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National Fuel is faced with New York natural gas deliverability issues; *The Company requests that all residential customers in 5 counties turn thermostats back 5 degrees until further notice*

(January 1, 2018) **Williamsville, New York** -- As a result of a system interruption at a transmission facility, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (“National Fuel”), the utility segment of National Fuel Gas Company, is faced with natural gas deliverability concerns in five New York state counties that make emergency procedures necessary. Due to this temporary system interruption, the short-term availability of natural gas supplies is making it necessary for National Fuel to enact specific measures to manage the situation and provide gas supplies to its customers to the fullest extent possible.

Effective immediately and until further notice, National Fuel is appealing to its New York customers in Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties to cooperate in reducing natural gas usage. It is hoped that with the community’s cooperation, gas supplies at this reduced level will continue to flow to customers without any additional interruption or inconvenience.

- The Company requests that all residential and small commercial customers turn their thermostats back by 5 degrees and maintain that temperature until further notice.

As customers may already use programmable thermostats to reduce natural gas use while they are away from the home and at night, please continue to do so, but adjust the thermostat program to a lower setting. **Customers who are elderly or ill should maintain a temperature in their homes that offers them comfort and will not impact any existing medical conditions.**

- In addition other small, non-residential customers who use natural gas for purposes other than space heating should reduce their natural gas consumption by a minimum of 25 percent.

Early this morning, National Fuel began the process of calling its largest use customers (industrial and commercial customers) to advise them that a voluntary reduction of gas use is now in effect. Many are reducing their energy load.

“We believe that this system interruption will be short-lived and that with our customers’ full cooperation, we will be able to limit this call for reduced usage,” said Carl M. Carlotti, President of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation. “We are continually monitoring the situation and will provide notice when the system is fully operational. System repairs are occurring now to bring it back to full operating potential.”