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Liquid Heating Fuels Industry Announces Policy Principles for Equitable Building Decarbonization

Industry leaders call on policymakers to embrace a pragmatic, pro-consumer framework that preserves energy affordability, reliability and choice

BOSTON, Massachusetts – At an industry summit held during the Heating & Energizing America Trade Show (HEAT Show) on Friday, August 22, 2025, heating fuel industry stakeholders ratified policy principles they say must guide federal, state, or local emissions reduction policies. These "Principles for Equitable and Reliable Building Decarbonization" come as the costs and consequences of electrification mandates are becoming clear to policymakers and consumers alike.

Adopted by industry leaders from across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, the resolution builds on the heating oil industry's voluntary commitment to reduce carbon emissions, primarily through broad adoption of renewable liquid heating fuels. These fuels have achieved historic, immediate and cost-effective emission reductions and emphasize that successful decarbonization policies should support the nation's heating oil marketers, many of whom are multigenerational family businesses.

Specifically, it calls on government policies to:

- **Protect consumer choice** allowing homeowners to select heating systems based on their family's needs and budgets.
- Account for full lifecycle emissions not just point-of-use ensuring a complete and accurate environmental assessment to avoid shifting rather than reducing emissions.
- **Encourage use of renewable liquid fuels** as immediate, cost-effective and scalable solutions to reduce emissions while utilizing existing infrastructure.
- Recognize the time value of carbon reduction prioritizing immediate emissions
 reduction through renewable liquid heating fuels over electrification powered via a nonrenewable electric grid.
- **Prioritize affordability** for vulnerable communities, seniors, and rural Americans unable to bear the burden of higher electric bills and conversion costs.

- **Maintain energy reliability** heeding warnings from grid operators about system constraints and ensuring the U.S. sustains a grid robust enough to win the global race for AI.
- **Prioritize residential energy efficiency** low-hanging fruit for both environmental performance and lower consumer energy bills.
- Support family businesses preserving thousands of good-paying American jobs.
- **Embrace innovation** avoiding prescriptive electrification policies that discourage development and deployment of more effective and affordable solutions.
- **Be flexible and adaptive** accounting for differences in climates, energy resources, infrastructure, and economic conditions and embracing realistic implementation goals.

"Through investments in biofuels and deployment of high efficiency systems, America's liquid heating fuels industry has reduced its emissions by 26%," said Jim Collura, President & CEO of the National Energy & Fuels Institute (NEFI). "These businesses are delivering safe and reliable home comfort with superior environmental outcomes, and without extraordinary conversion costs."

The new resolution comes at a critical juncture, as U.S. power grid watchdogs warn of unprecedented reliability challenges from electrification policies. These warnings were issued before fully accounting for explosive growth in energy demand from data centers, with artificial intelligence alone expected to add the equivalent of 28 million households' worth of energy demand to the grid by 2028.

Industry leaders also emphasized that the resolution positions them as essential partners in any successful decarbonization effort. "Our industry is ready to work with anyone who shares our commitment to pragmatic, achievable solutions," said Charlie Uglietto of Cubby Oil & Energy of Wilmington, Mass., co-chair of the working group that helped draft the policy principles.

When combined with a modern high-efficiency heating system, renewable liquid heating fuels – a blend of heating oil and biodiesel or renewable diesel – can deliver over 80% lifecycle greenhouse gas reductions. It also supports farmers and rural economies, and tens of thousands of rewarding careers in the agriculture, biofuel, and home energy sectors.

The resolution will now be submitted to regional, state, and local heating fuel associations throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, thereby establishing a unified industry voice for engagement with policymakers at all levels of government.

Full resolution and policy principles are available at https://nefi.com/_files/2025_HEAT_Show_Summit_Resolution.pdf. For more information, contact NEFI at www.nefi.com or call (617) 924-1000.
