

Canada Weekly

Volume 7, No. 12

March 21, 1979



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Canada's natural gas reserves larger than estimated

The National Energy Board's estimate of established natural gas reserves in the conventional producing areas of Canada at the end of 1978 is 66.1 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) — 4.7 Tcf more than the Board estimated for year-end 1976 in its Northern Pipelines report. The revised figures are contained in a new report, *Canadian Natural Gas Supply & Requirements*, released by the Board on February 28.

Other main conclusions of the latest report are:

In the Mackenzie Delta-Beaufort Sea area, the Board finds no change to be required in the 5.3-Tcf estimate of established marketable gas presented in the Northern Pipelines report. The estimate of established reserves of marketable gas in the Arctic Islands has been increased from 7.3 Tcf to 9.2 Tcf. A meaningful estimate of established reserves in the East Coast offshore areas is not possible at this time.

Growth in demand for natural gas in existing markets will average 3 per cent a year from 1978 to 2000. For the year

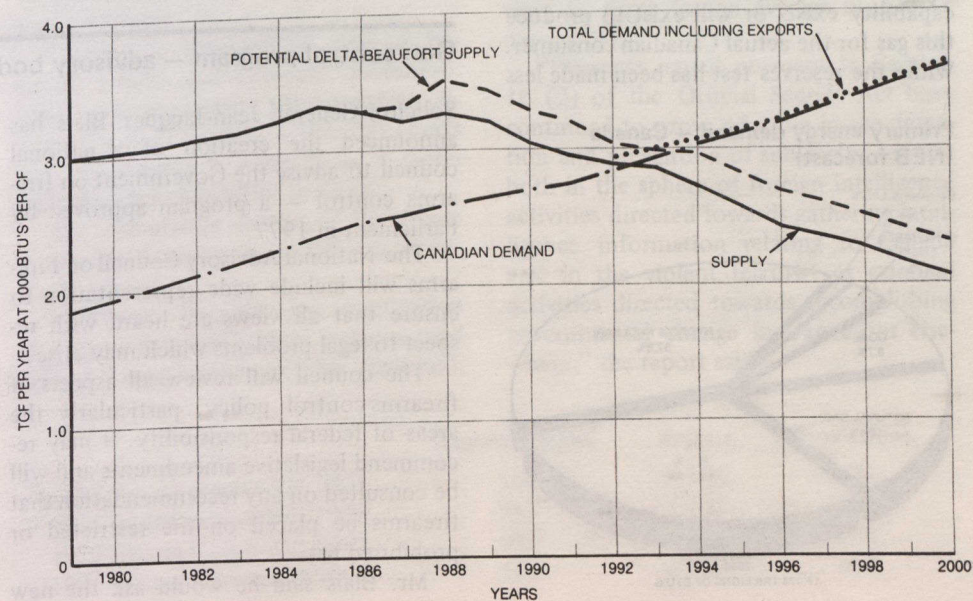
1990, the forecast is some 11 percent lower than the forecast shown in the Northern Pipelines report. This reduction results from a lower forecast of economic activity and a lower demand for natural gas for the generation of electricity than was contained in that report.

Expansion markets

The Board has made an estimate of potential sales of natural gas in expansion markets in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces which might take place. It has made allowance for this demand as part of Canadian requirements, recognizing that the justification for such expansion will be required to be demonstrated in a subsequent hearing.

Under certain conditions, the Board estimates, additional net sales of natural gas east of Ontario might be approximately 180 billion cubic feet (Bcf) in 1990, rising to some 255 Bcf in the year 2000. The amounts of imported oil which might be displaced by additional sales of natural gas in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces

Gas supply/demand balance for conventional producing areas (NEB forecast)



Thirty-five years ago March 23...

Maurice "Rocket" Richard scored all Montreal Canadiens' goals in a 5-1 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs. During his 18 seasons in the National Hockey League, The Rocket led the Canadiens to eight Stanley Cup victories and five other Cup finals. He retired at age 39 in 1960.

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