



January 25, 2023

Dear Vermont Committee on Environment and Energy members:

I am writing today on behalf of Ferrellgas, a nationwide propane retailer that serves residential, industrial/commercial, and agricultural propane consumers in your state. Operating under the brand name Blue Rhino, Ferrellgas is also the nation's leading provider of propane by portable tank exchange.

As a nationwide company, Ferrellgas is a member of the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) and the various state and regional propane associations. This includes the Propane Gas Association of New England (PGANE), which supports the state of Vermont. PGANE President and CEO Leslie Anderson recently provided testimony to this committee regarding H67, An Act Relating to Household Products Containing Hazardous Substances. During her testimony, Leslie asked that the committee amend § 7181 Definitions (5) to read; *"Gas cylinder means any nonrefillable cylinder and its contents" and "Gas cylinder does not include any refillable LP-Gas, medical, or industrial-grade cylinder."*

Leslie further explained that propane tanks and cylinders are referred to by weight or water capacity rather than gallons and that the bill was likely meant to address tanks under 20 pounds. The 20-pound barbecue-sized propane tanks are reused and refilled multiple times throughout their long lifetime, which can last multiple decades.

Blue Rhino's cylinder-exchange service is already a model of product stewardship, as it is designed to help people quickly and easily swap used propane tanks for fresh ones. We then refurbish those tanks for further use, making disposal by consumers largely unnecessary. With more than 300 Blue Rhino locations conveniently located at all types of retail stores across the state, not to mention the dozens more locations serviced by other propane companies, it is easy to find an exchange location.

I appreciate your consideration of this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. McLeod", written over a blue horizontal line.

Joshua McLeod  
Safety Manager, Blue Rhino  
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