organization to identify, analyze and report on critical ESG topics.
Contribution to "Connecting People, Ideas & Information"	In keeping with sustainability goals, this report is available as a pdf in the Corporate Responsibility section of the Chesapeake Utilities Corporation website. We promoted the report and ESG organizational changes to our stakeholders during investor meetings, in a news release, internal newsletter articles and through social media. By communicating our commitments in this report, we equip our investors, employees, customers and the communities we serve with critical information about the priorities that drive our business strategies. Because ESG will continue to be a focus for our Company and investors, the addition of the environmental sustainability office, an internal ESG committee and two new leadership positions will keep the momentum going. Through the environmental sustainability officer, we'll better identify and manage emission-reducing projects both internally and externally to support our customers' sustainability goals. The Company's director of ESG strategy and reporting will help lead the Company's internal ESG committee, bringing together a cross-functional team of leaders across the organization to identify, analyze and report on critical ESG topics. All of the above efforts connect people, ideas and information both internally and externally to connect the Company's mission and vision to its ESG initiatives and focus.
Supporting Documents	Click to view.
SGA Membership Category	Distribution