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# Natural Gas

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Natural Gas*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C156874.

A naturally occurring gas consisting of a hydrocarbon mixture that is primarily methane, but may include varying amounts of other higher alkanes and a small percentage of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, hydrogen sulfide, or helium. Natural gas is a fossil fuel used as a source of energy for heating, cooking, electricity generation, and transportation. It is also used in the manufacture of plastics and other commercially important organic chemicals.