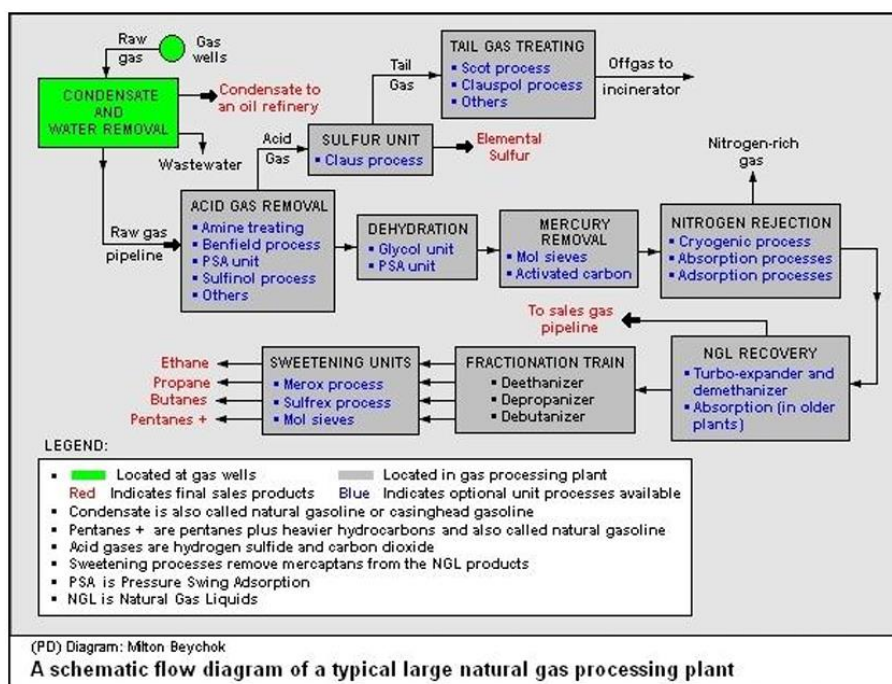


EFCTC response to EURACTIV article

Reacting to the recent article in EURACTIV “[Key EU lawmaker: Europe ‘needs to stay ahead of the game’ on heat pump manufacturing](#)”, EFCTC would like to emphasize that propane is not a ‘natural’ refrigerant, but is an industrially produced gas just like all commonly used refrigerants.

There is a perception that propane is a “natural” refrigerant, while, in fact, it is an industrially produced gas just like many other refrigerants. Propane is extracted from natural gas, which is a mixture of light hydrocarbons including methane, ethane, propane, butanes, and pentanes. Other compounds found in natural gas include CO₂, helium, hydrogen sulphide, and nitrogen. However, propane, butane and pentane (including their isomers) are separated in an oil refinery (distillation) and purified on-site.



Source: https://www.idc-online.com/technical_references/pdfs/chemical_engineering/Natural_gas_processing.pdf

References:

Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document for the Refining of Mineral Oil and Gas Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) https://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2019-11/REF_BREF_2015.pdf

General overview of refinery processes (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/engineering/natural-gas>)