

## SECTION 4.0

# Natural Gas Supply

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The Rice Solar Energy Project will use no natural gas and will have no connection to the natural gas pipeline network. It will use propane fuel for initial salt melting and for auxiliary heating, and will use diesel fuel for emergency fire pump operations. Propane and natural gas were considered by RSE as alternative heating fuels for the initial salt melting and conditioning processes, which take place prior to plant commissioning. Propane is readily available from multiple sources and suppliers within a reasonable delivery radius of the project site. Compressed natural gas is presently available only at Topock, Arizona, approximately 95 miles away.