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The Role of Natural Gas in the Energy Mix of the Future

Over the next 40 years, conservative estimates suggest that the growing population and increasing needs of energy consumers is likely to double world energy demand. In order to meet that demand, contributions from all energy sources, including coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear, and renewable sources, will be required. While the future energy mix certainly includes increased amounts of renewable sources, the most promising near-term source that can help to meet demand while concurrently reducing CO2 emissions is natural gas. With the development of the large unconventional gas resources in the U.S., natural gas has become an abundant, affordable, domestic source of energy that can help to meet the ever-growing energy demand. These unconventional resources can be developed in a safe, sustainable, and environmentally responsible manner that can help to realize these advantages and reduce dependence on foreign sources of energy.