



According to a study by the Milken Institute – a widely respected nonprofit, nonpartisan think tank comprised of global economists, industry experts and scholars – world population will grow 23 percent by 2040. At the same time, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects world energy consumption will increase by 56 percent over that same period. Naturally, the convergence of a growing population compounded with increased energy demands places strain on meeting energy needs, as well as their impacts on the environment, particularly air quality.

48% INCREASED WORLD ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY 2040

NATURAL GAS, A PROVEN AIR-QUALITY SOLUTION

Natural gas provides clean, affordable and reliable energy for a wide range of uses such as generating electricity, transportation and manufacturing to meet the needs of a growing population. As an example, when used to generate electricity, natural gas emits 45 percent less carbon dioxide (CO₂) on an energy-equivalent basis than coal. As additional natural gas reserves are discovered in the U.S., more of America’s electrical power will come from natural gas.

Already the benefits are abundantly evident. In 2012, the EIA reported that 30 percent of U.S. electrical power generation came from natural gas, an increase from just 19 percent in 2005. At the same time, EIA reported that U.S., carbon dioxide emissions related to energy consumption dropped to their lowest point since 1994 at 5.3 billion metric tons of CO₂. While other factors have contributed to the decline in carbon

emissions, experts believe the switch to natural gas for electricity generation has been the biggest factor.

And here’s even better news . . . the proportion of natural gas as a source for power generation is expected to continue to increase over the next 10 years.

U.S. WORLD’S TOP NG PRODUCER; OKLAHOMA RANKS 4TH NATIONALLY FOR NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is more abundant than ever before. New domestic drilling and completion technologies are making natural gas increasingly accessible, all while producers deploy new techniques to minimize their environmental footprint.

According to the most recent annual data (2013) from EIA, the U.S. leads the world in natural gas production at more than 30Bcf per year. As the fourth largest producer, Oklahoma’s contributions of more than 2Bcf per year are immense and growing, with annual increases topping as much as 6 percent each year.

Annual Carbon Dioxide Emissions from U.S. Energy Consumption (1980-2012)

Billion Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide





LEARN MORE

To learn more about reductions in CO₂ emissions please visit the following sources:

Energy Information Administration: Energy-related carbon emissions decline:
<http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.cfm?id=10691>

Environmental Protection Agency: Overview of Greenhouse Gases
<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overviewgreenhouse-gases>

Environmental Protection Agency: Methane Emissions from the Natural Gas Industry
<http://epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/gases/ch4.html>