

## Renovate your buildings, opting for the right energy in the right place

When thinking about your investment projects to modernize and maintain your buildings, you need to take several factors into consideration, such as operating costs, the investments required, as well as the impacts on energy and the environment, in order to ensure the longevity of the infrastructures.

### Operating costs

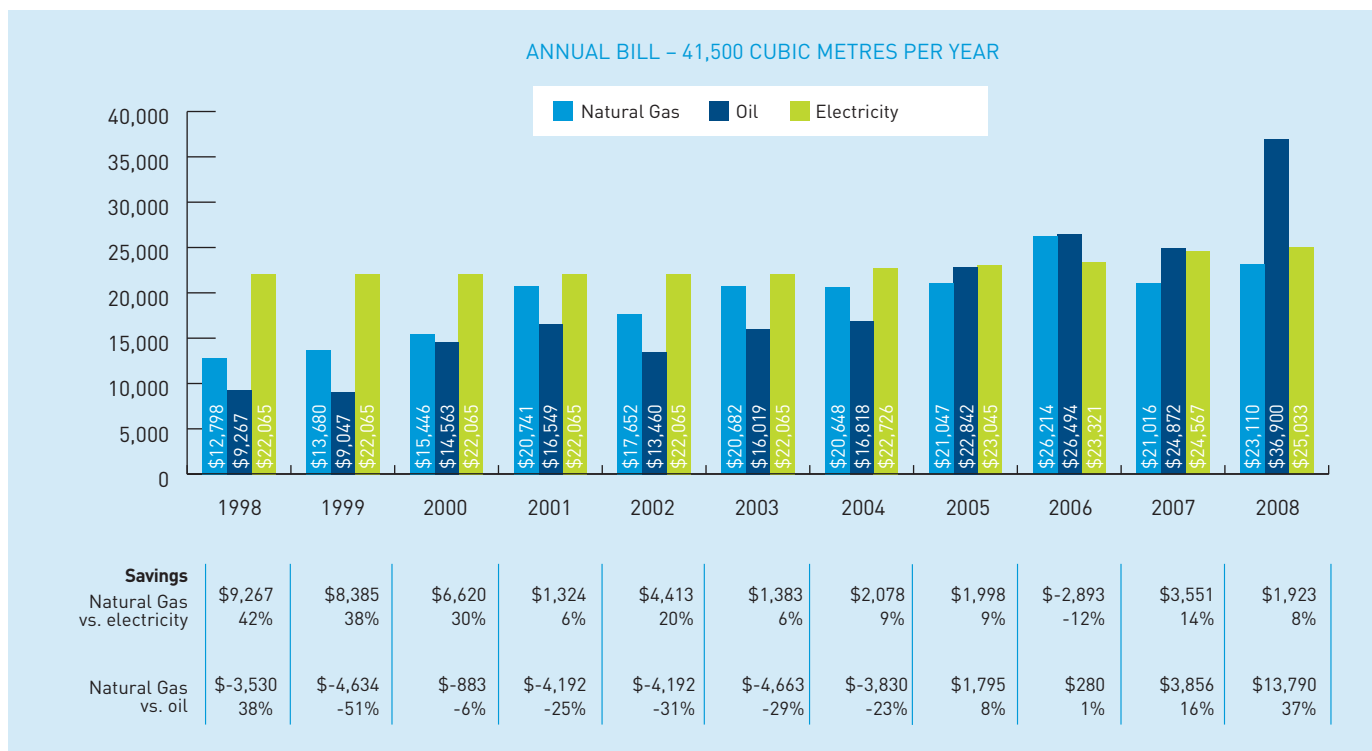
Natural gas, the least expensive energy source for the institutional market

While natural gas has seen increases since 2001, just like other energy sources, the fact remains that, over the last 10 years, it has been the most competitive source of energy for the institutional market.

Natural gas is unarguably the option to consider for heating in the institutional market. It is a reliable and efficient energy that will enable you to achieve savings.

### Investments

When renovating your buildings, choosing high energy efficient appliances can help you substantially reduce your operating costs. Thanks to attractive financial assistance from Gaz Métro that can cover up to 40% of the installation costs, you can carry out your projects at less cost. In addition, in order to optimize your use of natural gas, we are offering financial assistance to encourage you to conduct an energy study and to help you implement efficiency measures.



As well, to improve the envelope of your buildings, the Energy Efficiency Fund's programs complement the energy efficiency programs offered by Gaz Métro and may offer you additional financial assistance. Find out about the solar energy programs and the assistance for renovations or for the construction of efficient buildings. These programs are offered exclusively to Gaz Métro customers.

Gaz Métro can also support you in getting LEED accreditation through the help of its certified engineers. Natural gas is an energy of choice in the design of a LEED building. For example, the simple fact of installing a natural gas condensation boiler with an efficiency rating of 90% will generate a 12% gain in efficiency on the building's total energy. A good approach is to put all the LEED solutions on the table at the start of the project and to do a complete analysis.

**Whether it's to help you choose appliances, to consult on comparative studies, or to implement energy efficiency measures, we have a team of professionals ready to help you.**

## Impacts on energy and the environment

Today, sustainable development and environmental preservation are becoming more and more important in our business decisions. Natural gas is the cleanest of all the hydrocarbon fuels and it is one of the solutions to the problem of GHGs. Last spring, the Québec government also announced an assistance program for replacing heavy fuel oil by cleaner energies, including natural gas.

Using natural gas instead of fuel oil has a real impact on the environment. As well as eliminating almost all pollutants, including sulphur, it emits 30% less GHGs than oil.

## The right energy in the right place: A good decision for your building – and the community at large

The ways of «renovating» aging buildings have certainly evolved over the last 10 years, and the energy sector has evolved just as much. Choosing the most efficient energy is more complex than it may seem, since your decisions will have repercussions both on your activities and on the future of Québec. Renewable energies and emerging technologies, such as geothermal, solar and biomass energy, to name just a few, also need to find a place in the energy portfolio. Nevertheless, the energy sources called more traditional will remain indispensable for years to come. As we can see, the Québec economy needs to count on all forms of energy, since no single energy can adequately meet all its needs.

One thing is certain: **The best management of energy is the one that «promotes the use of the right energy in the right place.»**

To learn more about natural gas, consult our site, [www.gazmetro.com](http://www.gazmetro.com), or call your sales representative for more information on our programs.