

## **Rates and Service Obligations of Municipally Owned Gas Distributors**

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During the nineteenth-century gaslight era, a number of municipalities built and operated manufactured gas plants to provide illuminating gas for city street lights. Many of these early central plant and distribution systems were purchased by investor-owned utilities. Some continued, however, as municipal operations, expanding and developing in the same manner as their privately owned counterparts, into twentieth-century natural gas distribution utilities.