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Potential Gas Committee 2002 Natural Gas Resource Assessment

The Potential Gas Committee (PGC), now in its 39th year, is comprised of 140 volunteer members from the natural gas industry, government and academic institutions, who biennially assess the size and location of the nation's natural gas resource base. These estimates, when combined with the U.S. Department of Energy's estimates of proved reserves of natural gas, make possible an objective and credible appraisal of the nation's long-range natural gas supply. The year-end 2002 PGC natural gas resource estimate of 1,127 Tcf (excluding proved reserves) includes 958 Tcf attributable to traditional reservoirs and 169 Tcf in coalbed reservoirs. Compared to year-end 2000, the traditional resources increased 2.4%, and the coalbed gas resource increased 8.8%. These increases have been assessed even though approximately 38 Tcf of domestic natural gas has been produced in the two-year period between reports. Therefore, the PGC estimate represents a significant increase over the last biennial estimate of the nation's natural gas resource. The Potential Gas Committee (PGC) reports gas resource estimates biennially in categories of decreasing certainty: *Probable*, *Possible* and *Speculative*. For each category, a *minimum*, *most likely*, and *maximum* resource volume is estimated for each of 89 geological provinces. A comparison is made of the Atlantic area with the remainder of the United States.