



## *Media Release*

**For Immediate Release**

**December 19, 2016**

### **Saskatchewan sets new natural gas consumption record**

A new record for daily natural gas consumption in the province was set last Friday due to the extreme cold temperatures, along with high natural gas consumption from industrial customers and power plants.

SaskEnergy set a 24-hour record on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 delivering 1.33 PetaJoules of natural gas to customers, three per cent higher than the record set earlier this year in January 2016. A PetaJoule is a unit of measurement equivalent to one million GigaJoules (GJ) of natural gas – the average home in Saskatchewan consumes about 105 GJ of natural gas annually.

Record-setting and near record-setting natural gas usage days are happening more frequently with higher customer volumes. This is the fourth consecutive winter in a row that a new record has been established, and seven of the top 10 peak load or near record-setting days for SaskEnergy occurred within the last two weeks. SaskEnergy's system is designed around this increased growth, ensuring additional capacity so that even on peak record days the system is able to provide more natural gas than required.

SaskEnergy/TransGas employees work throughout the year to inspect, maintain and upgrade the province's natural gas system so that it can operate safely and efficiently regardless of the weather conditions. The system is continuously monitored to manage peak demands such as the winter weather conditions that occurred over the weekend.

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