

# **The Expanding Role of Natural Gas:**

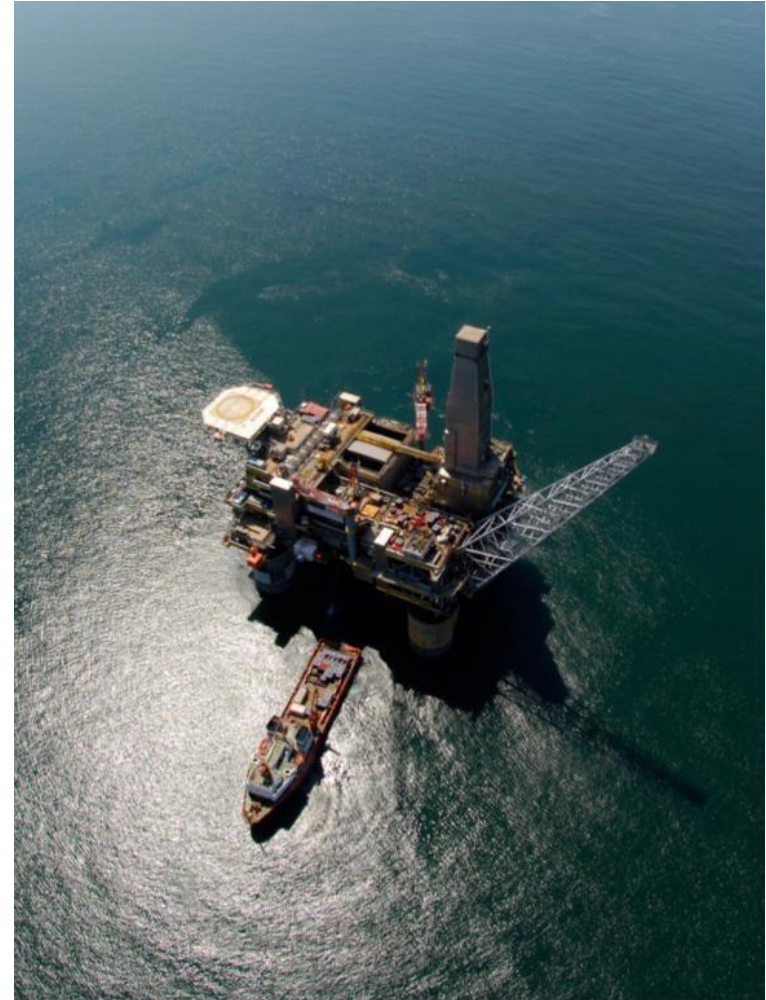
**Effects on Greenhouse Gas  
Emissions**

Arthur Lee

COP-18 Doha  
December 2012



- Global association covering upstream and downstream oil & gas
- Formed in 1974 as the industry's main channel of communication with the UNEP
- Focus on environmental and social issues including:
  - Climate change
  - Water
  - Biodiversity
  - Human Rights



- IPIECA helps the oil and gas industry *improve its environmental and social performance* by:
  - Developing good practices
  - Enhancing knowledge and understanding
  - Engaging members and the wider industry
  - Working with key stakeholders



# Company and association members



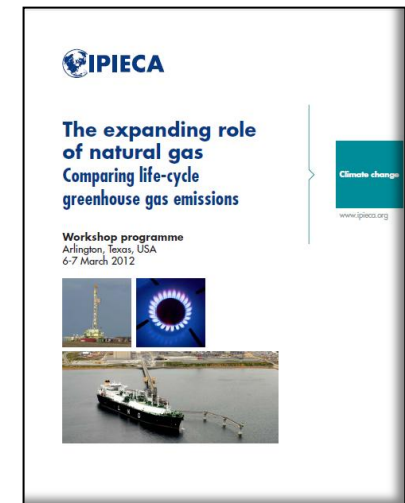
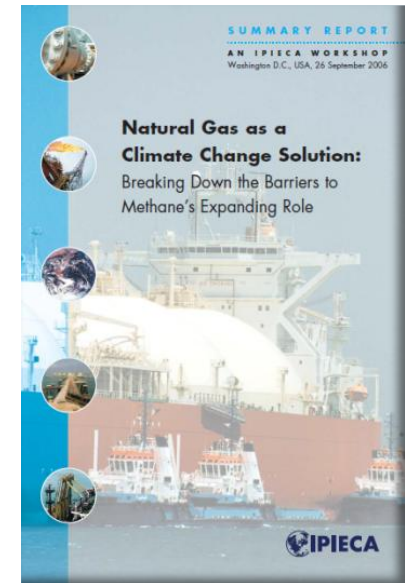
UK pia

World Petroleum Council

# Introduction to IPIECA's perspectives on natural gas and climate change



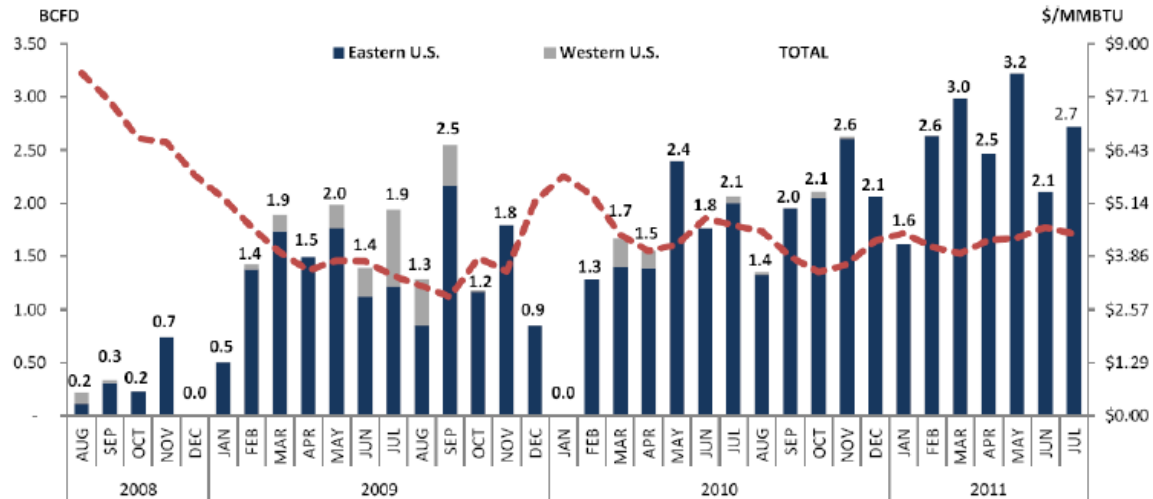
- Natural Gas is experiencing an expanding role in energy supply
  - In demand sectors such as electricity generation
  - With improvements in production and transport technologies
  - And significant increase in resource estimates
- Greater interest in continuing the effort
  - To develop accurate estimates of GHG emissions from natural gas systems
  - To better manage greenhouse gas emissions and compare alternate technologies
- This presentation draws on IPIECA workshops on climate change and natural gas held in 2006 and 2012





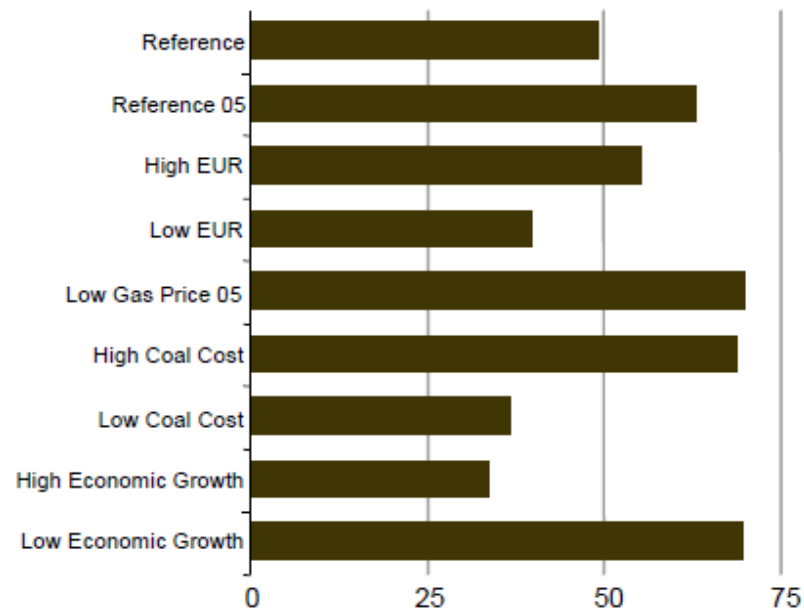
# Significant coal to gas switching underway in U.S. IPIECA

- Low natural gas prices and continuing expectations aid coal plant retirement.



Cumulative retirement of coal-fired generation capacity 2011-2035 (gigawatts), EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012.

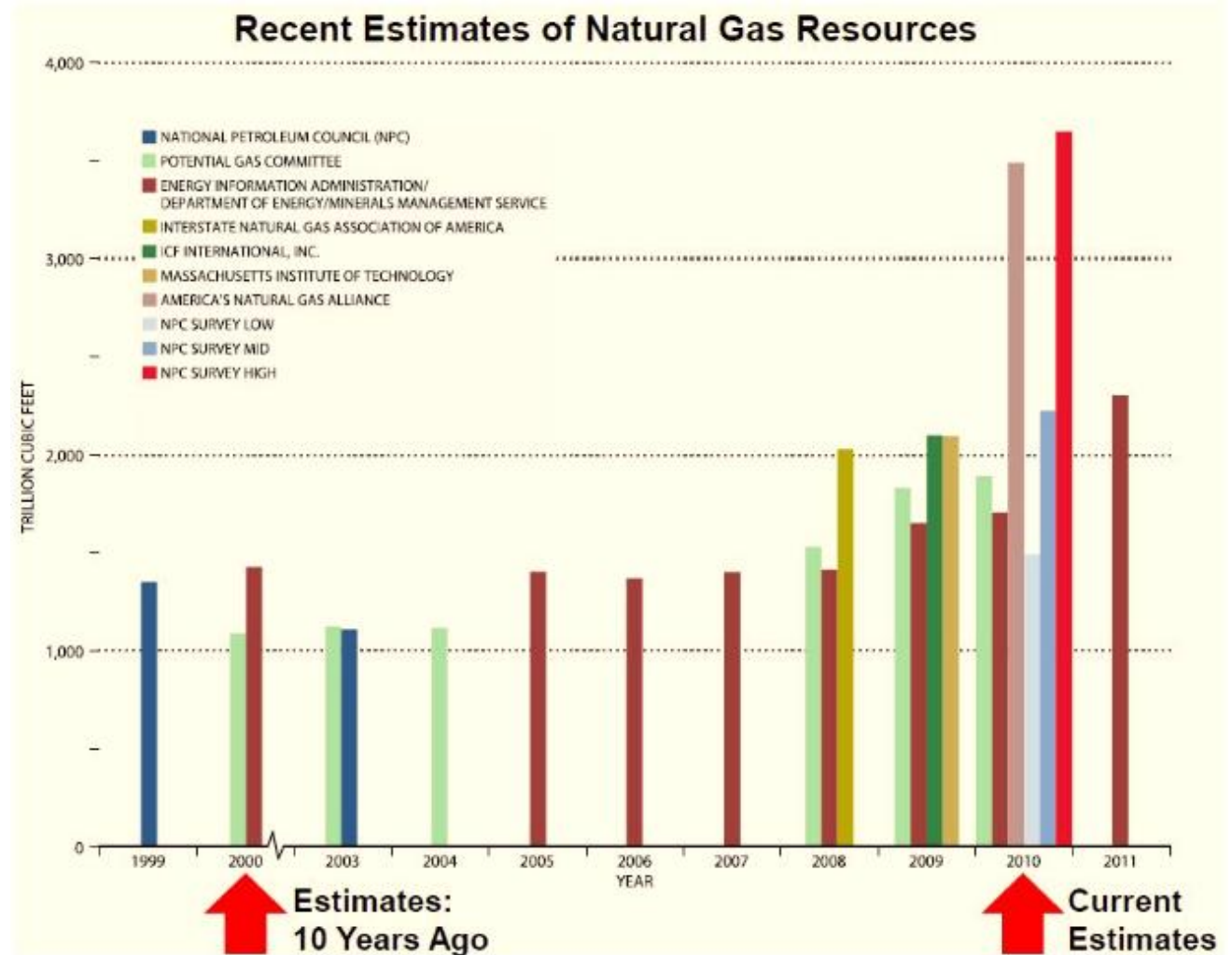
...Over the next 10 years, the range for cumulative retirements of coal-fired power plants over the projection period varies considerably across the alternative cases (figure to the right), from a low of 34 gigawatts (11 percent of the coal-fired generator fleet) to a high of 70 gigawatts (22 percent of the fleet). The high end of the range is based on much lower natural gas prices than those assumed in the Reference case; the lower end of the range is based on stronger economic growth, leading to stronger growth in electricity demand and higher natural gas prices.



# Scenarios show expanding role of natural gas



The potential supply of North American natural gas is far greater than was thought even a few years ago

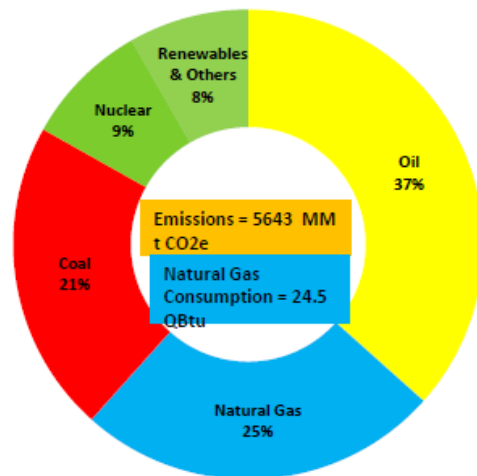


# Scenarios show expanding role of natural gas

- Natural gas has an enhanced role in power generation in scenarios that put a price on carbon emissions

## Energy & Emissions

2010 US Energy Consumption  
(97.7 Quads)- 83% Fossil Fuel  
Based Economy

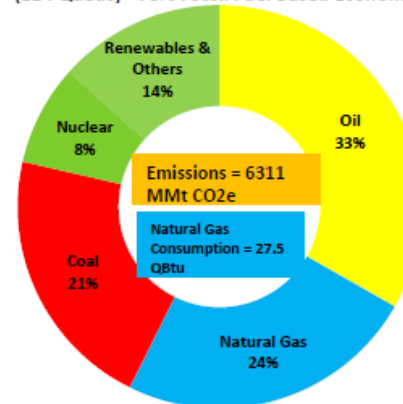


Source: AEO 2011, April 2011 (Reference Case)

Quads or QBtu= Quadrillion Btus ( $10^{15}$  Btu)

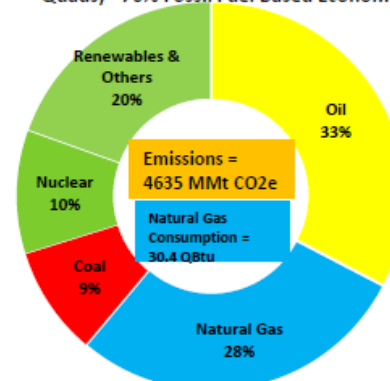
Note: Ethanol and Bio-diesel fuels reported under Renewables & Other

2035 US Energy Consumption  
(114 Quads) - 78% Fossil Fuel Based Economy



Source: AEO2011, Reference Case.

2035 US Energy Consumption with GHG Pricing (107 Quads) - 70% Fossil Fuel Based Economy

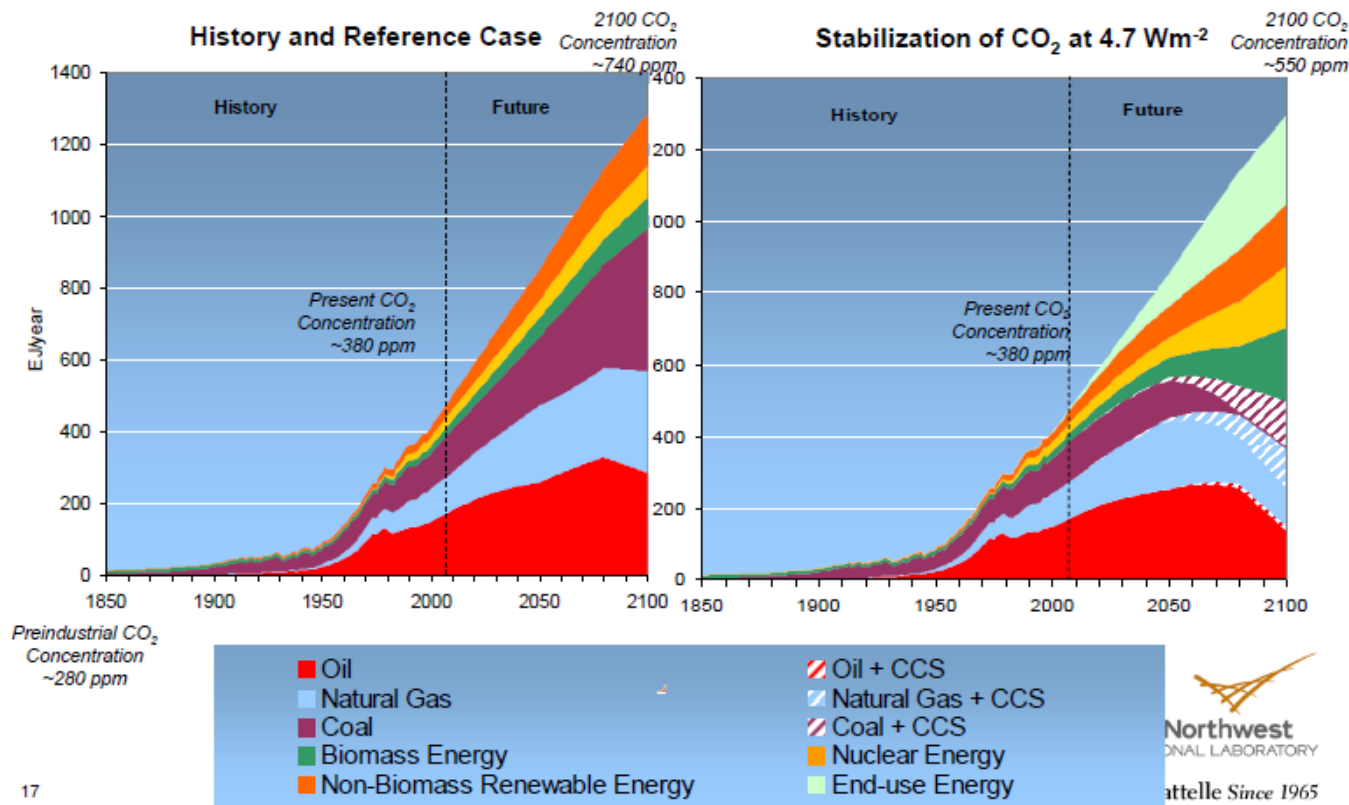


Source: AEO 2011. GHG Price Economywide case



# Scenarios show expanding role of natural gas

- Natural gas has an enhanced role in power generation in scenarios that put a price on carbon emissions
- In mitigation scenarios, natural gas with CCS plays an important role in the later half of this century



# Growth of natural gas supply enabled by improved technologies for unconventional gas

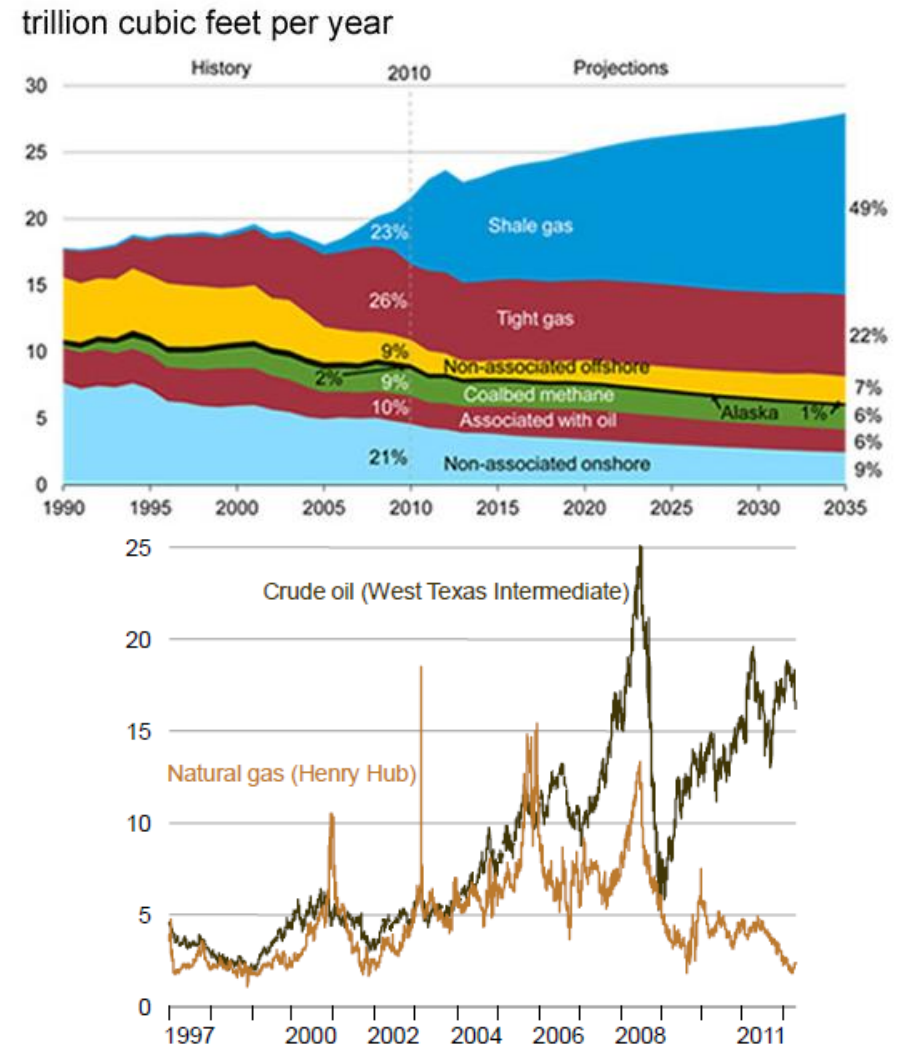
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)
  - Scale, safety, efficiency and economics
- Unconventional Sources
  - Shale gas, tight gas, coal bed.
  - Advances in and combinations of drilling technologies and methods



# Rapid increase in USA unconventional gas production IPIECA

U.S. EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012 (June 2012)  
U.S. Natural Gas Production (1990 – 2035)

- Increase in unconventional sources
- Significant growth of resource estimates
- Decrease in price
  - “...Led by technological breakthroughs in the production of natural gas from shale formations, domestic production of dry natural gas increased by about 14 percent from 2008 to 2011. ... With the recent growth in U.S. natural gas production, domestic natural gas prices in 2012 are significantly lower than crude oil prices on an energy-equivalent basis. ... “EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012

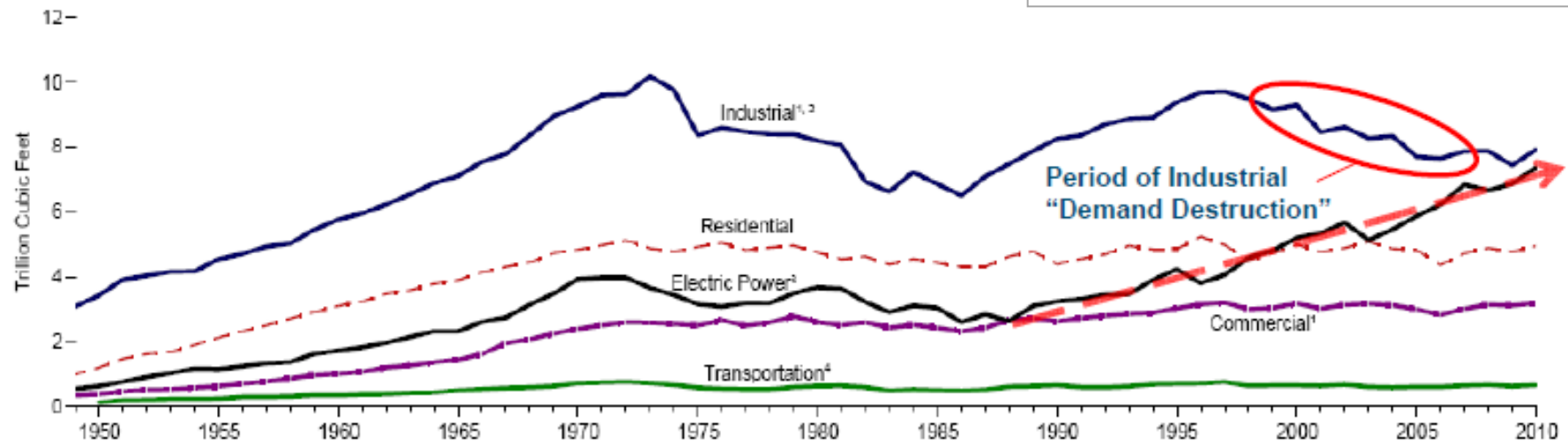


U.S. spot market prices for crude oil and  
natural gas, 1997-2012 (2010 dollars per million Btu)

# Rapid increase in USA unconventional gas production

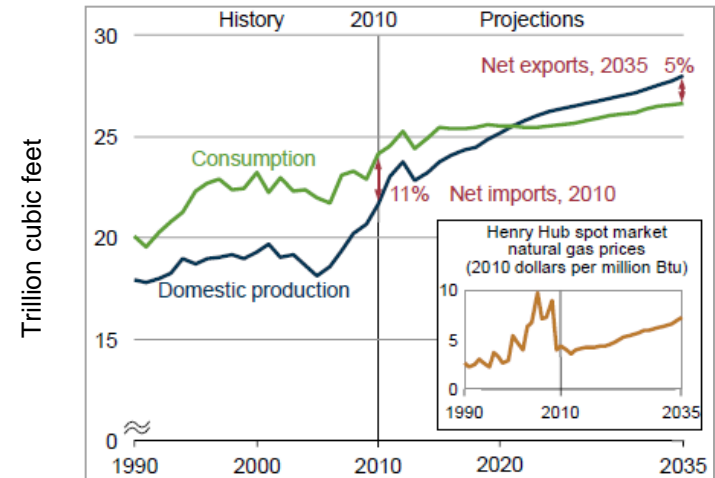
- Increased domestic use
  - Power generation, industry, and buildings
  - Interest in export

By Sector, 1949-2010



Source: EIA Annual Energy Review, October 2011. [http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/annual/pdf/sec6\\_12.pdf](http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/annual/pdf/sec6_12.pdf)

"Transportation" is dominated by gas used in transmission and distribution (compression) .

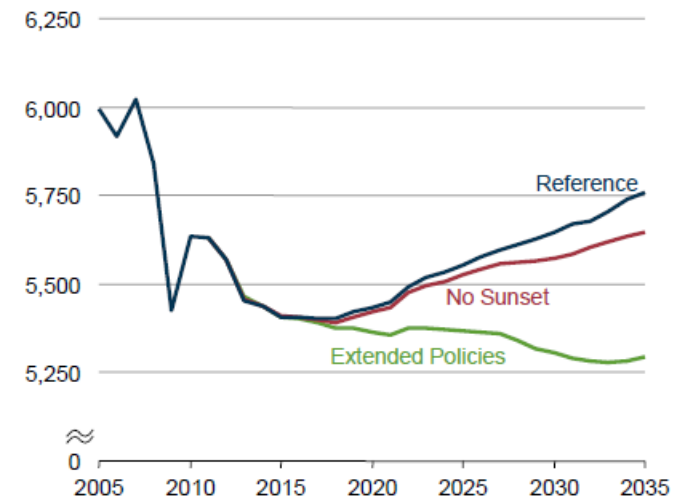


Monthly average U.S. natural gas price history (EIA 2011)

# Natural gas is a lower carbon fuel

- Carbon per unit energy
  - Methane: ~ 50 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/MMBTU
  - Coal: ~ 90 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/MMBTU
- Efficiency in power generation
  - Natural Gas Combined Cycle: 50 %
  - Coal: 30 %

U.S. EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012 (June 2012)  
Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions  
in three cases, 2005-2035 (million metric tons)

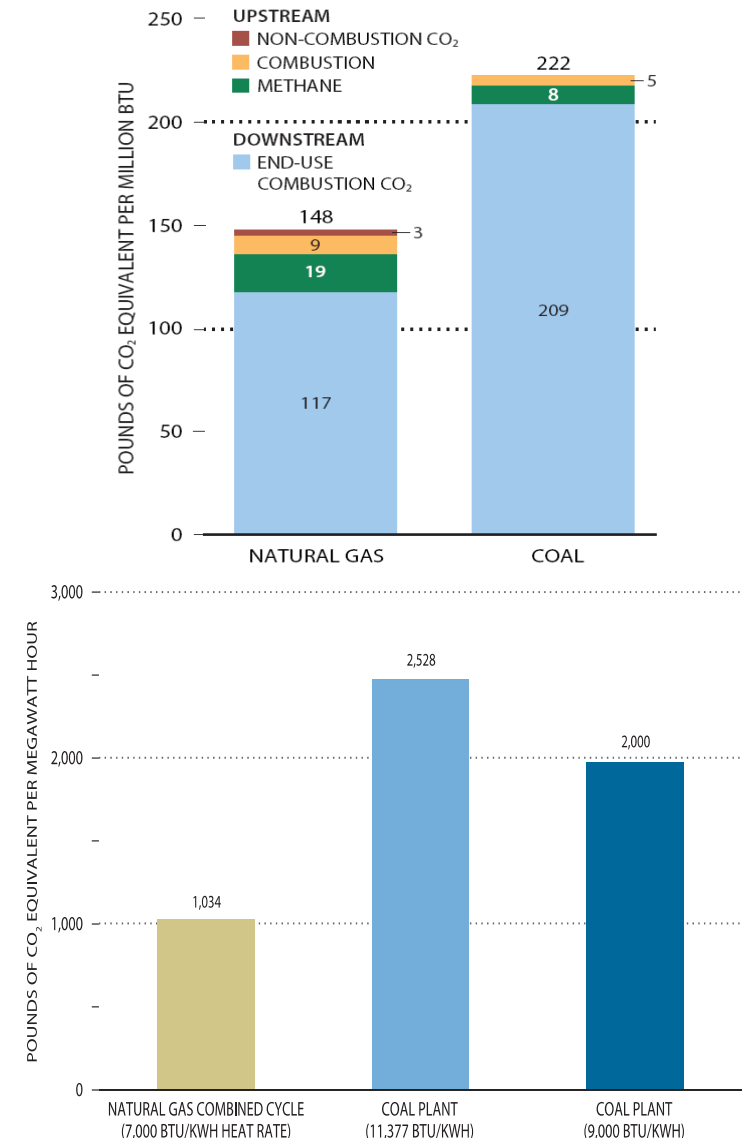


- Natural gas has adjustable power dispatch with less than half the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of coal
- U.S. energy-related emissions since 2005 has decreased by more than 400 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e.



# Natural gas is a lower carbon fuel

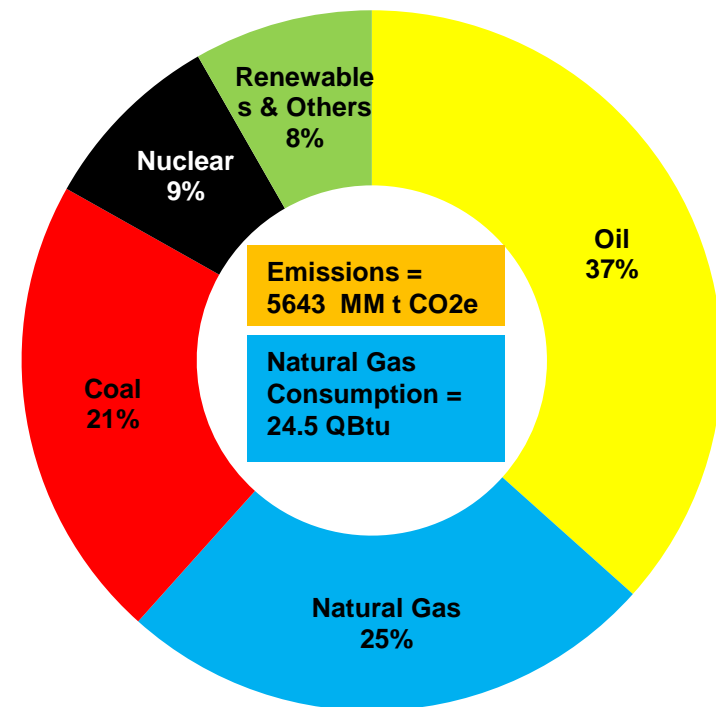
- LCA GHG emissions from natural gas-fired plants are 50-60% lower than existing coal-fired plants
- Gas combined cycle plants have 99% lower SO<sub>2</sub> and Hg emissions and about 82% lower NO<sub>x</sub> emissions relative to pulverized coal units



# Natural gas is a lower carbon fuel

- Power generation from natural gas has surpassed coal in USA

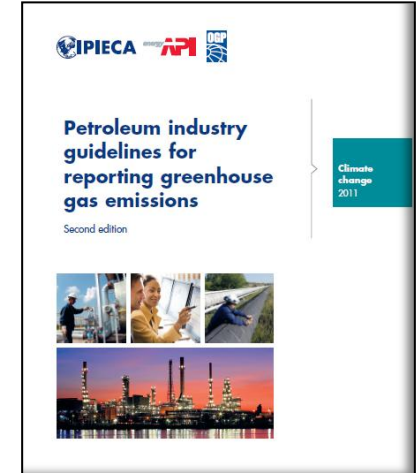
## 2010 US Energy Consumption (97.7 Quads)- 83% Fossil Fuel Based Economy



Source: AEO 2011, April 2011 (Reference Case)

# Managing methane emissions from natural gas IPIECA

- Improving measurement of emissions
- Reducing emissions
  - U.S. EPA Natural Gas Star began in 1993, expanded internationally in 2006
  - Over 120 domestic and 14 international partners have
    - Identified over 50 cost effective technologies and practices to reduce methane emissions
    - Reduced methane emissions by nearly 28 Bcm, saving over \$3 billion(US)



New U.S. initiative 2012



- Mitigation scenarios show expanding role of natural gas.
- Growth of natural gas supply enabled by improved technologies for unconventional gas.
  - Natural gas is a lower carbon fuel.
  - Significant coal to gas switching is underway in U.S.
  - Rapid increase in USA unconventional gas production contributed to reduced GHG emissions.
  - Methane emissions from natural gas systems are already being measured and managed.
  - New gas resources can be developed prudently with environmental safeguards, displace more carbon intensive emissions and other pollutants, and is already contributing to economic growth.

# Thank you!

**IPIECA**

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issues

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