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Meeting Paper



**Electric Motor Usage for
Natural Gas Storage Service**

by

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Spring 1998 Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
April 19-22, 1998

Background

Natural gas became the fuel of choice over coal and wood as a source for lighting in the late 1800's, prompting the formation of the first major natural gas companies and building of the first interstate pipeline. The original Natural Gas Act was enacted in 1938 as Congress recognized potential monopoly power in a basic service industry with interstate charters.

The first interstate pipeline consisted of two 8" lines built between Greentown, Indiana and Chicago, Illinois. The first long distance line was built in the 1930's, and covered one thousand miles between Texas and Chicago. The first recorded natural gas storage facility was a depleted gas reservoir converted for storage service in 1915 in Welland County, Ontario, Canada. The first storage field developed in the U.S. began operation in 1916. It is located near Buffalo, New York at the Zoar Field, and is still in service today.

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