

Comment by Email

Sent 12/02/05

Natural Gas Supply/Demand Notice of Inquiry

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Natural gas is a nonrenewable natural resource. It is produced over long periods of time, usually deep within the earth's crust. It is trapped by cap rocks at very high pressure, which when penetrated, quickly rises to the well head and if not captured, escapes into the atmosphere.

Depletion rates for gas wells are high. They are often exhausted within a year or two.

The usual means of transportation is by pipeline, which limits access to surrounding land areas.

The high rate of depletion coupled with the expense of providing pipelines, often over great distances can make future gas prices very high.

LNG is sometimes proposed as an alternative, but requires liquification and gasification at terminals as well as a vast fleet of special cryogenic tankers to move product from offshore fields. Tankers take time to build and are expensive. NIMBY also may dictate where terminals can be located.

Gasification of coal is another possibility, but with great environmental destruction.

It is best to conserve and find alternatives to the gas-hungry present energy consumption!