The great majority of ethanol production facilities operating in the United States use natural gas as their energy source.

Section: BIOFUELS
Ethanol Production Capacity by Plant Energy Source, 2009

Energy Source	Capacity (Million Gallons per Year)	% of Capacity	No. of Plants	% of Plants	Combined Heat and Power Technology (CHP)
Coal[a]	1,758	14.6%	17	9.4%	8
Coal, Biomass	50	0.4%	1	0.6%	0
Natural Gas[b]	9,627	80.1%	151	83.9%	13
Natural Gas, Biomass[c]	115	1.0%	3	1.7%	1
Natural Gas, Coal	35	0.3%	1	0.6%	1
Natural Gas, Landfill Biogas, Wood	110	0.9%	1	0.6%	0
Natural Gas, Syrup	101	0.8%	2	1.1%	0
Waste Heat[d]	50	0.4%	1	0.6%	1
Waste Heat[d,] Natural Gas	175	1.5%	3	1.7%	3
Total	**12,020**	**100.0%**	**180**	**100.0%**	**27**

Source:
Environmental Protection Agency, Assesment and Standards Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, *Renewable Fuel Standard Program (RFS2) Regulatory Impact Analysis* , EPA-420-R-10-006, February 2010.
http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels/420r10006.pdf

[a]Includes four plants that are permitted to burn biomass, tires, petroleum coke, and wood waste in addition to coal and one facility that intends to transition to biomass in the future.
[b] Includes two facilities that might switch to biomass, one facility that intends to burn thin stillage biogas, and two facilities that were once considering switching to coal in the future.
[c]Includes one facility processing bran in addition to natural gas.
[d]Waste heat from utility partnerships.