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Rocky Mountain Natural Gas: Rising Stature

The last five years have been watershed ones for natural gas development the Rocky Mountain region. Technological improvements and higher prices have unleashed the unconventional gas potential driving tremendous investment momentum and merger and acquisition activity. At the same time, national concerns on gas and oil supply availability have thrust the region into the center of the debate on energy security. The situation of today sits in sharp contrast to only several years ago when the Rockies region was considered a marginal backwater for development efforts.

However, the transition toward becoming one of the largest producing regions on the continent is incomplete. In fact, major challenges in the years ahead will need to be overcome for the region to reach its potential. Internal challenges such as rising costs, infrastructure concerns, and access constraints still plague the region to varying degrees. Moreover, external competition from the emerging global gas market will reshape the North American gas business with important implications for the Rockies developers.