



PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL GAS OUTLOOK REPORT

March 2026

Published by:
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120
www.puc.pa.gov

Technical Utility Services
Paul T. Diskin, Director

Prepared by:
Matthew P. Stewart, Gas Reliability Engineer



Contents:

Section 1 - Exposition

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| I. | Introduction | 2 |
| II. | Executive Summary | 3 |

Section 2 - Charts and Analysis

- | | | |
|------|---|----|
| III. | Natural Gas Infrastructure | 6 |
| IV. | Natural Gas Generation and End Uses | 10 |
| V. | Natural Gas Production, Consumption, Reserves,
and Prices | 16 |
| VI. | Natural Gas Distribution Company Statistical Data | 25 |
| VII. | Natural Gas Distribution Company Gas Supply and
Demand Balance | 30 |

Section 3 – Financial Data

- | | | |
|-------|---|----|
| VIII. | Natural Gas Distribution Company Financial Statistics | 35 |
| IX. | Industry Trends | 41 |

Section 4 – Conclusion

- | | | |
|----|---------|----|
| X. | Summary | 45 |
|----|---------|----|

Section 1 - Exposition

I. Introduction

The Public Utility Code requires natural gas distribution companies (NGDCs) to file annual financial reports with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC).¹ These reports detail financial and accounting data, including revenues and expenses. NGDCs are also required to file annual resource planning reports (ARPR) with the PUC.² NGDCs with sales of eight billion cubic feet (Bcf) of gas per year or more must file these reports, which include the past year's historical data, program changes and the next three-year forecast of demand requirements.³

This report has been prepared using information filed by the NGDCs, including the information in the reports noted above, and other sources including the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). The most recent available data is reported, although much of the EIA production and reserves data has a one-year lag for reporting. With the uncertainty of unconventional gas supplies, EIA has not presented proven reserves information since 2009.

¹ 52 Pa. Code § 59.48.

² 52 Pa. Code § 59.81.

³ The NGDCs in PA with sales of 8 Bcf or more include Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW), PECO Energy Company (PECO), Columbia Gas of PA (Columbia), Peoples Natural Gas Company (Peoples), UGI Utilities Inc. (UGI), and National Fuel Gas Distribution Company (NFG).

II. Executive Summary

The PUC's Bureau of Technical Utility Services has prepared this report to summarize the 2024 financial and supply and demand data for the Pennsylvania NGDCs. This report also presents several topics of interest regarding the Pennsylvania natural gas industry. National trends in the natural gas industry are affected by trends and events in Pennsylvania. Therefore, macroeconomic and industry data for the entire U.S. are included in this report.

National Summary

The national natural gas storage inventory leading up to this winter heating season⁴ was 3.92 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) as of Oct. 31, 2025. The peak from the prior injection season was 3.97 Tcf. Domestic dry natural gas production in the U.S. averaged 103.2 billion cubic feet per day (Bcfd) in 2024, which was a slight decrease of 0.4% from 2023.⁵ Domestic consumption in 2024 was 90.4 Bcfd, which was an increase of 1.0 Bcfd from 2023. Henry Hub spot prices averaged \$2.19 per million British thermal units (MMBtus) in 2024, which was a substantial decrease of 13.4% from the average of \$2.53 in 2023.⁶ The decrease in prices was likely driven by increased gas production, flat consumption, and rising natural gas inventories.⁷ However, prices have been rising throughout 2025, and an analysis of Henry Hub natural gas futures shows a continued rise in pricing in 2026; producing an average price of \$4.05/MMBtu for 2026.⁸

⁴ 2025-2026 heating season.

⁵ EIA, *EIA Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals and Production*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

⁶ Henry Hub is a distribution hub in Louisiana. The price at this delivery point is frequently used by industry and trading markets as a benchmark for natural gas prices.

⁷ [U.S. Henry Hub natural gas prices in 2023 were the lowest since mid-2020 - U.S. Energy Information Administration \(EIA\)](#)

⁸ CME Group, available at <http://www.cmegroup.com/trading/energy/natural-gas/natural-gas.html>.

Pennsylvania Summary

There are over 3.1 million natural gas customers in Pennsylvania, with nearly 2.9 million residential customers.⁹ There are 26 PUC-jurisdictional natural gas utility companies in Pennsylvania, and six of these are major distribution companies with gross revenues greater than \$40 million per year.¹⁰ Pennsylvania's natural gas infrastructure includes intrastate pipelines, interstate pipelines, landfill gas pipeline projects, propane facilities and liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities. Infrastructure needs are being met by expansion and replacement of existing pipelines, with new pipelines and compressor stations being constructed.

As of Nov. 7, 2025, 32,307 unconventional drilling permit applications have been filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) (535 new applications Year to Date 2025).¹¹ Of those 32,307 applications, 13,623 unconventional well permits are currently active.¹² As of Nov. 7, 2025, there were 17 rotary rigs active in Pennsylvania, which is a 21% decrease in of the number of active rigs from a year prior. Rotary rigs are a piece or set of equipment, usually mobile, that is used to provide the rotational force needed to drill a borehole. The rotary rig count is an indicator of how many rigs are in service and the demand for drilling equipment.¹³ The EIA estimates that there were 68,929 producing shale and conventional gas wells in Pennsylvania in 2020, which was a 1.7% decrease from 2019.¹⁴

Financial statistics taken from the Gas Annual Reports of the NGDCs are presented in Section VII, in time series fashion from 2014 through 2024. Sections V through VII present broad category financial data for several categories, including revenue, expenses, plant in service, depreciation, maintenance, and gas costs. Data on the number of customers, reserves, wellhead prices, Pennsylvania production and average consumption are also provided.

⁹ EIA, *EIA Number of Natural Gas Consumers*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

¹⁰ \$40 million in gross revenue is the threshold over which an NGDC files under 66 Pa.C.S. § 1307(f) to recover natural gas costs.

¹¹ A conventional gas well is typically shallower than an unconventional well, and drills into a pocket or reservoir of gas. Such wells generally rely on the natural pressure to extract the gas once the well is drilled. An unconventional well uses more sophisticated means to extract gas from underground deposits, typically by hydraulic fracturing of shale structures (fracking). These unconventional wells also tend to require drilling to much greater depths than conventional wells.

¹² See, *PA DEP Well Permit Workload Report*, available at [Oil and Gas Reports | Department of Environmental Protection | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

¹³ Baker Hughes, rotary rig count, available at <http://www.bakerhughes.com/rig-count>.

¹⁴ EIA, *Number of Producing Gas Wells*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>. EIA's most current data on this subject is from 2020.

The following are a few of the notable statistics contained in this report:

- Total natural gas consumption in Pennsylvania has increased from 706.2 Bcf in 1997 to 1,919 Bcf in 2024.
- Pennsylvania gas production was 7.4 Tcf in 2024, up from only 121 Bcf (0.12 Tcf) in 1997, but down by 2.6% from 2023.
- Gas deliveries for Pennsylvania electric generation have increased markedly from 3% of total deliveries in 1997, to 61.8% in 2024, or 20 Bcf in 1997 as compared to 1 Tcf in 2024.¹⁵

¹⁵ EIA, *Natural Gas Consumption by End Use*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

Section 2 - Charts and Analysis

III. Pennsylvania Natural Gas Infrastructure

Pipelines

Twenty interstate natural gas pipelines exist in the Northeast Region, which includes Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia and West Virginia. These interstate pipelines deliver to several intrastate pipelines and more than 50 local distribution companies (LDCs). They also deliver to natural gas-fired electric generating facilities and large industrial customers. The pipelines in Pennsylvania have access to natural gas production from the South and Midwest, from the Rocky Mountains via the Rockies Express Pipeline, from Canada, and from the Marcellus and Utica Shales that span large portions of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.¹⁶

Marcellus Shale production in the northeast U.S. has increased from 0.6 Bcfd in January 2010¹⁷ to 27.7 Bcfd in October 2025, with an increase of 1.2 Bcfd from the prior year. Despite this vast increase in production, many portions of eastern Pennsylvania and New England are still subject to higher priced gas fluctuations, as well as dramatic spikes in price during cold snaps in the winter heating season. These price differences are mostly caused by a lack of pipeline capacity to transport supply to the markets with demand. There are 253 MMcfd of pipeline projects that have been, or were scheduled to be, placed in service in the Northeast region in 2025, and a further 1.2 Bcfd of projects are scheduled to be placed in service in 2026, as shown in Tables 1 and 2 below, respectively. The additional pipelines are intended to remove some of the above-mentioned constraints and may assist in stabilizing regional prices by moving the increased Marcellus Shale gas production to market or linking other sources of gas to the Northeast region.¹⁸

¹⁶ EIA, Natural Gas Pipelines in the Northeast Region, *About U.S. Natural Gas Pipelines*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

¹⁷ EIA frequently revises older data that may have been based on estimates when released. The 0.6 Bcfd noted for January 2010 was accurate as of this year.

¹⁸ EIA, *EIA Marcellus Region Drilling Productivity Report*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

Table 1: Proposed or Completed Pipeline Infrastructure for 2025 In-Service in the Northeast Region^{19 20}

Project Name	Pipeline Operator Name	State(s)	Additional Capacity (MMcf/d)
Commonwealth Energy Connector Project	Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC	VA	105
Eastern Panhandle Expansion Project	Columbia Gas Transmission	PA, MD, WV	48
Virginia Reliability Project	Columbia Gas Transmission	VA	100

¹⁹ EIA, EIA Natural Gas Pipeline Projects, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

²⁰ Some projects providing 0 MMcf/d additional capacity are designed to meet new regulations, or to provide additional flexibility in deliverability to underserved or new areas of consumption.

Table 2: Proposed Pipeline Infrastructure for 2026 In-Service in the Northeast Region^{21 22}

Project Name	Pipeline Operator Name	State(s)	Additional Capacity (MMcf/d)
Appalachia to Market II & Armagh & Entriiken HP Replacement Project	Texas Eastern Transmission	PA, NJ	55
Mountain Valley Pipeline Interconnect Expansion	Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Equitrans Midstream)	WV	350
Rover-Bulger CS and Harmon Creek MS Expansion	Rover Pipeline	PA	400
Shippingport Lateral Project	National Fuel Gas Company (NFG),	PA	190
Tioga Pathway Expansion	National Fuel Gas Supply Co.	PA	190

²¹ EIA, EIA Natural Gas Pipeline Projects, available at <http://www.eia.gov>

²² Some projects providing 0 MMcf/d additional capacity are designed to meet new regulations, or to provide additional flexibility in deliverability to underserved or new areas of consumption.

Vintage Plastic Pipelines

Although plastic is a commonly used contemporary material for natural gas pipelines, the industry has been aware of issues with certain plastic products installed in earlier decades. Specifically, these components were identified by an advisory bulletin from the Federal Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in 2007, warning of the susceptibility of these components to sudden brittle cracking.²³ In order to assess the risk in Pennsylvania, on October 11, 2023, the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services (TUS) sent a data request to determine the amount of these components in each NGDC's distribution system.

The Commission determined that additional research and monitoring should be implemented to definitively identify the entire scope of the issue. On August 26, 2024, pursuant to an adopted Motion by Chairman Stephen M. DeFrank, the Commission entered a Tentative Order that, *inter alia*, sought comments on the proposals to accelerate the replacement of older plastic pipes.²⁴ After review of the comments, the Commission entered a Final Order on September 11, 2025, which, *inter alia*, instituted ongoing reporting requirements from the NGDCs concerning plastic system components to be implemented and monitored by TUS.²⁵ TUS will continue to receive information from NGDCs on plastic system components that will inform future reports.

²³ See, the Federal Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Advisory Bulletin, *Pipeline Safety: Updated Notification of the Susceptibility to Premature Brittle-Like Cracking of Older Plastic Pipe*, available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2007/09/06/07-4309/pipeline-safety-updatednotification-of-the-susceptibility-to-premature-brittle-like-cracking-of>

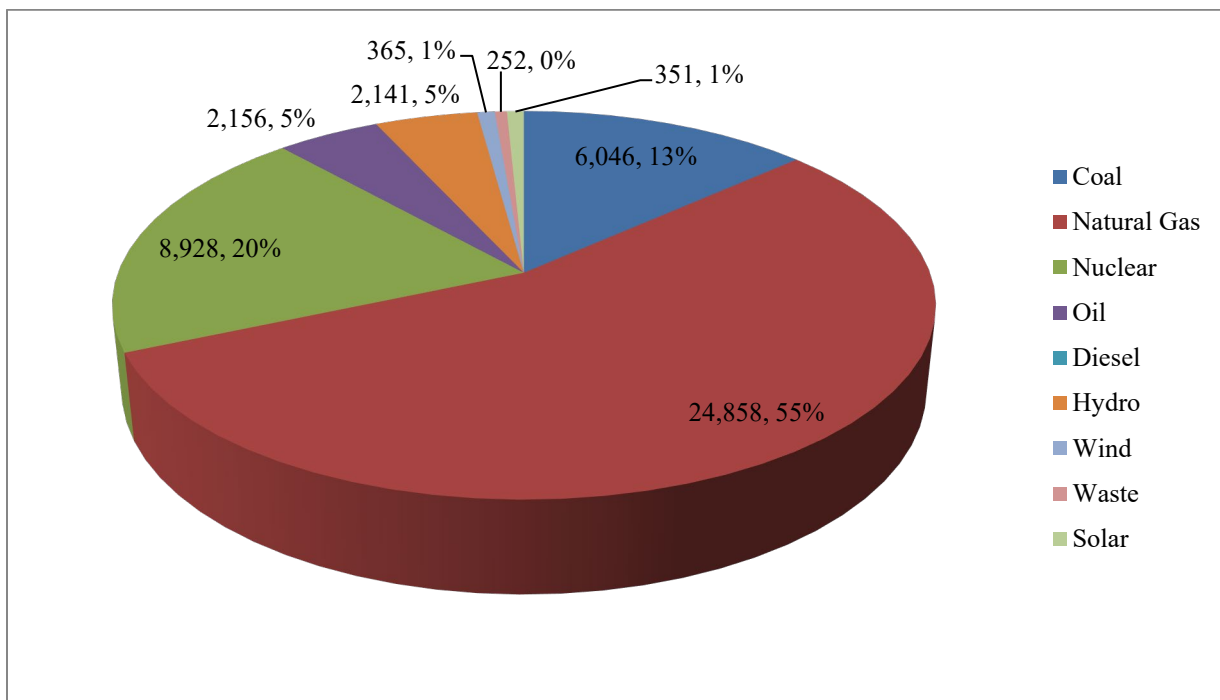
²⁴ See, Docket No. M-2024-3050313.

²⁵ *Id.*

IV. Natural Gas Generation and End Uses in Pennsylvania

By the end of 2024, Pennsylvania had 24,858 megawatts (MWs) of natural gas fired electric generation installed capacity, as shown by comparison to other capacity fuel sources in Chart 1, below.²⁶ These facilities constitute 55.1% of Pennsylvania’s electric generating capacity, up from 52.0% the prior year, making natural gas the largest portion of Pennsylvania’s electric generation mix for the seventh year in a row. The change in the share of natural gas fired electric generation capacity was caused by a combination of a 1,517 MW increase in natural gas capacity, and another substantial decrease in coal capacity of 1,507 MW.²⁷ Chart 2, below, shows the percentage of electric generation capacity by fuel source over time, from 2014 through 2024. Chart 2 also shows that natural gas has been steadily increasing as a share of the total electric generation capacity in PA, firmly overtaking coal in 2018, and maintaining its dominance in Pennsylvania through 2024.

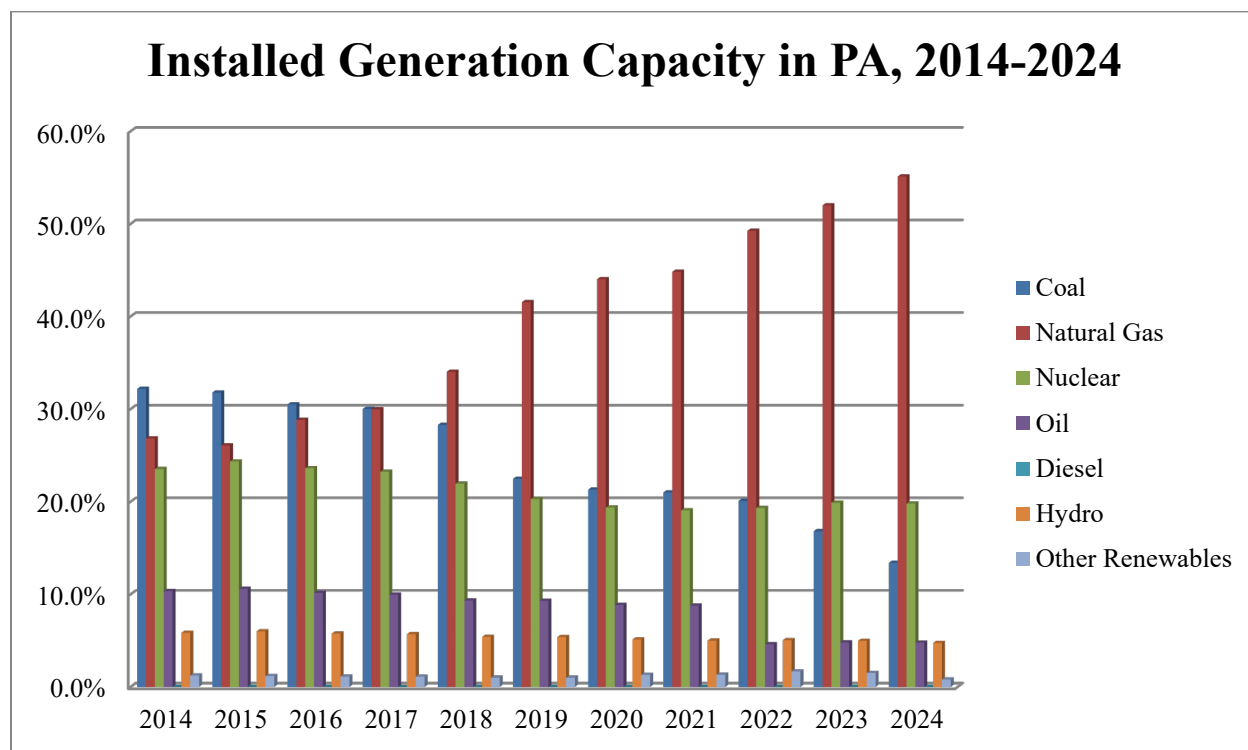
Chart 1: Electric Generation Capacity in Pennsylvania by Fuel Type at Year End 2024 (MW)



²⁶ PJM, *2024 PJM Pennsylvania State Infrastructure Report*, available at: <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/DotCom/library/reports-notices/state-specific-reports/2024/pennsylvania.pdf>

²⁷ While a relatively small portion of Pennsylvania’s total wholesale electric generation capacity, solar has seen noticeable increases over the past five years, with an increase of 344 MW, up from only 7 MW in 2019. In particular, wholesale solar resources more than doubled from 2022 to 2023, jumping from 70 MW to 144 MW, and more than doubled again from 2023 to 2024, from 144 MW to 351 MW.

Chart 2: Installed Electric Generation Capacity in PA, 2014-2024



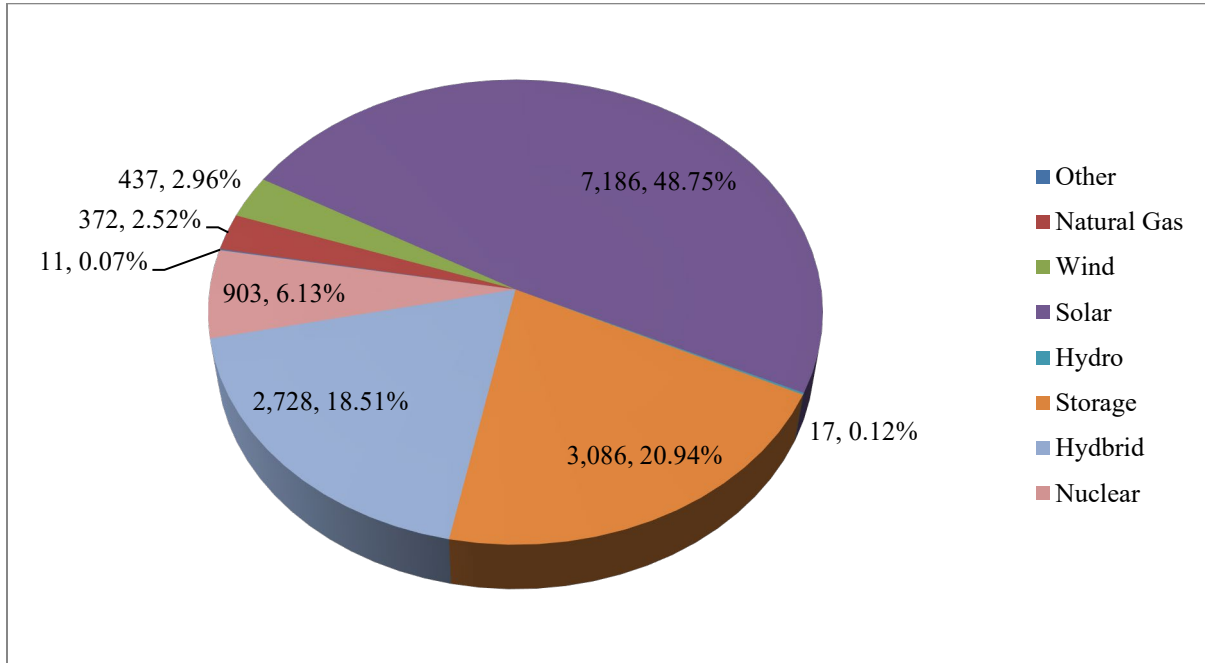
Charts 3 and 4, below, summarize the PJM queue for new electric generation capacity for Pennsylvania as of May 7, 2025. The queue includes only 65 MW of proposed new natural gas fired capacity, making up 0.5% of the total PJM queue for Pennsylvania. This is primarily due to the continued high levels of solar and storage resources in the PJM queue.

PJM uses an Effective Load Carrying Capability (ELCC) method to calculate the capability of various resources, particularly intermittent, storage, renewables, and hybrid resources. These result in a lower value than the Installed Capacity (ICAP) or “nameplate” value of the resource. For example, PJM assigns an ELCC class rating of 35% to onshore wind resources, meaning an onshore wind facility with nameplate capacity of 100 MW would be given an ELCC value of 35 MW. PJM has not updated its ELCC ratings since 2024, however, Chart 4 uses estimates based on previous ratings to show the PJM queue with ELCC values for the appropriate resources in the queue.²⁸ This year solar and storage projects continue to be the vast majority of the queue,

²⁸ PJM, *Pennsylvania Resource Adequacy Analysis, Q3 2024*, available at: <http://www.pjm.com>.

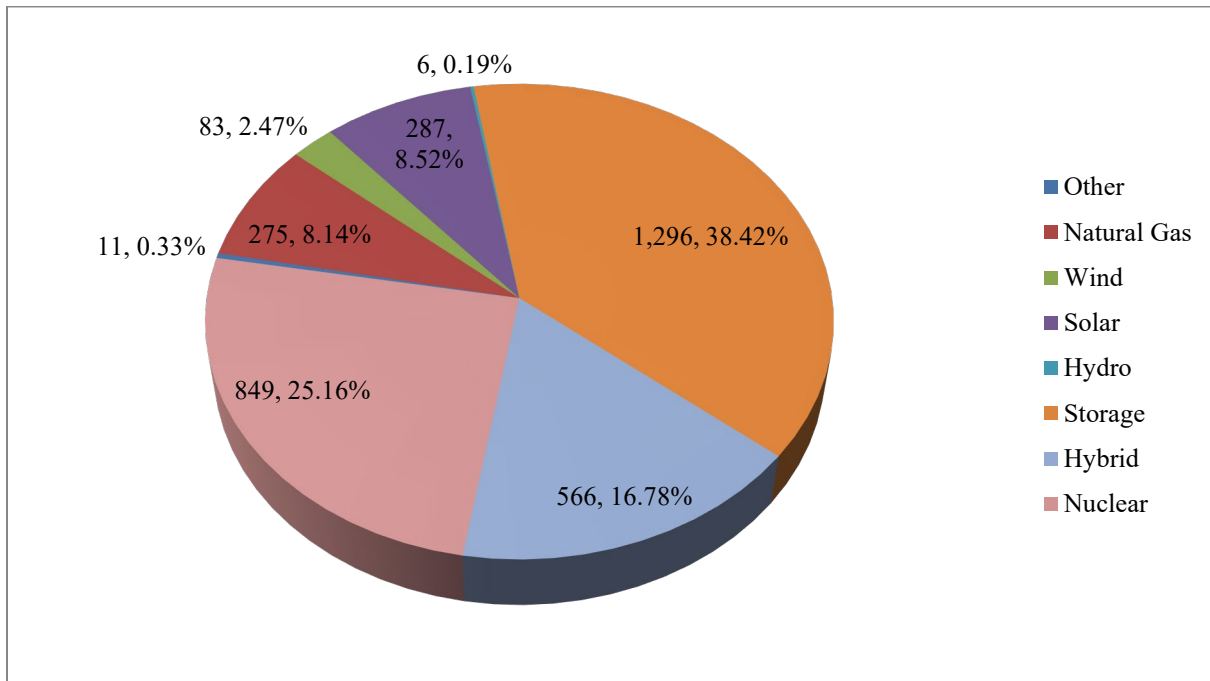
taking up 96.4% of the ICAP total combined, substantially higher than natural gas. Typically, PJM projects about 5% of the projects in the queue are actually put in service.²⁹

Chart 3: Queued Electric Generation Capacity (ICAP) in Pennsylvania by Fuel Type (MW)



²⁹ PJM, *Pennsylvania Resource Adequacy Analysis, Q3 2024*, available at: <http://www.pjm.com>.

Chart 4: Queued Electric Generation Capacity (ELCC Value) in Pennsylvania by Fuel Type (MW), Estimated



Charts 5 and 6, below, note the gas consumed in Pennsylvania for electric generation as compared to other end-uses in 1997 and 2024, respectively.³⁰ As depicted, the fraction of natural gas usage for electric generation has dramatically increased. Reasons for this increase include: greater supply of natural gas and the resultant lower cost for natural gas; the advancement of efficient natural gas fueled electric generation technology; and retirements of older coal-fired and nuclear power plants. As the composition of the generating fleet changes to more gas-fired units, pressure will continue to increase on the natural gas industry to augment production and transportation capacity.

³⁰ EIA, *Natural Gas Consumption by End Use*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

Chart 5: Natural Gas Consumption in Pennsylvania by End Use 1997³¹

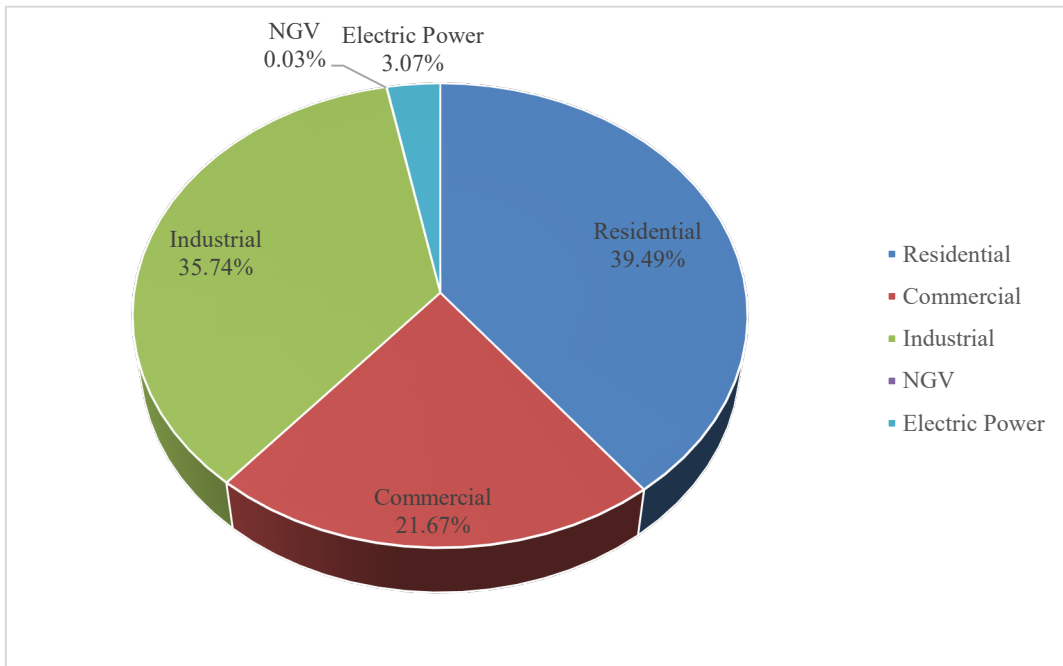
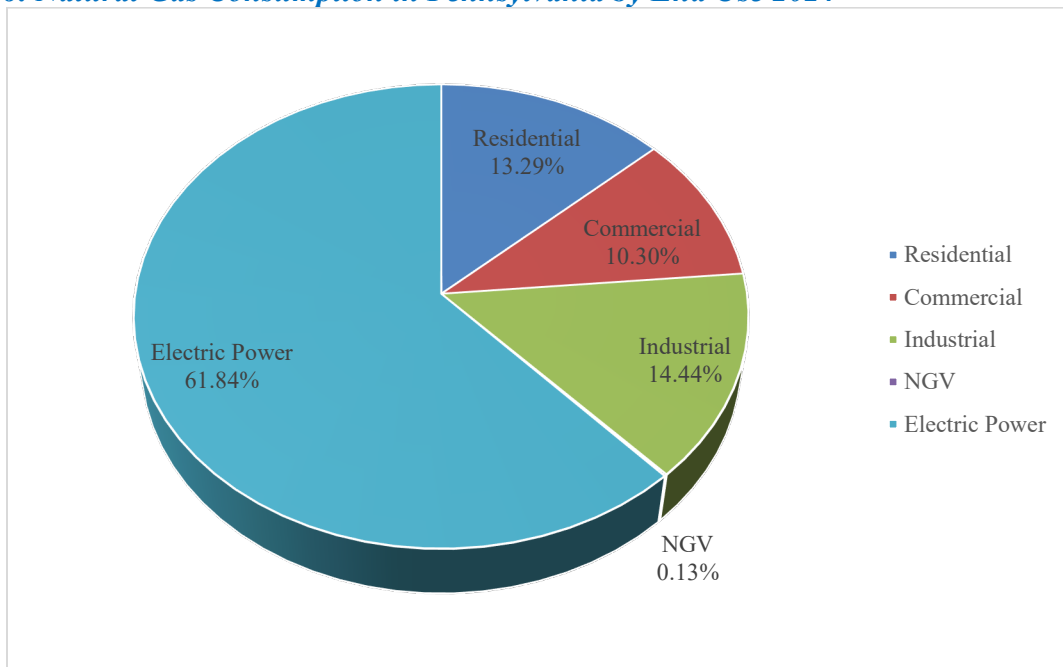


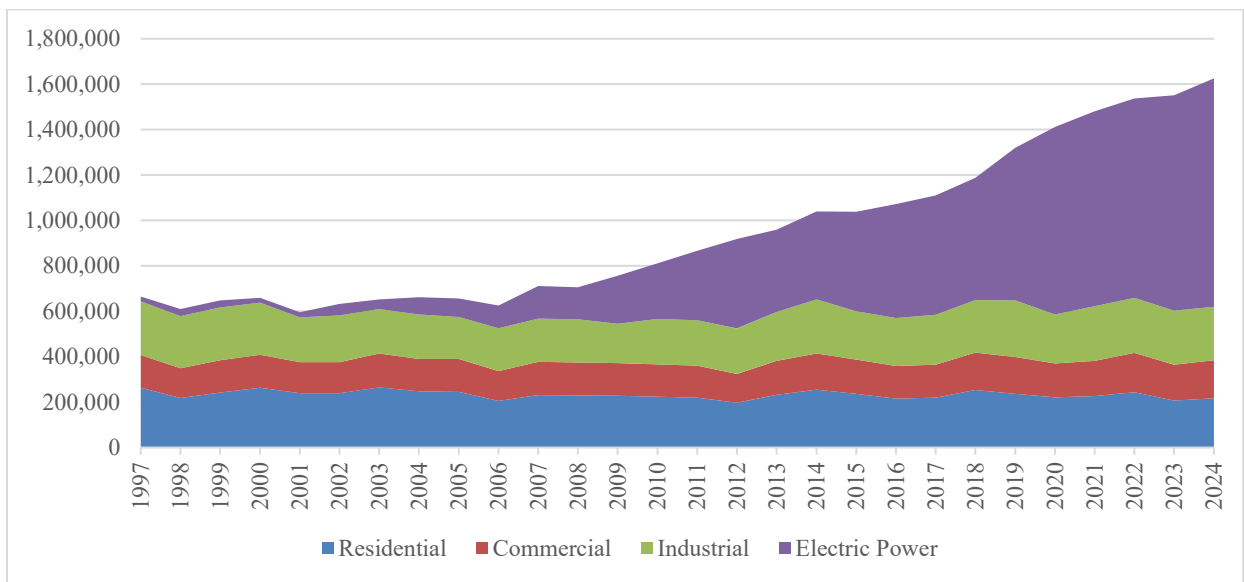
Chart 6: Natural Gas Consumption in Pennsylvania by End Use 2024



³¹ NGV = Natural Gas Vehicles.

The dramatic shift in the use of natural gas from primarily residential, commercial, and industrial uses to electric power generation has been occurring steadily over the period from 1997 through 2024, with a marked acceleration beginning in 2008 as Marcellus Shale production ramped up, as seen in Figure 1, below.³² Notably, natural gas usage for electric generation increased over 178% from 2013 to 2024, rising 644 Bcf, while total usage increased 667 Bcf over the same period.³³ Gas usage for all other end uses varied over this period, with residential use being relatively flat over most of the period, but with a sharp decrease of 12.1% in 2023, with a slight rebound of a 4.6% increase in 2024. Usage in the commercial and industrial sectors remained relatively flat over the period as well, but with modest increases of 12.4% and 9.1%, respectively, roughly offsetting the drop in the residential sector. Electricity demand increased in 2024 as compared to 2023, with a year-over-year increase of 2.81%.³⁴

Figure 1: Natural Gas Deliveries in Pennsylvania by End Use 1997-2024



³² EIA, *Natural Gas Consumption by End Use*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

³³ Usage for NGVs actually increased over this time period, but since the amount going to this sector is so small, it is negligible for the purposes of the analysis in this section. NGV usage went from 312 MMcf to 2,071 MMcf, an increase of 564% from 2013-2024.

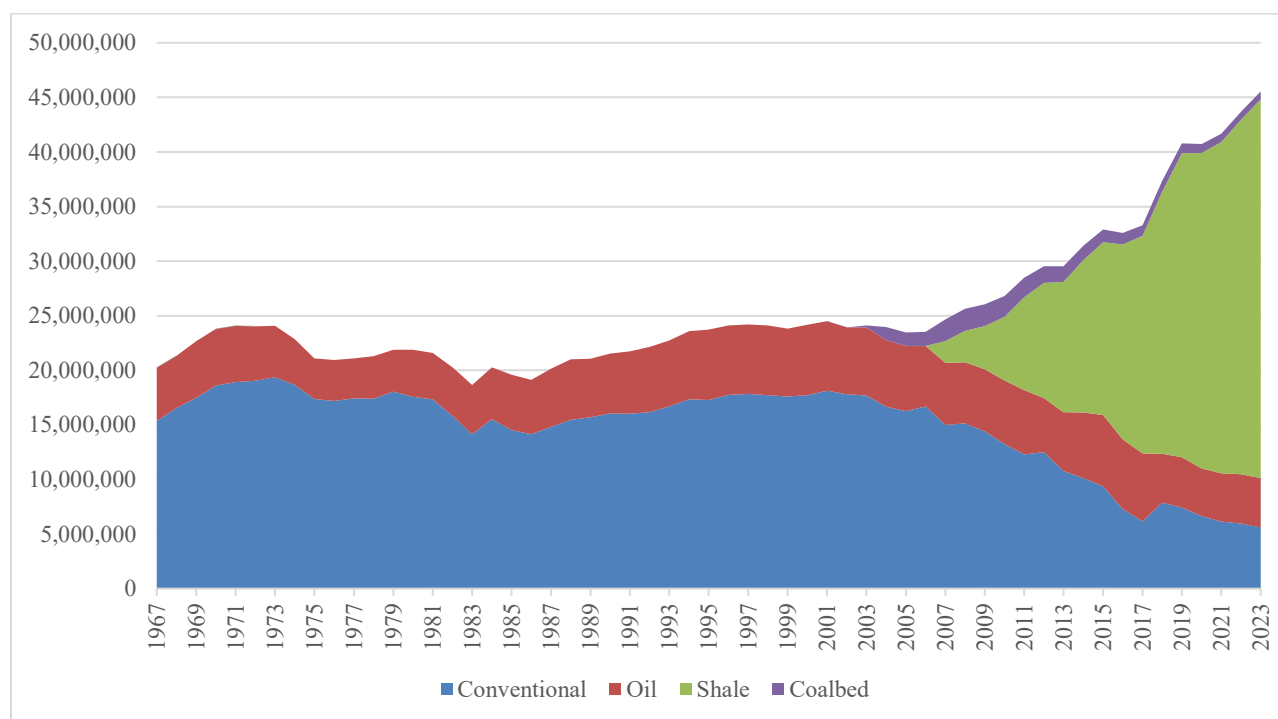
³⁴ PUC, *Electric Power Outlook Report for Pennsylvania 2024-2029*, available here: <https://www.puc.pa.gov/media/3586/final-draft-2025-epo-2024-2029-8-2025.pdf>

V. Natural Gas Production, Consumption, Reserves, and Prices

United States

Total U.S. withdrawals of natural gas were 45.9 Tcf in 2024, up slightly from 45.6 Tcf in 2023, a 0.7% increase. EIA has not provided a breakdown by well type for 2024, but gross withdrawals of unconventional shale gas in 2023 were 34.7 Tcf, and the proportion of production well type has likely not changed substantially from 2023 to 2024.³⁵ As shown in Figure 2 below, 2023 was the eleventh consecutive year in which unconventional shale gas withdrawals outpaced conventional gas wells in the U.S. This trend is accelerating, with the spread between shale and conventional gas production increasing from 1.2 Tcf in 2013 to 29.1 Tcf in 2023.

Figure 2: US Gross Natural Gas Withdrawals by Well Type (MMcf), 1967-2023



The national natural gas storage inventory currently going into this winter heating season³⁶ was 3.92 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) as of Oct. 31, 2025. The peak from the prior injection season was 3.97 Tcf on Nov. 15, 2024. Domestic dry natural gas production in the U.S. averaged 103.2

³⁵ EIA, *EIA Natural Gas Summary*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

³⁶ 2025-2026 heating season.

billion cubic feet per day (Bcfd) in 2024, which was a slight decline of 0.4% from 2023.³⁷ Domestic consumption actually increased in 2024 to 90.4 Bcfd, which is a rise of 1.0 Bcfd from 2023. Henry Hub spot prices averaged \$2.19 per million British thermal units (MMBtus) in 2024, which was a substantial decrease of 13.4% from \$2.53 in 2023.³⁸ The decrease in prices was likely driven by rising gas production, flat domestic consumption, and rising natural gas inventories.³⁹

An analysis of Henry Hub natural gas futures contracts in comparison to Henry Hub spot prices⁴⁰ shows an expected increase in price over the coming year. Henry Hub spot prices have averaged \$3.41/MMBtu in 2025, while the average projected price is \$4.05/MMBtu for 2026.⁴¹ Figure 3, below, shows the futures prices for Henry Hub through June 2027 delivery dates. Although the Henry Hub price is frequently used as a benchmark for the “price” of natural gas, there are significant differences in price at delivery points based on geography. For example, the Dominion South Hub is located in southwestern Pennsylvania, which is in the middle of the Marcellus and Utica Shale plays. Based on past spot prices, Henry Hub prices are generally higher, with an average basis spread of \$0.30/MMBtu to \$0.80/MMBtu.⁴² Although it is purely speculative, if this pricing trend were to continue going forward, we could expect lower pricing in 2026 at the Dominion South Hub compared to Henry Hub.

³⁷ EIA, *EIA Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals and Production*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

³⁸ Henry Hub is a distribution hub in Louisiana. The price at this delivery point is frequently used by industry and trading markets as a benchmark for natural gas prices.

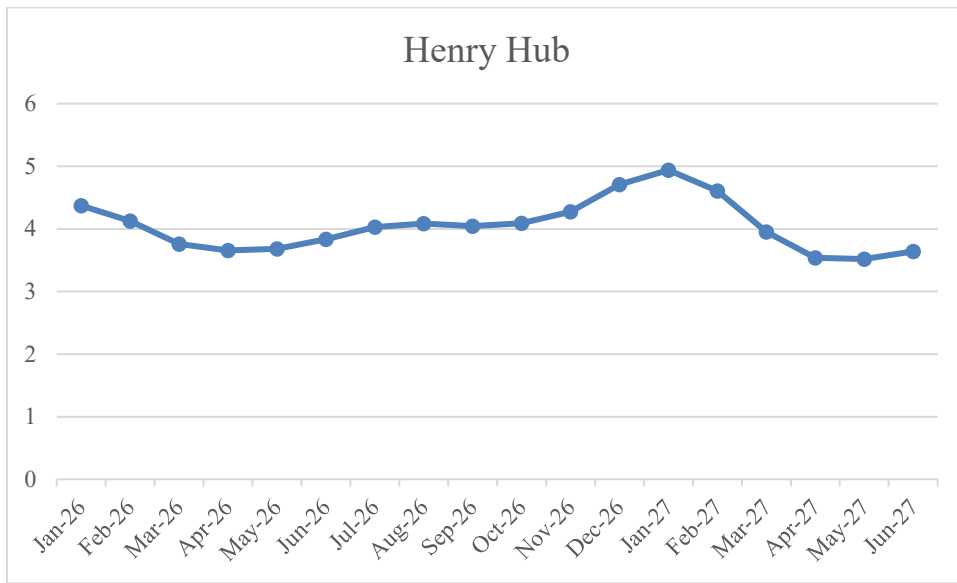
³⁹ [U.S. Henry Hub natural gas prices in 2023 were the lowest since mid-2020 - U.S. Energy Information Administration \(EIA\)](#)

⁴⁰ CME Group, available at <http://www.cmegroup.com/trading/energy/natural-gas/natural-gas.html>.

⁴¹ EIA, *EIA Short Term Energy Outlook*, available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

⁴² CME Group, available at <http://www.cmegroup.com/trading/energy/natural-gas/natural-gas.html>.

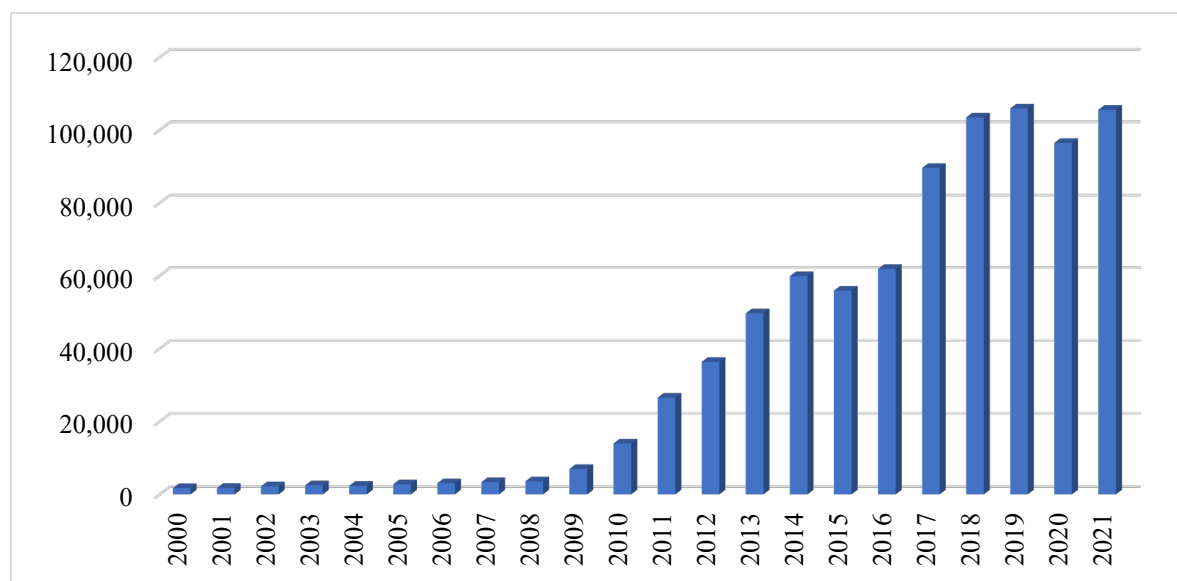
Figure 3: Henry Hub Futures Prices (\$/MMBtu)



Pennsylvania

This section presents Pennsylvania specific data. The data includes sales by NGDCs, deliveries by NGDCs for competitive suppliers and production of natural gas in Pennsylvania. Dry proved reserves for Pennsylvania as of Dec. 31, 2021, were 105.6 Tcf, an increase of 9.4% from 2020. Pennsylvania's dry proved reserves since 2000 can be seen in Figure 4, below.

Figure 4: Pennsylvania's Dry Proved Reserves (Bcf), 2000-2021⁴³



As of Nov. 7, 2025, 32,307 unconventional drilling permit applications have been filed with the Pennsylvania DEP (535 new applications Year to Date 2025).⁴⁴ Of those 31,677 applications, 13,623 unconventional well permits are currently active.⁴⁵ As of Nov. 7, 2025, there were 17 rotary rigs active in Pennsylvania, which is a 21% decrease in of the number of active rigs from a year prior. Rotary rigs are a piece or set of equipment, usually mobile, that is used to provide the rotational force needed to drill a borehole. The rotary rig count is an indicator of how many rigs

⁴³ Data beyond 2021 was not available.

⁴⁴ A conventional gas well is typically shallower than an unconventional well, and drills into a pocket or reservoir of gas. Such wells generally rely on the natural pressure to extract the gas once the well is drilled. An unconventional well uses more sophisticated means to extract gas from underground deposits, typically by hydraulic fracturing of shale structures (fracking). These unconventional wells also tend to require drilling to much greater depths than conventional wells.

⁴⁵ See, *PA DEP Well Permit Workload Report*, available at [Oil and Gas Reports | Department of Environmental Protection | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

are in service and the demand for drilling equipment.⁴⁶ Table 3, below, illustrates that Pennsylvania’s production in 2024 greatly exceeded its deliveries to consumers in the state by more than a factor of four.

Table 3: Historical Pennsylvania Deliveries, Transportation and Production (Bcf)⁴⁷

Year	Gas Delivered to Consumers	Delivered for the Account of Others (Transport)	PA Gross Gas Production
1997	664.8	261.2	80.0
1998	609.8	273.4	130.3
1999	648.2	293.5	174.7
2000	659.0	292.0	150.0
2001	596.0	254.2	130.9
2002	632.0	270.6	157.8
2003	651.9	264.3	159.8
2004	662.5	258.2	197.2
2005	656.1	246.8	168.5
2006	625.9	247.3	176.0
2007	711.9	259.1	182.3
2008	705.3	260.6	198.3
2009	755.9	253.3	273.9
2010	811.2	283.2	572.9
2011	866.8	287.6	1,310.6
2012	918.5	293.5	2,256.7
2013	959.0	331.4	3,259.0
2014	1,039.9	362.7	4,257.7
2015	1,038.3	332.5	4,813.0
2016	1,072.1	326.3	5,210.2
2017	1,111.7	335.2	5,453.6
2018	1,189.9	365.8	6,264.8
2019	1,321.5	382.1	6,896.8
2020	1,415.8	341.9	7,168.9
2021	1,475.7	366.4	7,647.1
2022	1,544.6	383.1	7,513.6
2023	1,552.1	358.2	7,592.3
2024	1,617.2	359.8	7,422.3

⁴⁶ Baker Hughes, rotary rig count, available at <http://www.bakerhughes.com/rig-count>.

⁴⁷ EIA, *Natural Gas Delivered for the Account of Others*, available at: <http://www.eia.gov>.

Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs) and the Natural Gas Market

At this time, a significant amount of NGLs is simply sold directly into the natural gas system, owing to a lack of supply transportation to other markets, *e.g.*, manufacturing, retail sales, etc. With natural gas prices still relatively low, this adds to the downward pressure on NGL prices. However, over the past several years, the pricing for NGLs has begun to increase, as Mariner East Pipelines have come online for ethane service and some energy companies have begun transporting additional quantities of NGLs through other means, such as rail and road transportation.⁴⁸ These transportation options have allowed more NGLs to be sold to higher priced markets, such as manufacturing. As more NGLs are sold into these alternate markets, this creates an additional incentive for producers to remove these NGLs from the natural gas supply, rather than selling them into the natural gas pipelines.

As new pipelines are placed in service, it is possible that a substantial shift in the relationship between NGL supplies and the natural gas market could develop. Currently, there is a substantial, though unmeasured, volume of NGLs within the natural gas system, both in Pennsylvania and throughout the U.S. This causes variation in the heat content of natural gas being delivered to consumers. Heat content is a measure of the amount of energy derived from a given quantity of gas when it is combusted, usually measured in Btu. For example, pure methane, the primary component of natural gas, has a heat content of 1,010 Btu/ft³.⁴⁹ Ethane, the most common NGL to be produced from natural gas wells by volume, has a much higher heat content of 1,783 Btu/ft³. Other potential impurities in natural gas, such as carbon monoxide, have much lower heat content.⁵⁰

It is possible for the heat content of the mixture that is delivered to a customer to have a heat content either higher or lower than that of pure methane, depending on the amounts of these various impurities within a given sample of natural gas. If it is higher, an estimate can be made of the amount of NGLs present in the gas. To prepare estimates of the amount of NGLs in gas produced in Pennsylvania, two assumptions have been made:

⁴⁸ See the Reuters' article available here: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-range-resources-npls-mariner-east/range-finds-alternatives-to-ship-npls-due-penn-mariner-east-shutdown-idUSKCN1J42EK>.

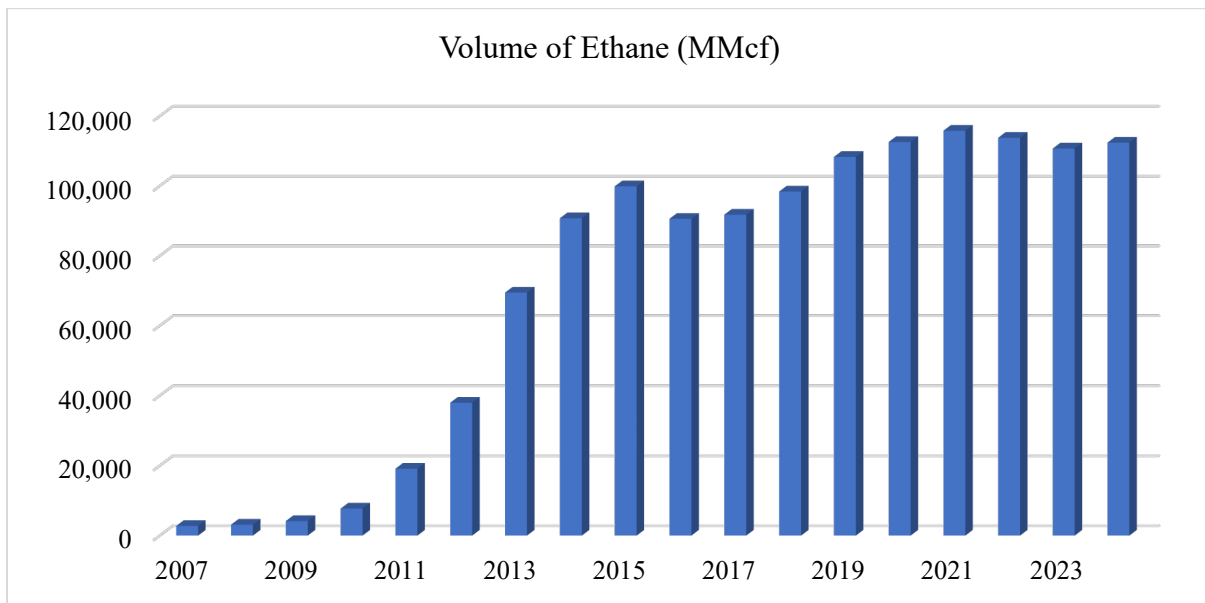
⁴⁹ In the natural gas industry, the heat content of natural gas is often approximated to be 1,000 Btu/ft³.

⁵⁰ Carbon monoxide has a heat content of 323 Btu/ft³.

1. The heat content of gas consumed in Pennsylvania is the same as the heat content of the gas being produced in Pennsylvania. This assumption is necessary since EIA only provides data on the heat content of gas consumed.
2. The only NGL in the gas is ethane, and there are no other low-heat content impurities in the gas. This is done for simplicity. While there may be other impurities, including a small quantity of larger hydrocarbons, e.g., propane, butane, etc., ethane is used to try to derive an estimate of the overall amount of NGLs in the natural gas.

Using these assumptions, Figure 5, below, shows the theoretical quantity of ethane produced and fed into the natural gas system by Pennsylvania producers. These estimates were determined using the average heat content of natural gas delivered in Pennsylvania, combined with the gross production of natural gas in Pennsylvania.⁵¹ Using the assumptions, above, it then follows that any additional heat content above 1,010 Btu/ft³ of methane is derived purely from ethane, and the exact quantity of ethane injected into the natural gas system can be determined.

Figure 5: Hypothetical Volume of Ethane Injected into the Natural Gas System by Pennsylvania Producers (MMcf)



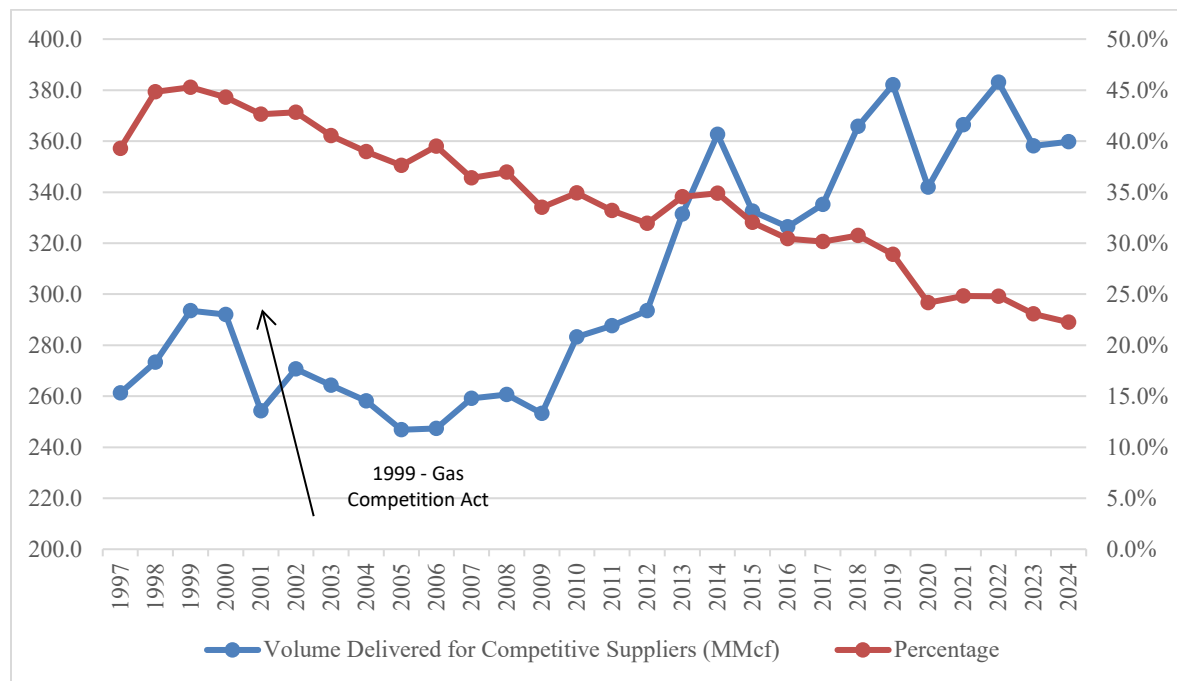
⁵¹ EIA, *Heat Content of Natural Gas Delivered to Consumers, and Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals*, both available at <http://www.eia.gov>.

In 2024, this could have meant that an estimated 112,396 million cubic feet (MMcf) of NGLs currently being fed into the natural gas system could have been redirected, possibly causing the prices of both NGLs and natural gas to rise, creating incentive for additional production in Pennsylvania.

Figure 6, below, shows Pennsylvania deliveries of natural gas for competitive suppliers, often called transportation gas, as a percentage of total gas delivered. In 2024, 22.2% of the total natural gas delivered was for competitive suppliers in Pennsylvania. In 2024, the percentages of gas delivered for competitive suppliers by customer class were as follows:⁵²

- Residential: 11.2%
- Commercial: 64.1%
- Industrial: 99.2%

Figure 6: Natural Gas Delivered for Competitive Suppliers by Pennsylvania NGDCs ⁵³



⁵² EIA, Natural Gas Delivered for the Account of Others, available at: <http://www.eia.gov>.

⁵³ The Natural Gas Choice and Competition Act was signed into law on June 22, 1999.

Since 2009, total transportation gas amounts have been generally increasing, despite the slight decline in 2023. While the total amount of transportation gas has been increasing, the percentage of transportation gas has been declining, as overall usage in other delivery sectors has increased dramatically.

VI. Natural Gas Distribution Company (NGDC) Statistical Data

Customer Data

The information in Tables 4 and 5, below, is derived from data contained in the Gas Annual Reports and the ARPRs submitted to the Commission by those Pennsylvania NGDCs with greater than 8 Bcf of annual sales. The charts and data analysis in this section are derived from the raw data in these two tables.

Table 4: 2024 Customer Statistical Data

<i>Company</i>	<i>Number of Residential Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Commercial Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Industrial Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Transportation Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>
Columbia	362,447	68	26,189	284	89	2,382	59,816	644
Peoples	574,505	75	40,635	246	85	2,306	89,458	785
NFG	179,569	85	11,622	243	178	1,281	22,186	1,080
PECO	509,224	74	44,862	478	6	1,833	628	35,780
PGW	451,408	61	22,141	329	342	1,135	35,580	884
UGI	549,149	72	48,444	302	676	1,015	103,387	2,558

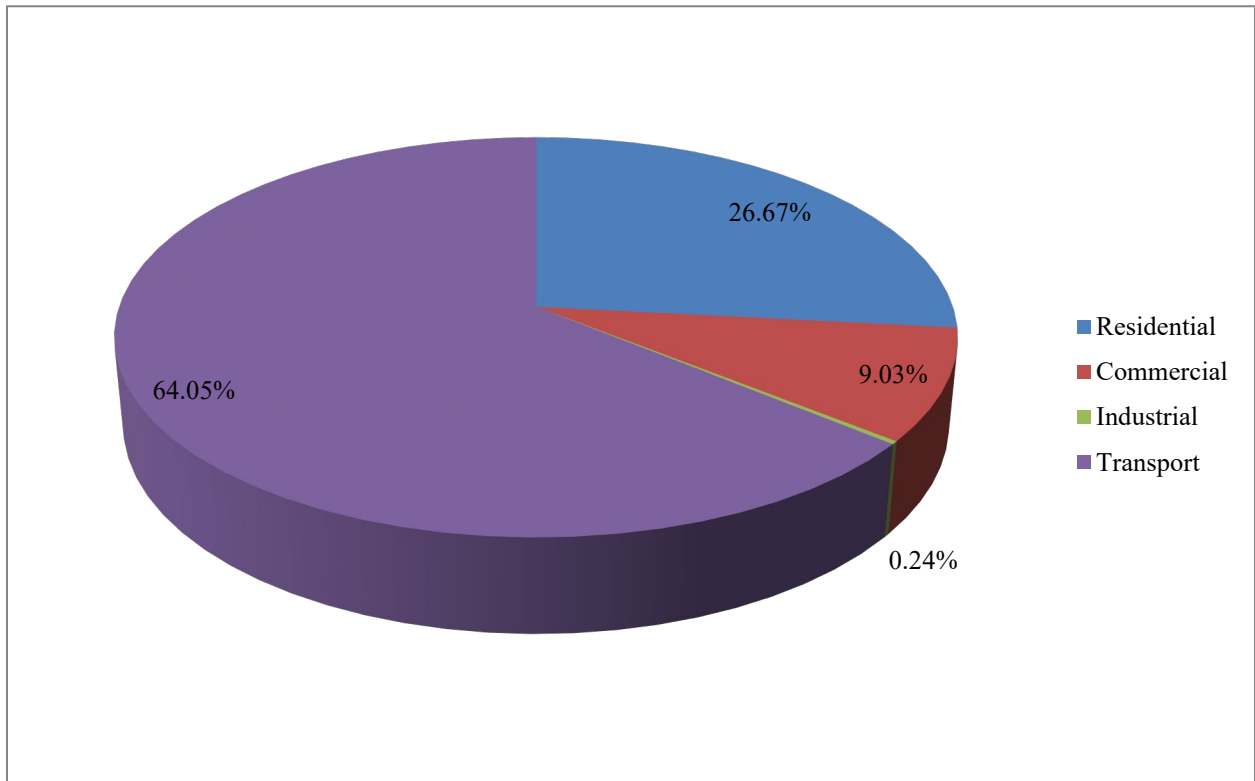
*Table 5: 2023 Customer Statistical Data*⁵⁴

<i>Company</i>	<i>Number of Residential Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Commercial Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Industrial Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>	<i>Number of Transportation Customers</i>	<i>Average per customer usage (MCF)</i>
Columbia	360,490	69	26,110	298	82	3,756	59,919	649
Peoples	568,043	78	40,700	258	80	3,150	94,430	747
NFG	179,612	87	11,603	250	174	1,523	21,933	1,097
PECO	507,197	68	45,001	465	8	3,125	627	36,463
PGW	458,311	61	22,514	335	401	1,000	33,413	938
UGI	537,990	72	47,723	315	658	1,248	109,231	2,503

Chart 7, below, provides a breakdown of gas usage by customer class among Pennsylvania’s major NGDCs (those with more than 8 Bcf in sales per year). In all, 64.1% of all sales volume was from transportation customers, down slightly from 64.6% the previous year. These are typically larger customers that procure their own natural gas supply, and the utility delivers the natural gas to them. Transportation also includes residential and commercial customers that utilize an alternate natural gas supplier (NGS).

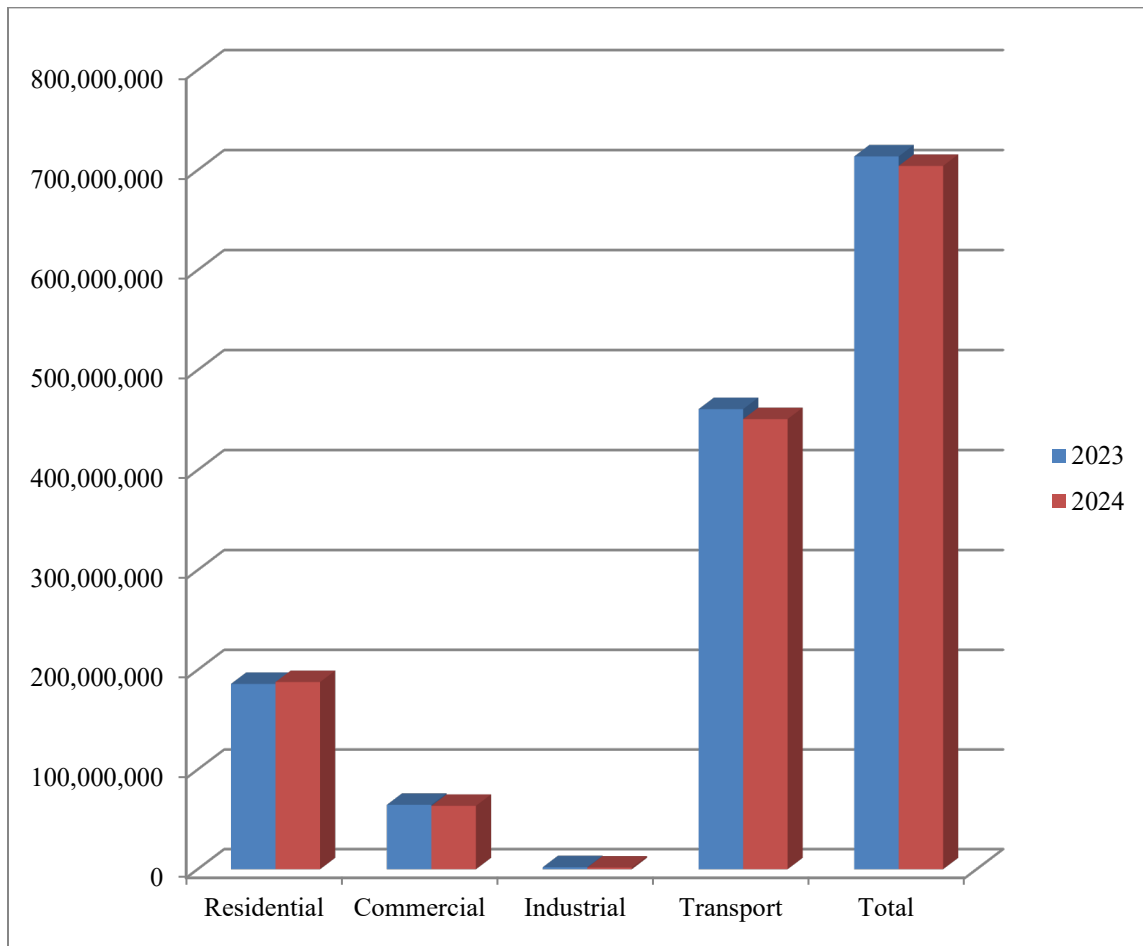
⁵⁴ The tracking of customer classes and natural gas usage are not necessarily done within one tracking system. Some customers may be classed in a certain category, but depending on their usage for the year, may end up assigned to a different rate class. This can create the appearance of a customer class with 0 Mcf of usage, when in actuality they had simply been shifted to a different rate class that year and are accounted for under a different category.

Chart 7: 2024 Pennsylvania Gas Usage by Customer Class within Major NGDCs



As seen in Figure 7, below, natural gas usage in 2024 decreased for all customer classes except residential in Pennsylvania when compared to 2023.

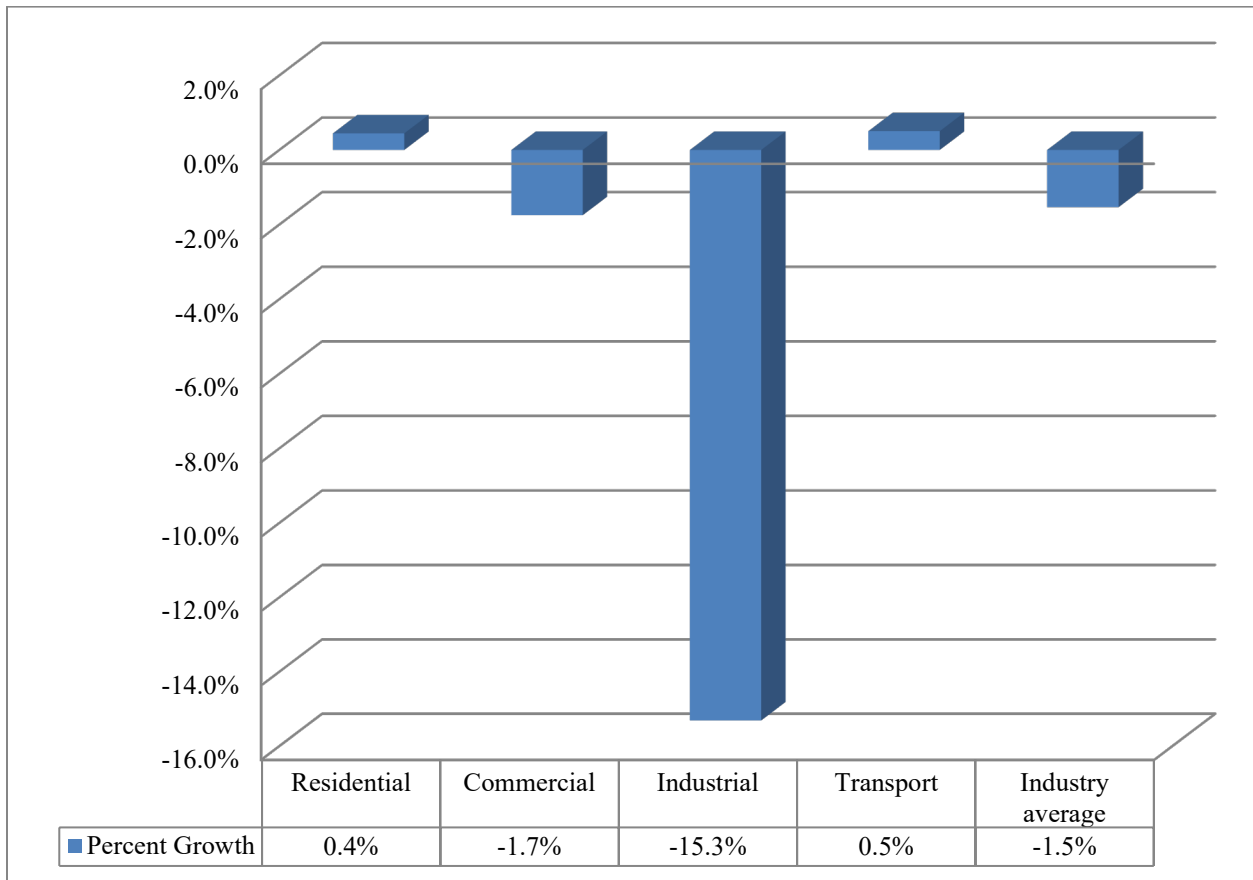
Figure 7: Pennsylvania Gas Usage by Customer Class within Major NGDCs: 2023-2024 (Mcf)



In total, gas usage decreased by 1.3% between 2023 and 2024, while the number of customers increased by 0.2%. This decrease in usage was across commercial, industrial, and transportation customers, with the largest decrease by far coming from transportation customers. In fact, the decrease in usage in transportation was more than the total decrease in usage for the entire state. The drop in total usage is less because the losses in other sectors were offset slightly by the increase in usage in the residential sector.

Figure 8, below, shows the change in average customer usage by class. As illustrated, average customer usage decreased for commercial and industrial customers, while increasing for residential and transportation customers from 2023 through 2024.

Figure 8: Change in Average Customer Usage for Major NGDCs by Customer Class: 2023-2024



The overall situation is a substantial change from recent years. While a portion of the lost transportation customers may have shifted to the residential sector (shopping customers that returned to default service), that cannot explain the entire shift. If it did cover the entire drop in transportation customers, the average usage in the transportation category would have risen dramatically, as lower-usage customers left. The average usage of the lost customer from transportation was 1,176 Mcf, far higher than the average residential usage of 72 Mcf. Since the number of industrial customers also decreased slightly, we must conclude that a large cohort of high-usage transportation customers discontinued gas service, either no longer operating or suspending operations, or switching to an alternative fuel source entirely.

VII. Pennsylvania Natural Gas Distribution Company Gas Supply and Demand Balance

The following tables and charts provide natural gas supply and demand data for Pennsylvania's NGDCs. The NGDCs provided the supply and demand data for the 2024 delivery year. The data is presented for 2024 on an annual basis as well as for peak day. Peak day is non-coincident data such that demand for a specific customer class is not necessarily at the same time as the system peak. Data is derived from the ARPRs.⁵⁵

⁵⁵ Some large users bypass the local distribution companies, buy gas at the wellhead or from suppliers, and receive the gas directly from the interstate pipelines. Gas-fired electric generation stations are usually bypass customers, and most of their gas consumption is not included in the PUC reports.

Table 6: 2024 Annual Gas Supply and Demand for Major Gas Utilities (MMcf)

	UGI	PGW	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples
Gas Supply:						
Supply Contracts	79,134	37,393	24,965	11,452	57,343	29,382
Spot Purchases	20,460	0	8,103	6,796	4,367	27,306
Storage Withdrawal	0	8,448	0	0	0	0
LNG	0	1,565	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Gas Supply	99,594	47,406	33,068	18,248	61,710	56,688
Transportation	264,451	31,462	38,537	23,970	22,470	72,199
TOTAL GAS SUPPLY	364,045	78,868	71,605	42,218	84,180	128,887
Requirements:						
Firm Requirements	56,421	36,349	33,068	18,248	61,703	58,707
Liquefaction	0	1,352	0	0	0	0
Interruptible Requirements	0	523	0	0	6	0
Storage Injections	0	9,183	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Firm & Interruptible	56,421	47,407	33,068	18,248	61,709	58,707
Transportation	264,451	31,462	38,537	23,970	22,470	70,180
Load Deductions	(43,172)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL GAS REQUIREMENTS	364,044	78,869	71,605	42,218	84,179	128,887
Surplus (Deficiency)	1	(1)	0	0	1	0

Chart 8: Pennsylvania Gas Utility Annual Supply 2024

Pennsylvania Gas Supply for Major Utilities in 2024 Percentages out of a total of 821,826 MMcf

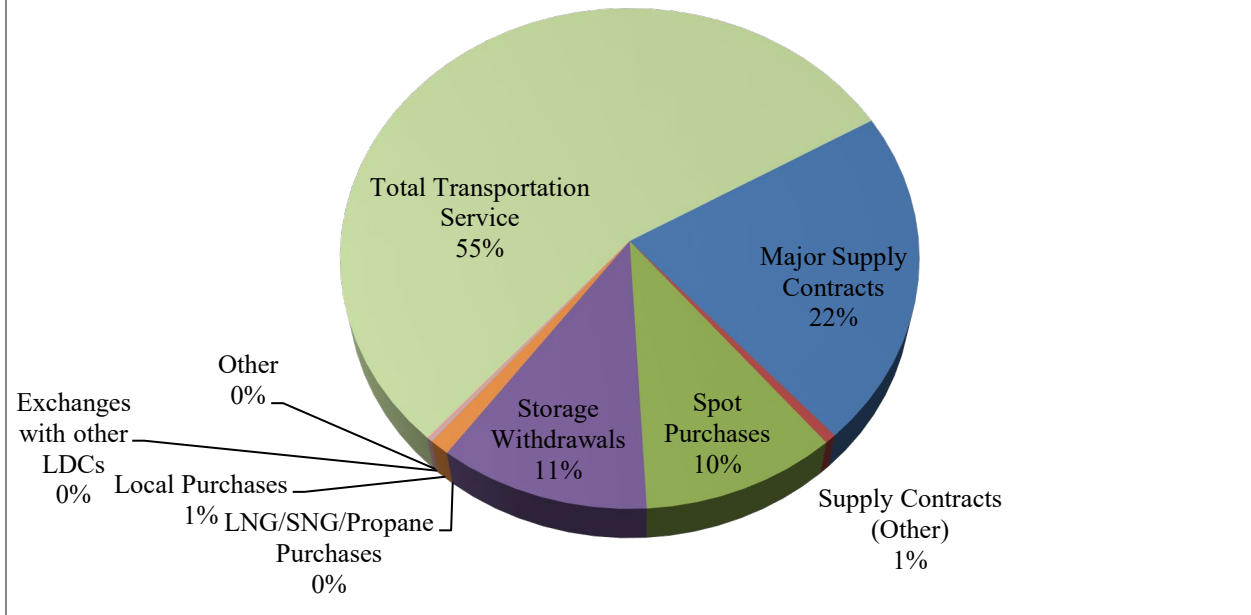
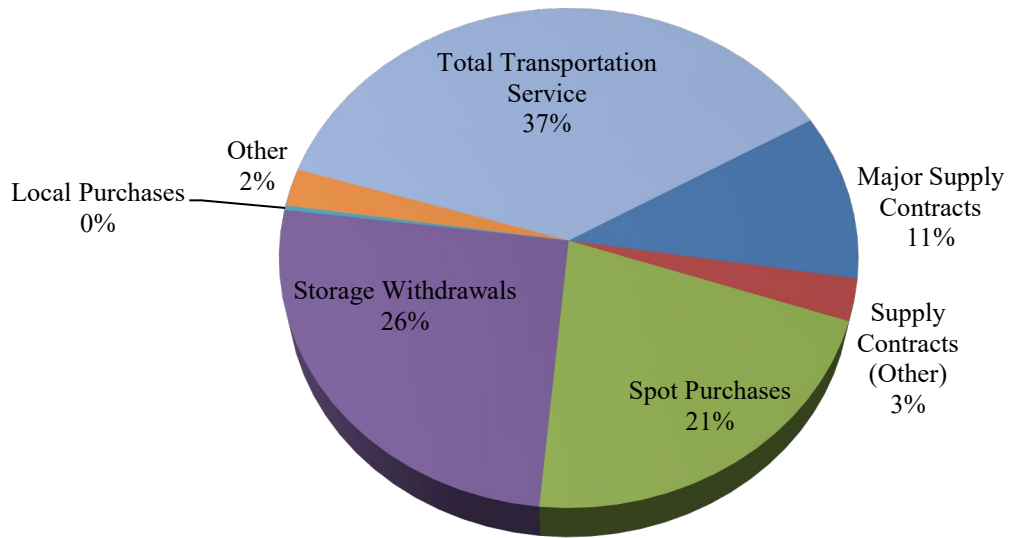


Table 7: 2024 Peak Day Gas Supply and Demand Balance for Major Gas Utilities (MMcf)

	UGI	PGW	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples
Gas Supply:						
Supply Contracts	266	101	358	185	274	500
Spot Purchases	571	0	0	0	280	237
Storage Withdrawal	0	151	0	0	0	0
LNG	0	117	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Gas Supply	837	369	358	185	554	737
Transportation	901	161	234	131	157	357
TOTAL GAS SUPPLY	1,738	530	592	316	711	1,094
Requirements:						
Firm Requirements	601	367	358	185	554	636
Liquefaction	0	2	0	0	0	0
Interruptible Requirements	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Injections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Firm & Interruptible	601	369	358	185	554	636
Transportation	1,031	161	234	131	157	458
Load Deductions	(106)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL GAS REQUIREMENTS	1,738	530	592	316	711	1,094
Surplus (Deficiency)	0	0	0	0	0	0

Chart 9: Pennsylvania Peak Day Supply 2024

**Pennsylvania Gas Peak Day Supply
for Major Utilities in 2024
Percentages out of a total of 4,826 MMcf**



Section 3 – Financial Data

VIII. Natural Gas Distribution Company Financial Statistics

Data Set

This section presents selected NGDC financial data taken from the Gas Annual Reports of the major NGDCs for an 11-year period from 2014 through 2024.⁵⁶

The data in Tables 8 through 12 below includes operating revenues and expenses, net operating income, gross plant in service, administrative and general expense, maintenance expense, depreciation expense and total gas cost, and average cost of gas purchased by the NGDC.

⁵⁶ Note: UGI Central Penn Gas was purchased from PPL Gas Utilities in 2007. UGI Penn Natural Gas was purchased from PG Energy in 2006. Equitable Gas Company merged with Peoples Natural Gas in 2013-2014, becoming Peoples Natural Gas Company, which has since merged with Peoples Gas Company. For ease of comparison in the tables, the data for Peoples includes combined data for Peoples, Equitable, and Peoples Gas during the years when they were still separate companies. UGI now reports as a combined company, so totals across the three companies in prior years have also been combined.

Table 8: Operating Revenue and Operating Expense

OPERATING REVENUE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	563.3	248.3	646.8	946.1	973.9	308.6	3,686.9
2015	536.2	196.9	546.5	802.0	853.7	621.5	3,556.7
2016	493.9	175.0	463.4	667.1	739.7	629.0	3,168.1
2017	552.6	204.6	495.3	766.7	868.1	635.0	3,522.3
2018	590.2	215.3	569.8	820.0	1,002.0	697.2	3,894.4
2019	602.4	206.9	611.4	818.0	965.5	703.4	3,907.5
2020	555.3	189.2	515.1	722.6	908.1	608.1	3,498.4
2021	666.6	206.2	538.9	789.7	1,016.0	692.1	3,909.5
2022	867.6	274.8	738.2	1,050.1	1,365.1	850.7	5,146.5
2023	821.1	243.3	691.9	779.9	1,308.2	688.0	4,532.4
2024	759.7	210.0	647.4	776.9	1,150.9	687.4	4,232.4

OPERATING EXPENSE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	478.5	209.0	525.7	797.0	841.8	279.2	3,131.2
2015	445.2	165.0	430.5	660.0	731.2	564.9	2,996.8
2016	400.2	143.3	340.1	538.6	609.5	520.7	2,552.3
2017	467.1	177.0	367.7	643.2	713.5	540.0	2,908.4
2018	450.2	187.1	421.8	667.2	837.9	563.3	3,127.5
2019	466.8	175.1	457.7	645.4	780.2	552.5	3,077.7
2020	427.2	163.9	379.0	535.3	741.7	468.9	2,716.0
2021	510.5	165.2	392.0	570.4	824.9	480.7	2,943.6
2022	654.5	245.5	561.4	796.8	1,117.5	613.6	3,989.2
2023	617.2	211.6	504.3	496.1	1,043.8	557.1	3,430.1
2024	558.7	164.5	457.7	489.3	881.1	544.4	3,095.5

Table 9: Net Operating Income and Administration & General Expense

NET OPERATING INCOME (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	45.8	121.0	165.3	182.9	44.9	67.7	627.7
2015	100.4	35.8	115.9	140.3	161.2	5.8	559.5
2016	66.8	24.0	123.2	84.2	109.7	63.3	471.3
2017	85.8	20.2	127.6	86.1	136.0	56.1	511.8
2018	105.8	21.8	148.0	104.5	127.2	97.7	605.0
2019	97.0	27.4	153.7	115.7	135.9	124.1	653.8
2020	86.6	20.9	136.2	137.3	119.5	105.0	605.4
2021	110.5	34.7	146.9	181.4	148.5	174.0	795.9
2022	162.7	20.6	176.8	216.4	203.3	198.2	978.1
2023	144.9	23.1	187.5	240.5	207.0	107.9	911.1
2024	140.4	34.9	189.7	249.4	206.5	113.6	934.5

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL EXPENSE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	58.9	27.7	27.4	75.3	79.8	20.7	289.8
2015	62.3	27.9	30.2	79.6	85.8	152.9	438.8
2016	70.5	24.5	31.3	63.2	72.8	168.3	430.7
2017	91.5	28.2	33.2	59.9	85.4	148.5	446.7
2018	64.8	30.3	33.8	60.6	91.0	133.0	413.4
2019	74.2	26.0	31.1	59.3	96.8	120.8	408.2
2020	84.6	30.7	31.2	56.1	110.4	89.5	402.3
2021	86.7	8.5	33.6	55.8	112.5	50.7	347.7
2022	85.4	21.9	33.6	50.4	101.0	71.0	363.2
2023	89.0	25.8	33.7	45.5	98.6	109.5	402.2
2024	102.1	27.0	41.6	47.9	91.9	109.9	420.4

Table 10: Maintenance Expense and Depreciation Expense

MAINTENANCE EXPENSE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	18.3	6.1	26.8	47.6	31.9	10.7	141.4
2015	22.0	6.4	32.4	47.6	34.3	38.5	181.1
2016	23.6	5.9	29.5	42.5	30.8	41.0	173.4
2017	25.8	6.1	29.9	42.7	33.2	42.5	180.3
2018	22.3	6.4	28.7	48.7	38.4	45.8	190.3
2019	23.8	6.8	30.2	51.7	41.7	46.5	200.8
2020	25.7	6.8	33.6	53.8	23.7	45.7	189.2
2021	28.5	7.6	34.2	53.6	23.0	47.9	194.8
2022	27.6	9.1	35.1	57.0	21.3	47.1	197.4
2023	30.1	10.4	34.2	59.8	34.5	49.9	219.0
2024	27.6	10.5	25.2	60.4	37.5	52.4	213.7

DEPRECIATION EXPENSE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	37.7	11.5	39.2	53.6	52.5	15.6	210.1
2015	42.1	12.0	42.0	53.3	56.8	44.6	250.8
2016	47.5	12.9	43.1	56.0	60.7	46.7	267.0
2017	52.0	14.2	47.2	59.9	66.9	48.6	288.9
2018	55.6	14.4	51.8	64.5	74.6	60.5	321.4
2019	65.7	14.4	56.4	69.6	86.7	68.2	361.0
2020	72.3	15.0	59.7	76.4	100.9	65.0	389.2
2021	79.0	16.3	63.2	83.9	111.4	70.2	424.1
2022	86.8	16.1	69.3	106.5	117.8	70.5	467.1
2023	94.9	16.7	74.9	113.5	125.4	85.0	510.4
2024	103.0	18.1	82.8	124.1	135.8	73.5	537.2

Table 11: Total Gas Costs and Average Cost of Gas Purchased

TOTAL GAS COSTS (\$ Million)								
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW		Total
2014	259.1	91.3	320.3	397.6	545.6	195.6		1,809.5
2015	182.6	44.5	189.2	311.8	361.1	196.8		1,286.0
2016	114.7	22.5	174.1	213.7	307.1	149.8		981.8
2017	176.4	54.3	190.9	307.3	401.7	187.9		1,318.5
2018	184.2	62.5	297.1	350.8	507.8	203.5		1,605.9
2019	157.4	57.9	209.6	322.8	451.8	191.7		1,391.2
2020	120.9	37.1	163.3	236.7	484.8	144.3		1,187.1
2021	207.5	56.2	222.2	331.4	443.7	216.0		1,477.0
2022	359.8	120.2	423.0	603.5	695.1	329.6		2,531.1
2023	166.7	87.0	174.5	241.1	403.1	159.7		1,232.0
2024	149.9	22.7	217.3	235.7	423.4	147.1		1,196.1

AVERAGE COST OF GAS PURCHASED (\$/MCF)								
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW		Ave.
2014	6.25	4.07	6.15	7.30	5.29	5.78		5.81
2015	4.90	2.10	4.09	5.29	6.29	4.17		4.47
2016	3.56	1.21	3.97	5.25	4.34	3.33		3.61
2017	5.22	2.85	4.39	4.20	4.02	4.28		4.16
2018	4.43	2.93	6.11	4.60	4.55	4.31		4.49
2019	4.30	2.82	4.53	4.78	5.64	4.17		4.37
2020	3.60	1.90	4.11	3.93	5.79	3.44		3.80
2021	5.20	2.84	5.17	5.42	5.66	5.18		4.91
2022	9.14	5.59	8.61	8.14	8.08	7.66		7.87
2023	4.59	4.67	4.41	3.94	5.37	4.22		4.53
2024	4.43	1.26	4.91	3.45	5.35	4.05		3.91

Table 12: Gross Utility Plant in Service

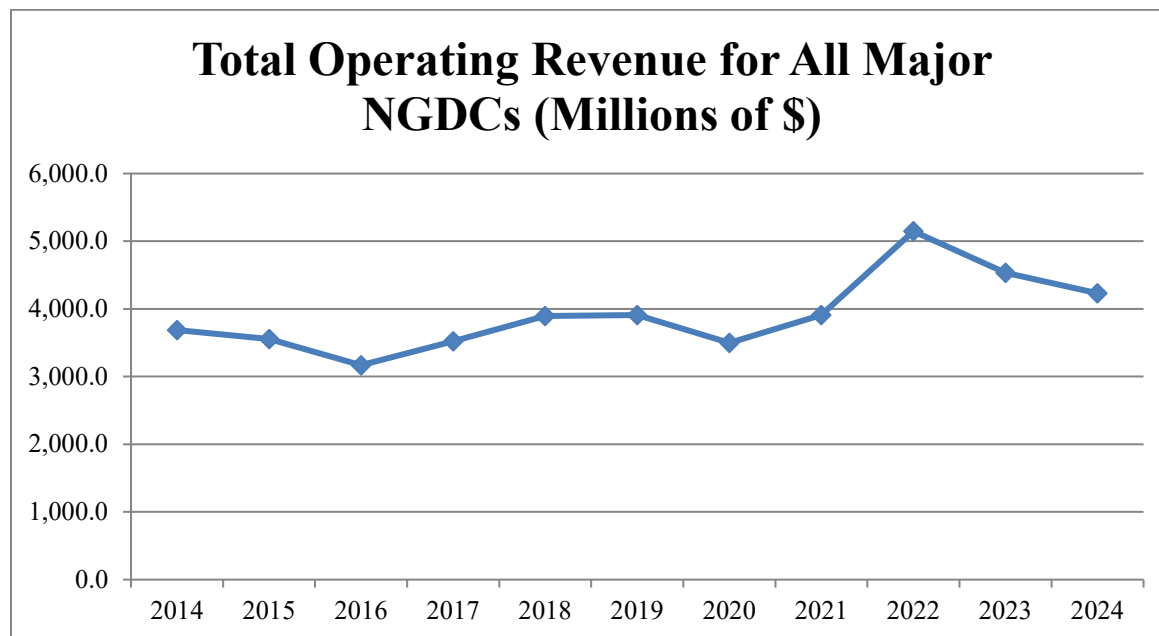
GROSS UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE (\$ Million)							
	Columbia	NFG	PECO	Peoples	UGI	PGW	Total
2014	1,500.5	527.2	2,071.4	2,469.8	2,418.9	685.6	9,673.4
2015	1,660.1	542.5	2,205.4	2,589.7	2,581.9	1,685.2	11,264.7
2016	1,860.1	577.8	2,260.4	2,697.5	2,945.3	1,741.5	12,082.6
2017	2,074.1	594.5	2,503.6	2,892.3	3,035.8	1,793.6	12,893.9
2018	2,330.6	611.8	2,694.0	3,110.5	3,329.1	1,905.1	13,981.0
2019	2,568.9	637.9	2,899.1	3,357.7	3,681.6	2,038.5	15,183.7
2020	2,851.1	662.2	3,098.4	3,592.3	4,004.8	2,172.1	16,380.9
2021	3,141.1	690.8	3,339.3	3,872.3	4,359.7	2,331.7	17,735.1
2022	3,449.5	710.2	3,619.8	3,862.9	4,767.9	2,544.7	18,955.0
2023	3,837.0	749.9	3,905.3	4,504.1	5,195.3	2,709.9	20,901.4
2024	4,150.6	790.7	4,247.3	5,029.1	5,542.2	2,797.5	22,557.6

IX. Industry Trends

Many indicators of the financial status of the gas utilities in Pennsylvania are very closely correlated with current prices of natural gas. The single largest expense for NGDCs is the procurement of natural gas and the largest source of revenue is the sale of natural gas.⁵⁷

Therefore, as gas prices have remained low in recent years, so too have the sales revenues of the NGDCs. The uptick in 2022 for revenues and expenses is largely attributable to an increase in commodity prices, which decreased sharply the next year in 2023. Figures 9 through 11, below, illustrate this correlation with very similar patterns for Operating Revenues, Operating Expenses, and the Average Cost of Gas Purchased for the major NGDCs since 2014.

Figure 9: Total Operating Revenue for All Major NGDCs (Millions of \$)



⁵⁷ Pennsylvania natural gas utilities do not derive any net earnings or profits from natural gas commodity prices. The cost of procuring natural gas for customers is purely a pass-through cost. NGDCs only earn a profit on the delivery of the commodity to customers.

Figure 10: Total Operating Expenses for All Major NGDCs (Millions of \$)

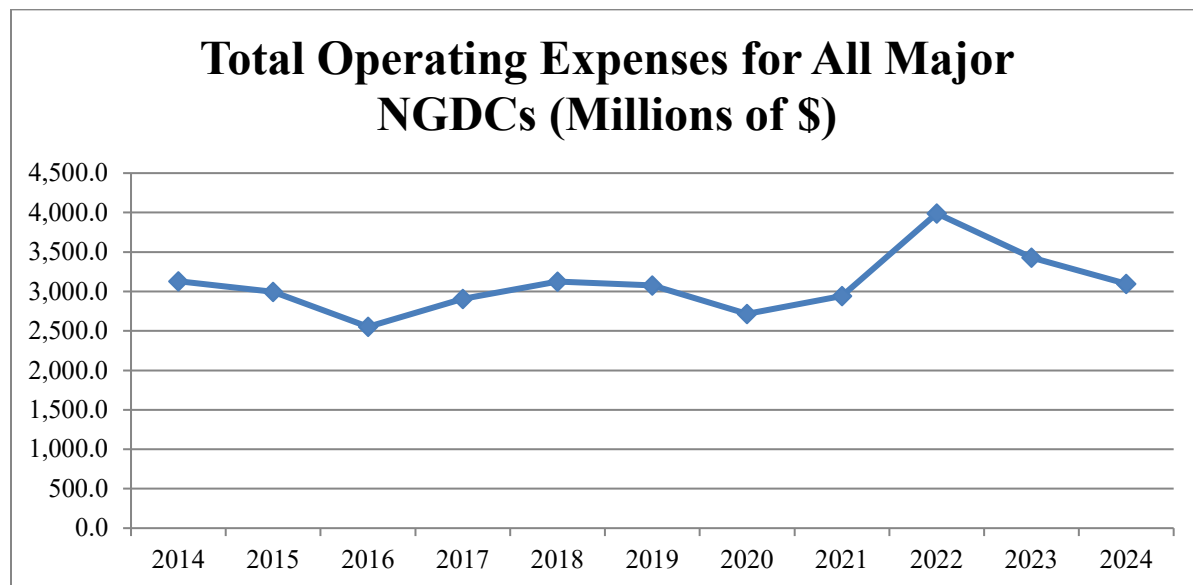
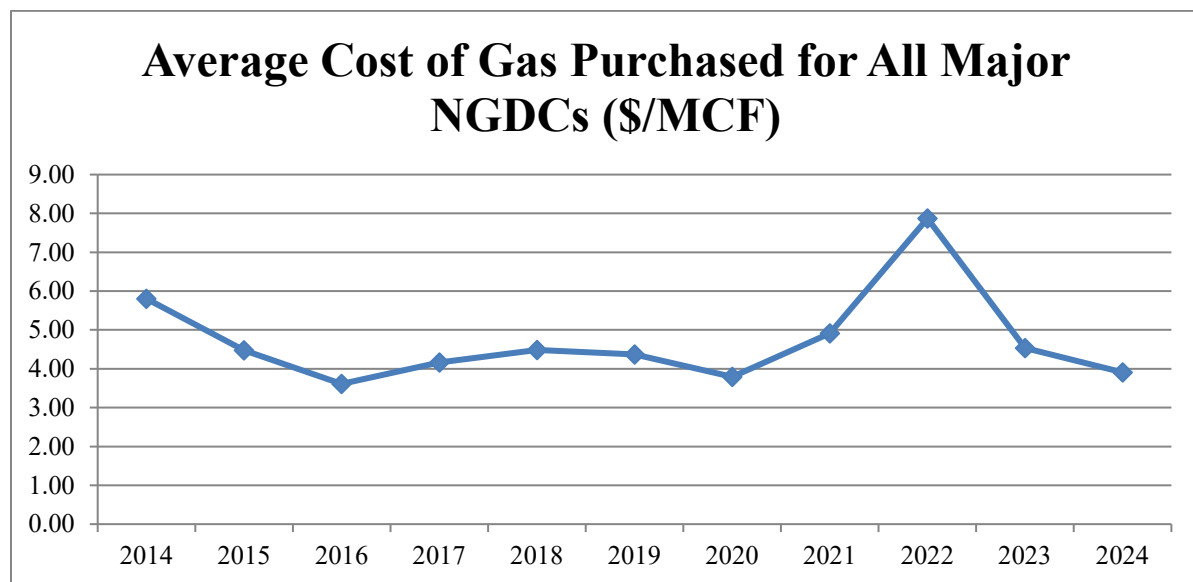


Figure 11: Average Cost of Gas Purchased for All Major NGDCs (\$/Mcf)

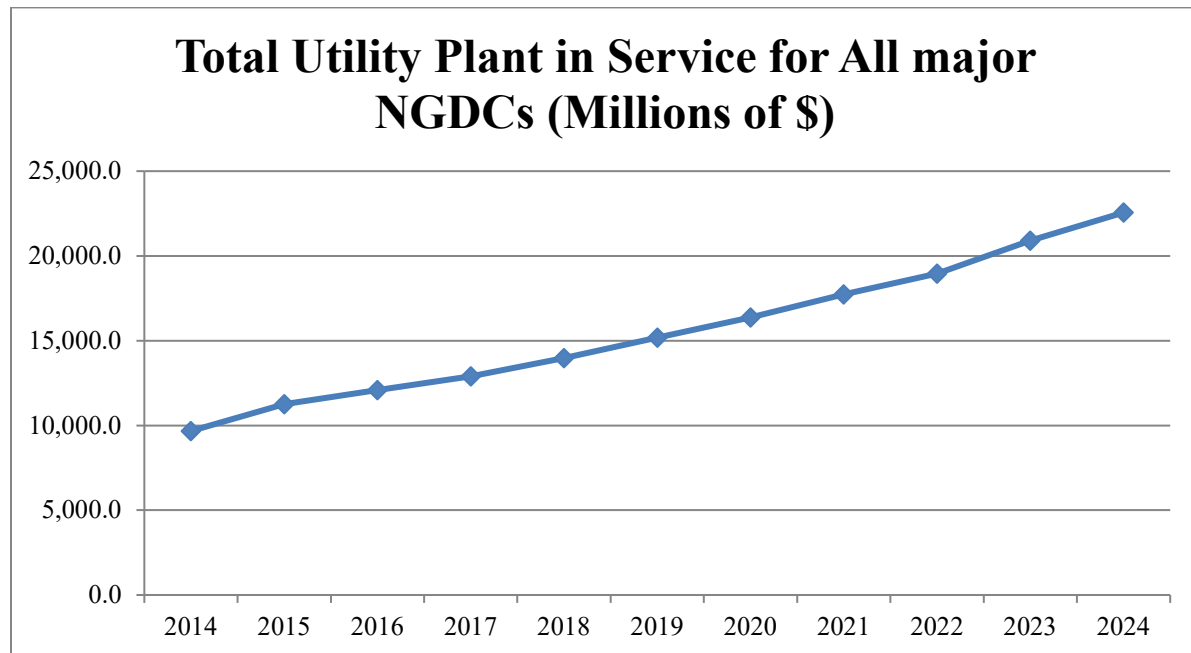


Over the past decade, NGDCs have been steadily investing in their infrastructure. Much of the increase in infrastructure spending was spurred by the implementation of Commission-approved Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plans (LTIIPs) and their corresponding Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC) mechanisms for most of the major NGDCs.⁵⁸ Figure 12,

⁵⁸ See *Final Implementation Order*, Order entered May 23, 2014, at Docket No. L-2012-2317274.

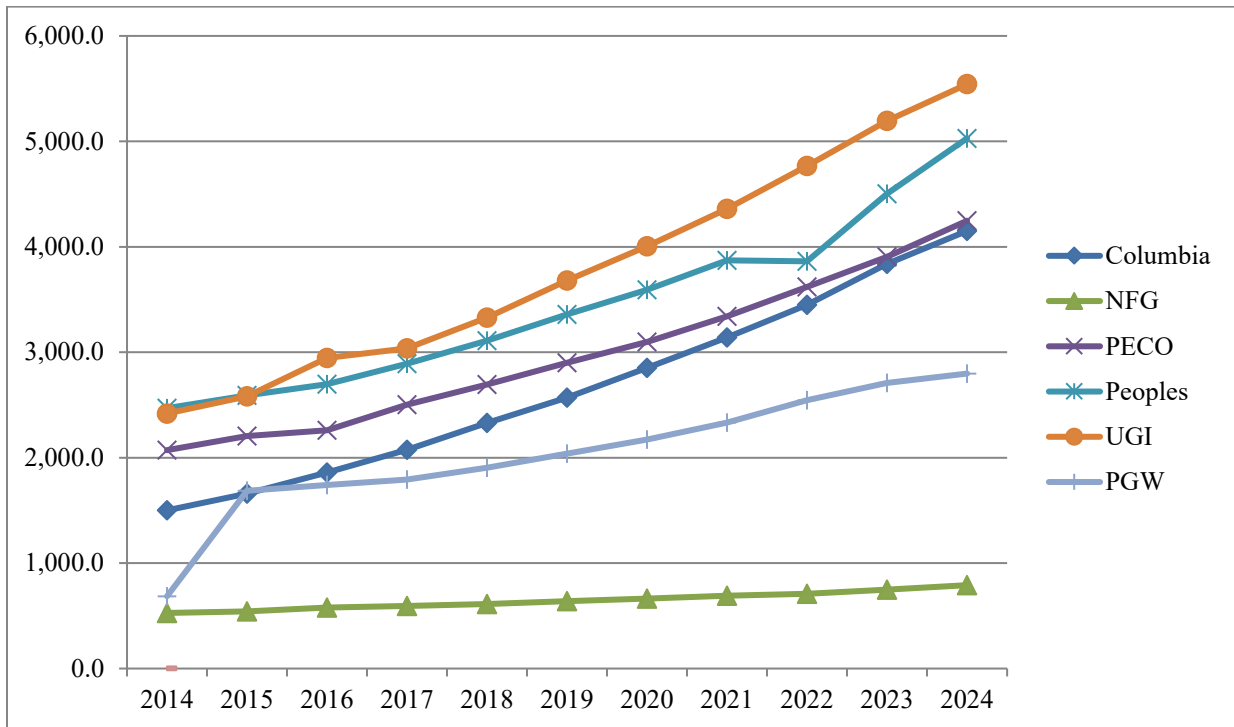
below, shows that the major NGDCs have added approximately \$1.17 billion per year to their total utility plant in service. This equates to a cumulative increase of 133.2% in plant in service for the total industry since 2014. Figure 13, below, shows that while all NGDCs have increased plant in service since 2014, PGW and Columbia have the highest rates of increase. PGW has more than quadrupled its total plant in service since 2014, while Columbia has nearly tripled its plant in service over the same period. NFG has the lowest rate of increase at 50% since 2014.⁵⁹

Figure 12: Total Utility Plant in Service for All Major NGDCs (Millions of \$)



⁵⁹ All of the other major NGDCs besides PGW and Columbia have had an increase in total plant in service of approximately 100-130% since 2014. The only other notable exception is NFG, with an increase of only 50.0%. NFG is also the only major NGDC in Pennsylvania that did not have a Commission-approved LTIP for a large portion of the prior decade. However, NFG filed a Petition for approval of an LTIP on September 2, 2022, at Docket No. P-2022-3034957, which was approved by Commission Order entered December 22, 2022.

Figure 13: Cumulative Increase in Utility Plant in Service for Each Major NGDC (Millions of \$, base year 2014)



Section 4 - Conclusion

X. Summary

Natural gas production decreased slightly in Pennsylvania in 2024, aligning with the national decrease in production in 2024. Despite the slight drop in production, natural gas deliveries to consumers in Pennsylvania increased in 2024, also aligning with the national increase in consumption. Natural gas prices decreased significantly in 2024 for a second year, although prices have been rising through 2025, and will likely continue to rise through 2026. Price fluctuations are significant, as natural gas has become the largest portion of Pennsylvania's electric power generation, and it seems likely that it will continue to be the largest share of the electric generation portfolio going forward. Thus, higher natural gas prices will likely increase the price of electricity for retail customers.

A notable shift in the industry is that natural gas usage in the electric power generation sector has been increasing over the past decade, as the share of natural gas being allocated to electric power generation has continued to grow. In Pennsylvania, electric power generation currently accounts for more than 60% of all natural gas deliveries to consumers. Despite the other sectors of usage seeming to level off or slightly decrease, the continuing growth of electric power generation in Pennsylvania continues to drive overall increases in natural gas consumption in the Commonwealth.

In general, it appears that the natural gas industry in Pennsylvania is robust, and drilling for new natural gas wells is still continuing. Natural gas utilities in Pennsylvania are making significant investments in their infrastructure, to ensure that they will be prepared to meet any increased demand in the future, providing the residents and businesses of the Commonwealth with safe and reliable natural gas service.

Acronyms

ARPR	= Annual Resource Planning Report
Bcf	= Billion cubic feet
Bcfd	= Billion cubic feet per day
EIA	= Energy Information Administration
GSC	= Gas Supply Cost
LDC	= Local Distribution Company
LNG	= Liquefied Natural Gas
Mcf	= Thousand cubic feet
MMBtu	= Million British Thermal Units
MMcf	= Million cubic feet
MMcfd	= Million cubic feet per day
MW	= Megawatt
NGDC	= Natural Gas Distribution Company
NGL	= Natural Gas Liquids
NGS	= Natural Gas Supplier
NYMEX	= New York Mercantile Exchange
PUC	= Public Utility Commission
Tcf	= Trillion cubic feet



Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120
www.puc.pa.gov
1-800-692-7380

