

**DOCKETED**

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# California Energy Commission

Overview on California Gas Issues & Analysis

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# Goals for Today's Workshop

## Gas Track for 2021 IEPR will address two key areas:

- Situational awareness of emerging topics in natural gas system planning
- Refinement and development of critical analytical products necessary for gas planning

## Today's Workshop focused on Gas Infrastructure topics:

- Hydraulic modeling of the gas system
- Gas system R&D

## Anticipate future 2021 IEPR workshops on:

- Gas demand, price and rate forecasts
- Long-term demand scenarios
- Electricity and gas reliability
- Renewable gas and hydrogen



# Need for Long-term Gas Planning

**Natural gas issues are rapidly evolving – the state is at an inflection point:**

- Building electrification likely to reduce the long-term gas demand over next few decades
- Decarbonization present new challenges for gas system planning
- Critical inter-dependencies between the natural gas and electricity systems call for more coordination
- Emergence of low carbon alternatives: renewable gas, hydrogen, and ECR
- Energy equity concerns and need to limit stranded costs

*The transition away from fossil gas calls for a more proactive approach to planning the gas system that is both rigorous and transparent.*





# Overview of Natural Gas Trends

- CA second-largest gas-consuming state in the U.S
  - CA average gas use 5.5 Bcf per day
  - Can peak to 11 Bcf per day on a very cold day
- Gas system designed to serve residential peak load on cold winter day; cost allocation follows this design/use
- Wholesale gas prices set in unregulated, competitive market
- Gas utilities are common carriers
  - Purchase and deliver gas to core customers (residential and small commercial)
  - Transport-only for noncore customers (electric generators, large commercial and industrial, including refineries)
- Gas utilities have an obligation to hook-up customers and must continue service once started



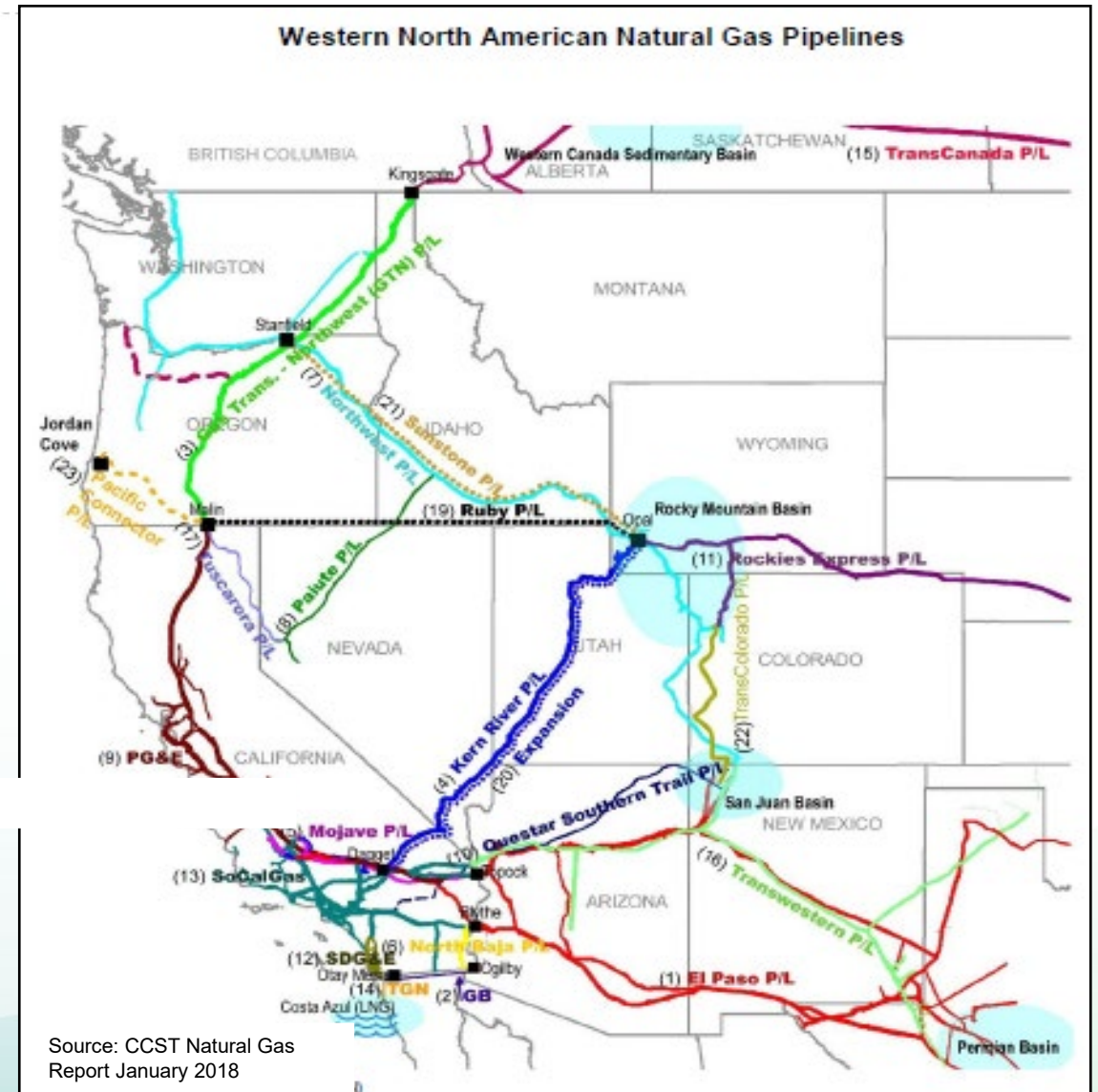
# Gas Supply Trends

## Out of State Gas Supplies ~ 90% Total

- 20% Alberta Canada  
Via Gas Transmission Northwest
- 30% Southern Wyoming  
Via Ruby Pipeline & Kern River
- 40% San Juan Basin (NW New Mexico)  
Via El Paso Natural Gas & Transwestern Pipeline
- 10% Permian Basin (West TX& SE New Mexico)  
Via El Paso Natural Gas & Transwestern Pipeline

## In-State Supplies ~ 10% Total

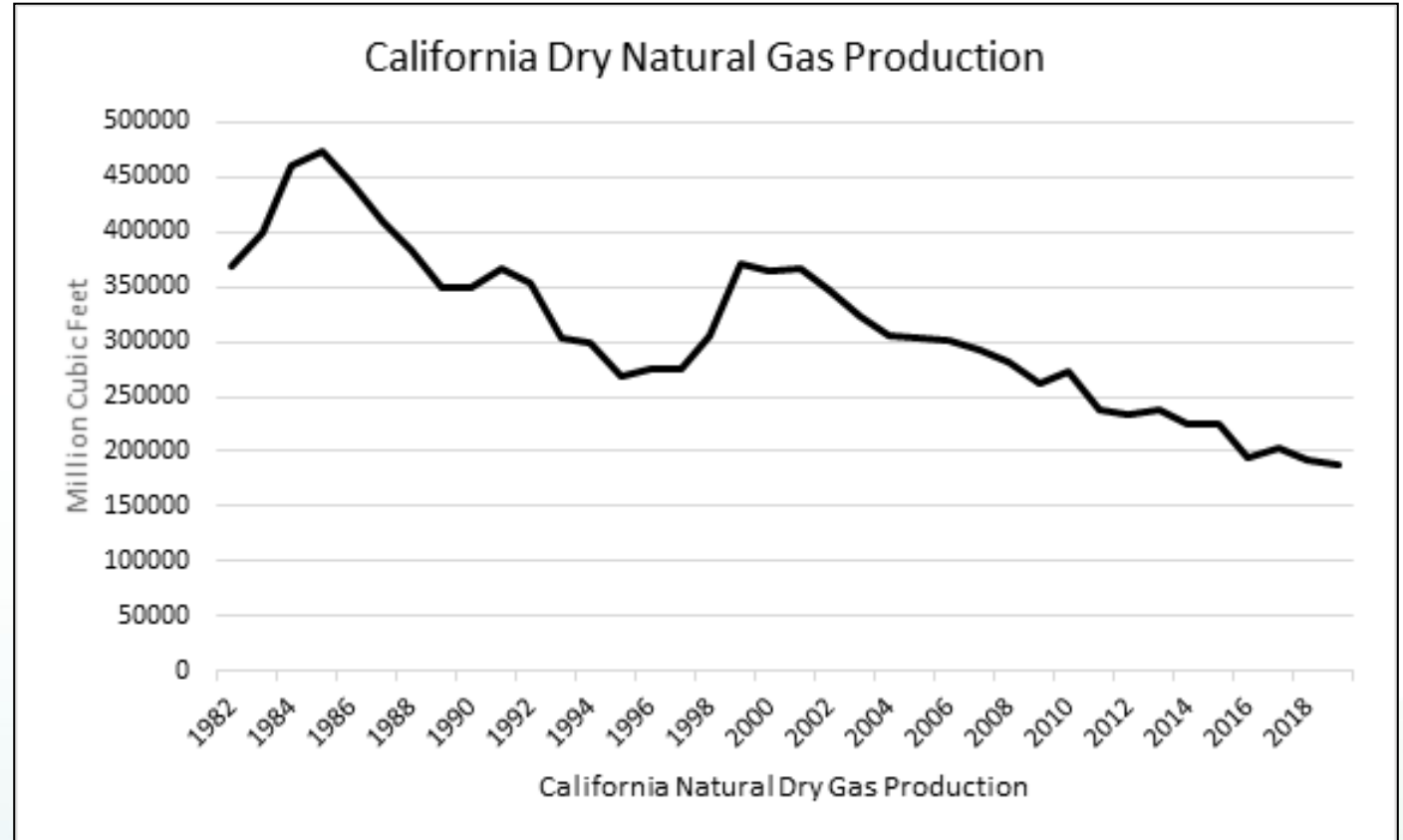
- Production Declining since 1980s





# California's Natural Gas Production

- CA gas less than 1% of total US gas reserves and production
- Fields located primarily in geologic basins in Northern Central Valley
- Some in Southern Central Valley, Northern CA Coastal areas and offshore Southern CA Coast
- CA gas production gradual declines since 1985 and further declines expected





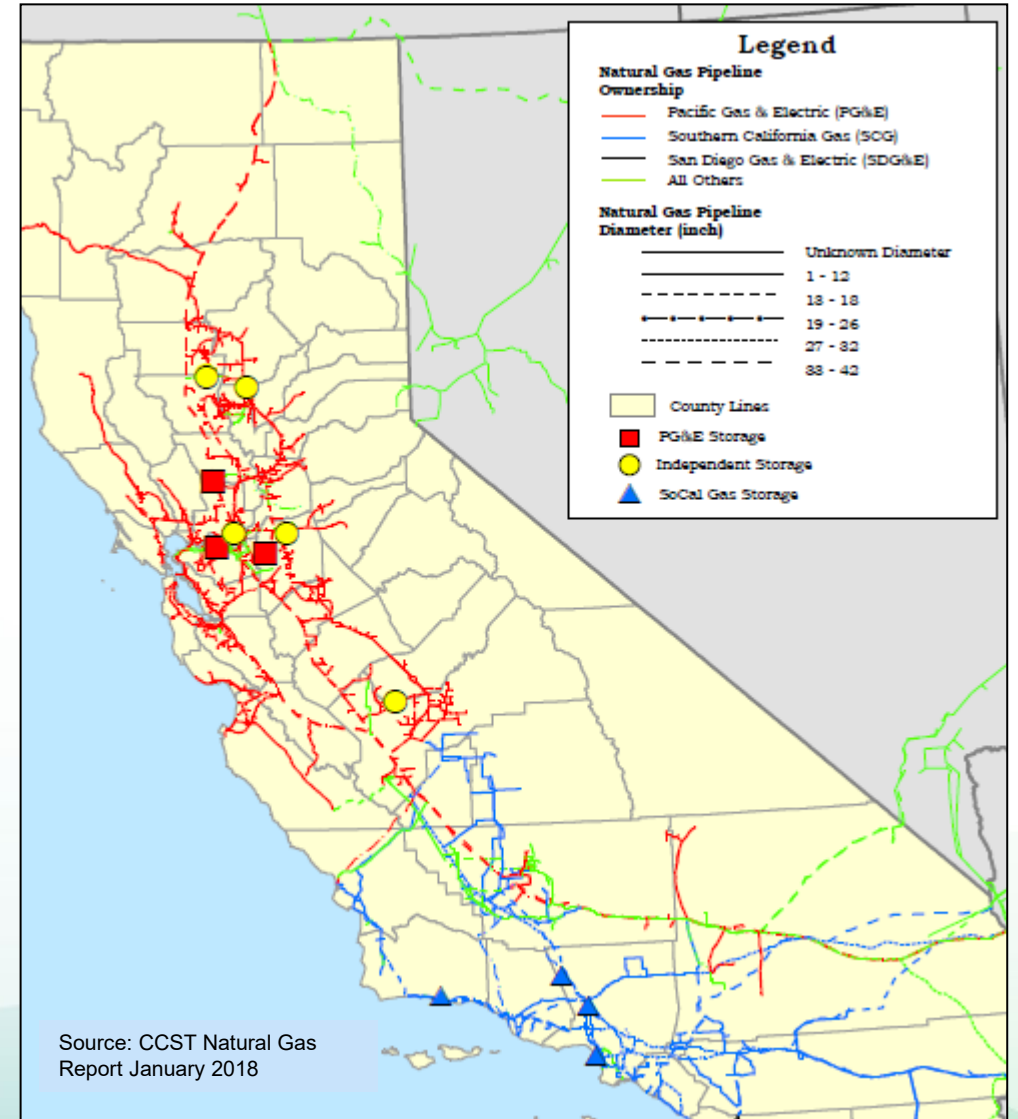
# Natural Gas Storage & Pipelines

## Gas storage Fields operated by:

- PG&E – Los Medanos, McDonald Island, and Pleasant Creek
- SoCalGas – Aliso Canyon, Honor Racho, La Goleta, and Playa Del Rey
- Independent Storage Operators – Wild Goose, Lodi Gas, Gill Ranch and Central Valley Storage

## Intrastate Gas Pipeline:

- PG&E – Backbone & Local Transmission
- SoCalGas – Local Transmission & Distribution

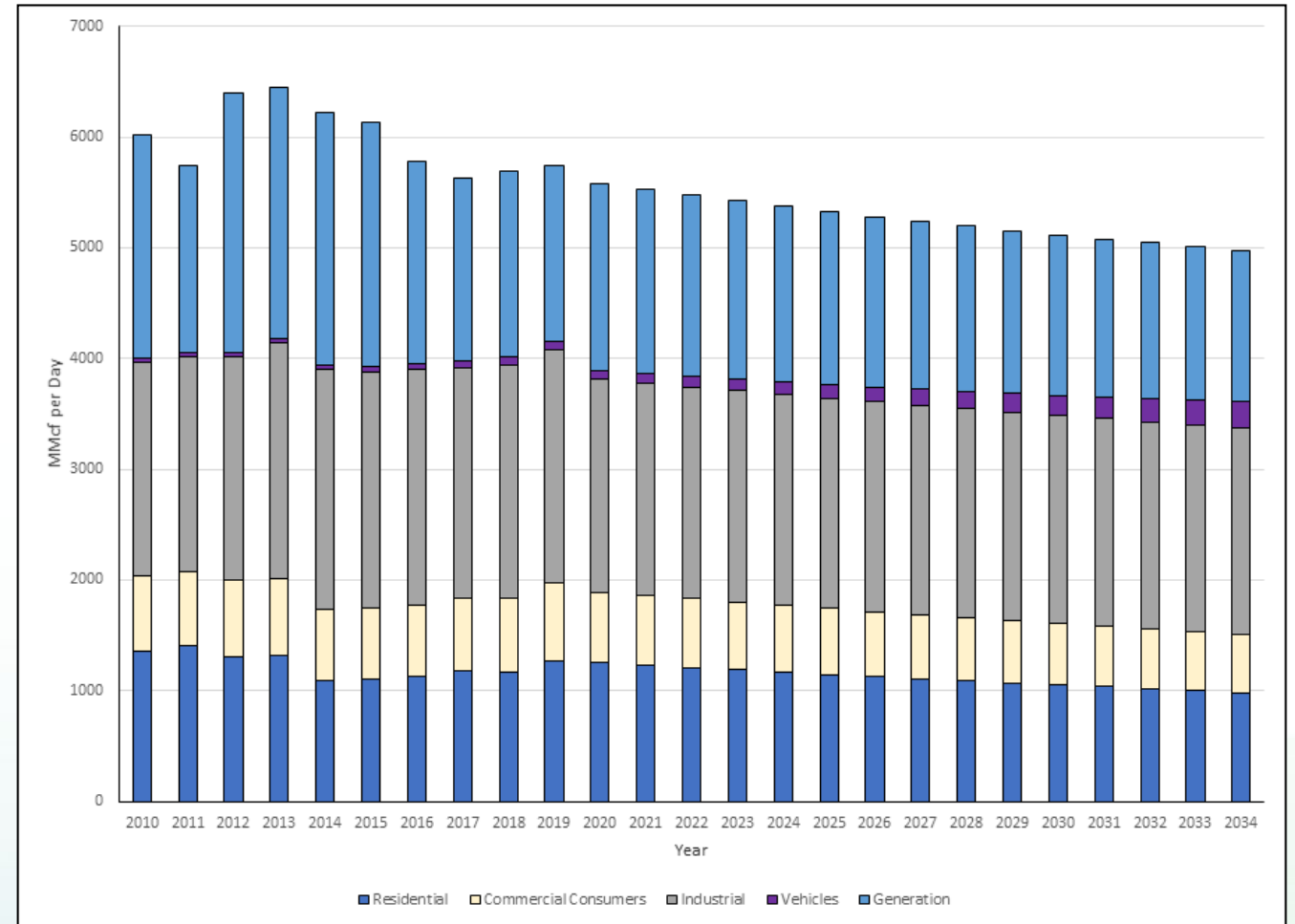






# Gas Demand Trends

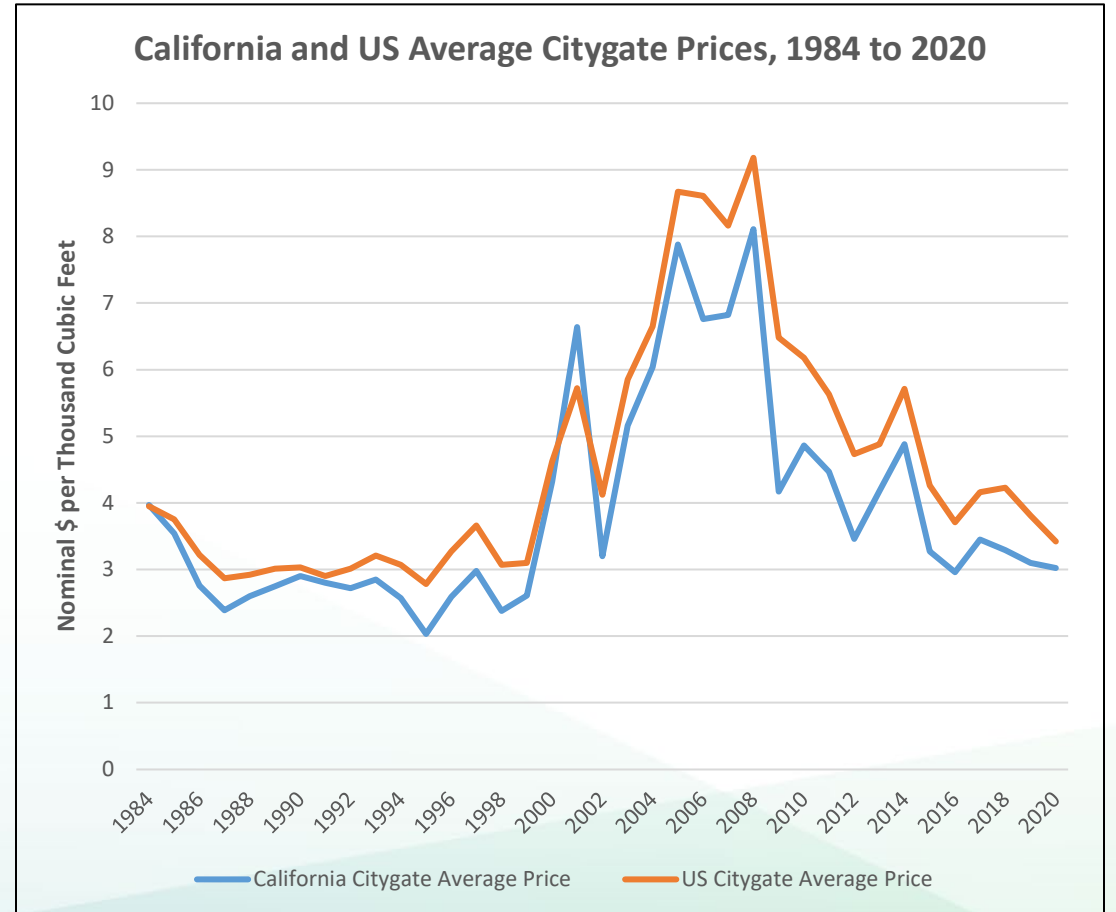
- CA Gas Demand Declining since 2012-13
- PG&E forecasting decline of 1% per year out to 2034
- SoCalGas forecasting decline of 1% per year out to 2034
- Weather is biggest driver for residential, commercial and power generation
- Renewable integration likely to increase EG gas demand in near-term





# Gas Price Trends

- Gas prices were low from mid-1980s to 2000 and peaked in 2010
- Declining production in traditional gas basins drove up prices
- LNG facilities proposed and constructed to import gas
- Shale gas has produced low-priced gas replacing LNG imports
- California average Citygate Prices slightly lower than US





# Reevaluating Natural Gas Analytics

Broader, more comprehensive assessment of natural gas will support important policy objectives:

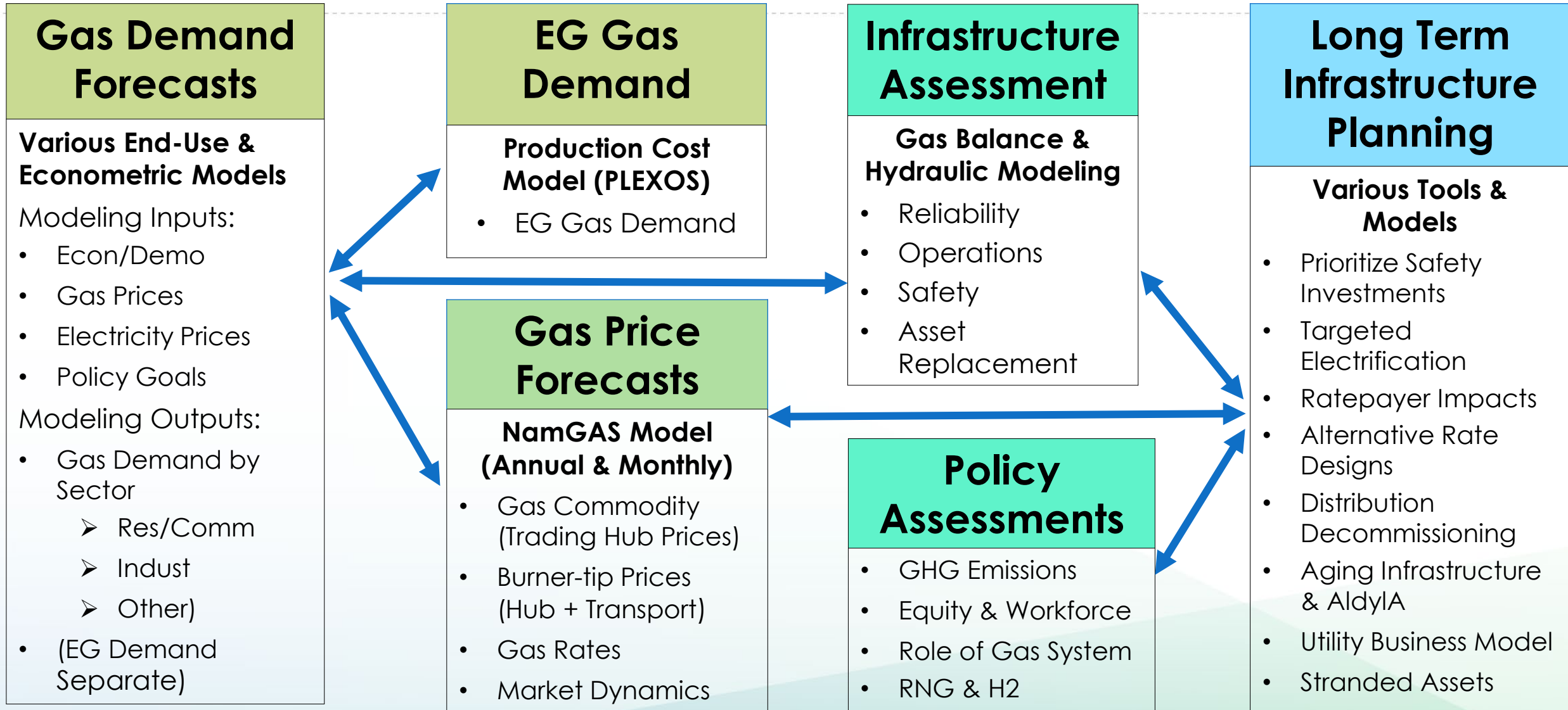
- Ensure reliability for remaining customers and the electricity system
- Minimize ratepayer impacts and burdens on customers
- Provide for environmental sustainability

Analytical support for strategic planning of the state's clean energy system:

- Understand changing demand patterns and long-term demand scenarios
- Identify opportunities to downsize gas distribution infrastructure
- Assess how to adapt gas system reliability standards over time
- Develop ways to deal with financial implications of gas system costs spreads over fewer customers



# Gas Modeling & Analytics







# QUESTIONS?