

SAFETY RECORD STUDY OF UNDERGROUND GAS STORAGE IN DEPLETED GAS RESERVOIRS: A SAFE INDUSTRY IN THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

International Gas Consulting of Houston, Texas performed a study on the safety operating histories of all natural gas storage projects in the United States.

The Study examined the safety operating history of all of the depleted gas field and water aquifer natural gas storage projects throughout the country that were operating during the period of 1976-2006.

The results of this study are as follows:

- **There were 360 facilities operating during the 30-year study period. Those facilities generated 9,030 operating-years of safety history.**
- **Five (5) safety incidents were reported during the 30-year study period.**
 - > **Three (3) of those incidents involved migration of gas from the storage facility to other subterranean formations. This gas was “unrecoverable” and storage operators incurred associated financial losses.**
 - > **Two (2) of the events involved fires on the surface at the facility locations. There were no reported losses of life, personal injuries, or any damage to adjacent property.**
- **Study results indicate a probable occurrence of a safety incident of once, every 1,806 years.**

