

Excellent Characteristics of Natural Gas

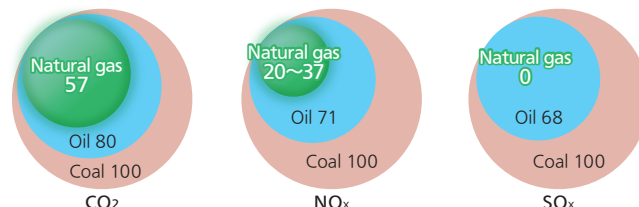
Natural gas, which is the main product of Toho Gas, is environment-friendly. It exists abundantly and can be

supplied stably. Expansion of its use is expected in the future.

◆ Environment Friendly

Natural gas, which is primarily composed of methane, when burned, generates only small amounts of carbon dioxide that is the key contributors to global warming and nitrogen oxide that causes photochemical smog, and sulfur oxide that is the principal cause of air pollution and acid rain is not emitted at all. For this reason, natural gas, as a clean environment-friendly energy source, is gaining in popularity around the world.

Emissions of combustion by-products from fossil fuels (Coal = 100)



Source: The Institute of Applied Energy, Report on Evaluation of Effect of Thermolectric Power Generation on the Atmosphere (1990) for CO₂, OECD/IEA, Natural Gas Prospects to 2010 (1986) for NO_x and SO_x

◆ Stable Supply

Natural gas exists abundantly around the world. It is imported by LNG tankers to Japan from Australia, Malaysia, Russia and many other countries. Recent advances in extraction technology have enabled the extraction of unconventional natural gas resources (shale gas, tight sand gas and coal bed methane), which will support the stable supply of natural gas.

Moreover, methane hydrate in amounts sufficient to meet Japan's natural gas requirements for about 100 years is embedded under seas close to Japan. A development project is now in progress under the initiative of the Japanese government to achieve commercial use of methane hydrate.

Global distribution of natural gas deposits

Source:BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2017(Trillion m³)
(Note) Excluding the Unconventional Natural Gas Deposits

