CGA by the Numbers:
Natural gas is the most used energy form by 2035.

In this issue of By the Numbers we look at how the demand for end-use forms of energy such as electricity, refined petroleum products (like gasoline and diesel fuel), biofuels and natural gas, is expected to change over the coming decades. Our source for this information is the most recently released Energy Futures Report of the National Energy Board (NEB).

What we see is that the NEB expects natural gas end-use to grow from its current level of around 34 per cent to become the dominant energy in Canada by 2035, with demand growing to over 38 per cent of end-use by 2040. In fact, natural gas grows even faster in this NEB forecast than in the 2016 forecast where natural gas overtook refined petroleum products in 2040.

This result, in many ways, is not surprising. Natural gas is the lowest cost energy for residential consumers. It has been so for many decades and is expected to remain so for many more to come. Perhaps more surprising is the expectation that demand for biofuels and refined petroleum products will shrink over the same period as natural gas demand grows.

[Diagram showing end-use demand from 2005 to 2040]