

NATURAL GAS

Meeting the Challenges of the Nation's Growing Natural Gas Demand

A 1999 Report of the National Petroleum Council
An Oil and Gas Advisory Committee to the Secretary of Energy

This three-volume report was prepared in response to a request from the Secretary of Energy to provide advice on the potential contribution of natural gas in meeting the nation's future economic, energy, and environmental goals. The primary focus of the study was to test supply and delivery systems against significantly increased demand. The report provides extensive analyses of current and historical data and recommends focus and action on these critical factors:

- Access to resources and rights-of-way
- Continued technological advancements
- Financial requirements for developing new supply and infrastructure
- Availability of skilled workers
- Expansion of the U.S. drilling fleet
- Lead times for development
- Changing customer needs.

Volume I, *Summary Report*, provides conclusions and recommendations on the potential contribution of natural gas in meeting the nation's growing demand for energy in the residential, commercial, industrial, and electric power generation sectors. Also included are summaries of key findings from the study's three task groups: Demand, Supply, and Transmission & Distribution. Volume I can be viewed and downloaded from the NPC website, <http://www.npc.org>.

Volume II, *Task Group Reports*, contains the results of the analyses conducted by the three task groups and it provides further supporting details for the conclusions, recommendations, and findings presented in Volume I.

Volume III, *Appendices*, includes output of the study's computer modeling activities as well as various source and reference materials developed for or utilized by the task groups in the course of their analyses. Enclosed with Volume III is a CD-ROM containing further model output on a regional basis. The CD also contains digitized maps. These maps were used in assessing a key critical factor—access to resources and rights-of-way. These maps provide a comprehensive inventory of acreage by land-use categories associated with related USGS gas plays for the several key Rocky Mountain resource areas analyzed in the NPC study.

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