

Study predicts natural gas boom to last for decades

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200 words

28 February 2013

[San Antonio Business Journal Online](#)

SANBJO

English

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A new study of natural gas production in the United States indicates that the energy boom could last for a generation.

The study, funded by the nonpartisan Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and performed by the University of Texas, examined 15,000 wells drilled in the Barnett Shale formation in northern Texas, mostly over the past decade. The research concludes that there are large quantities of gas still available that can be drilled profitably for the next three decades or longer.

"We are looking at multi, multi decades of growth," says Scott Tinker, director of the **Bureau of Economic Geology** at the university and a leader of the study.

The university is also looking at shale formations in Pennsylvania, Louisiana and Arkansas, and has concluded that U.S. natural gas production won't plateau until 2040.

Source: [Wall Street Journal](http://finance.yahoo.com/news/gas-boom-projected-grow-decades-021200096.html;_ylt=Anxd4ERv8c.VfSTkLYhBjZ6iuYdG;_ylu=X3oDMTNyYjVkaW5lBG1pdANGUCBUb3AgU3RvcnkgTGVMdARwa2cDZjJmZTgxYTAzM2RmMy0zMmY5ZjAzLTgxOWQtMTFIMi1iYmZmLWZhYTl2N2RjNj1lOQ--;_ylg=X3oDMTlwNjVsc3ZuBGludGwDdXMEbGFuZWNIb11cwRwc3RhaWQDBHBzdGNhdANob21lBHB0A3NIY3Rpb25zBHRlc3QDVGVzZF9BRkM-;_ylv=3) [http://finance.yahoo.com/news/gas-boom-projected-grow-decades-021200096.html;_ylt=Anxd4ERv8c.VfSTkLYhBjZ6iuYdG;_ylu=X3oDMTNyYjVkaW5lBG1pdANGUCBUb3AgU3RvcnkgTGVMdARwa2cDZjJmZTgxYTAzM2RmMy0zMmY5ZjAzLTgxOWQtMTFIMi1iYmZmLWZhYTl2N2RjNj1lOQ--;_ylg=X3oDMTlwNjVsc3ZuBGludGwDdXMEbGFuZWNIb11cwRwc3RhaWQDBHBzdGNhdANob21lBHB0A3NIY3Rpb25zBHRlc3QDVGVzZF9BRkM-;_ylv=3]

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