

Quebec, Manitoba, Newfoundland and British Columbia, hydro generation maintains its dominant role, accounting for well over 90 percent of generation in each of these provinces in both 1977 and 1989. Because of the expected rise in the price of gas and oil, the utilization of steam units based on these fuels may fall considerably in some provinces.

### The U.S. Sector

Electric utility generation in the U.S. by energy source is summarized for the year 1979 in Table B.1.3. Roughly 50 percent of the electricity generated in 1979 was supplied by coal-fired units. The remaining 50 percent was supplied by oil, natural gas, hydro and nuclear in roughly equal proportions. Total U.S. electric generation in 1979 was 2 248 billion kilowatt-hours, an increase of roughly 2 percent over the preceding year (1).

TABLE B.1.3 U.S. ELECTRIC UTILITY GENERATION BY ENERGY SOURCE  
(1979)

Energy Source	Generation (billion kilowatt-hours)	% of Total Generation
Coal	1 075	47.8
Petroleum	304	13.5
Natural Gas	330	14.7
Hydro	280	12.5
Nuclear	255	11.3
Geothermal and Other*	4	0.2
Total	2 248	

Source: Reference 1.

\*Includes production from plants that consume wood, refuse, and other vegetable fuels.

Production of electricity by coal-fired units in the U.S. has been steadily increasing since 1960\*. Coal use in the utility sector has more than doubled since 1964 (1). The total amount of coal delivered to electric utility plants in the first six months of 1980 was 295.4 million tons (2). Over 60 percent of this coal went to 11 states:

\*With the exception of 1978, when coal use was roughly 1 percent less than in 1977.