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**For Immediate Release**

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## ***KGA Positioned As Leader in Underground Facilities Protection***

*Association Announces Development of Damage Prevention Committee.*

Lexington, Kentucky (7/18/2016) – The Kentucky Gas Association announces the development of the Damage Prevention Committee. Commenced to advance underground facilities protection in the Commonwealth, the Damage Prevention Committee is designed to develop educative programming and to initiate legislative strategies to protect Kentucky’s underground energy infrastructure. Damages to Kentucky’s pipelines result in millions of dollars in property destruction and personal injury each year. To address these preventable consequences, the Damage Prevention Committee will serve as the natural gas industry’s forum to facilitate best practices to enhance public awareness, advocacy, and safety.

KGA Executive Director, Matt Tackett, stated that “the Damage Prevention Committee is an important piece of the Association’s service portfolio. Our role at KGA is to progressively work to enhance the memberships’ mission and interests in commerce, and the Committee will provide a resource for KGA companies as they safely and reliably distribute and transmit natural gas. The Damage Prevention Committee will be a productive group within KGA, but more importantly, a meaningful leader in underground facilities protection. Damage prevention to Kentucky’s 36,000 miles of gas pipeline is crucial to protect life and property, and vital to the economy as our membership is a leading driver in economic development.”

The inaugural meeting of the Damage Prevention Committee is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> in Owensboro. KGA Members are encouraged to contact the Association Office for more information on Committee membership and activities.

The Kentucky Gas Association is dedicated to serve as a premier advocate and information source for the natural gas industry. KGA represents 170 member companies, comprised of municipal and investor owned natural gas utilities and affiliates.

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