Natural Gas Encyclopedia Article

Natural Gas

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Natural Gas

Naturally occurring gas that primarily contains **methane**, CH_4. A fossil fuel like **coal** and **petroleum**, it is the hottest and cleanest burning of these fuels and is increasingly touted as a substitute for petroleum. It is, however, an explosion hazard in coal mines and an unwanted byproduct of **anaerobic digestion** in landfills. It is most commonly found with petroleum or at depths which vaporize oil. Use is hampered by **transportation** difficulties and risks, and thus it is limited to pipelines and compression tanks. Huge quantities exist as unconventional sources, including **coal gasification** and conversion to **methanol**.

See Also

Liquified Natural Gas