



**News Tracker:**

-Outside of the Northeast and the Marcellus region, natural gas spot prices fell at most trading locations during the Report Week (Wednesday, January 13, to Wednesday, January 20). The Henry Hub spot price fell from \$2.30 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) last Wednesday to \$2.14/MMBtu yesterday.

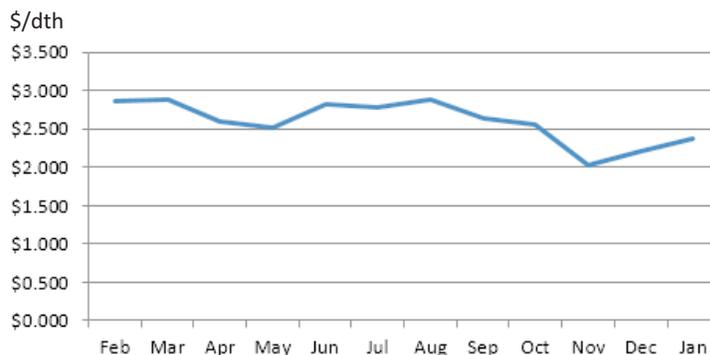
-At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the price of the near-month (February 2016) natural gas futures contract decreased by about 15¢, from \$2.269/MMBtu to open the Report Week to \$2.118/MMBtu to end the Report Week.

- Net natural gas storage withdrawals are in line with the five-year average withdrawals. The net withdrawal for the storage week was 178 Bcf, compared with the 168 Bcf net storage withdrawal reported the previous week. This withdrawal compares with the five-year (201115) average net withdrawal of 177 Bcf for the week and last year's withdrawal of 220 Bcf for the same week. The working natural gas inventory for the storage week ending January 15 totaled 3,297 Bcf, which was 629 Bcf (24%) higher than last year at this time and 473 Bcf (17%) higher than the five-year average for this week. Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 34°F for the storage report week, 1°F warmer than the 30-year normal temperature and 7°F warmer than the average temperature during the same week last year.

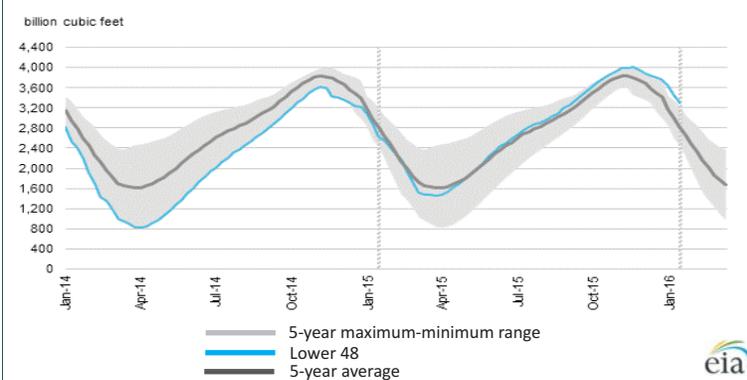
-The total oil and natural gas rig count declined again, falling by 14 units, with 650 units in service for the week ending Friday, January 15, according to data from Baker Hughes Incorporated. The oil rig count decreased by 1 unit to 515, and the natural gas rig count fell by 13 units to 135. This is the lowest recorded natural gas rig count in the Baker Hughes dataset, which goes back to 1987.

-The natural gas plant liquids (NGPL) composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, fell by 13.0% to \$3.63/MMBtu for the week ending Friday, January 15. The spot prices of all liquids products fell this week, with ethane falling 6.0%, propane falling 12.6%, butane falling 14.7%, isobutane falling 14.9%, and natural gasoline falling 16.7%. The drop in prices most likely relates to the ongoing decline in crude oil prices. Excerpted from [eia](#)

**Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Feb 2015 - Jan 2016:**



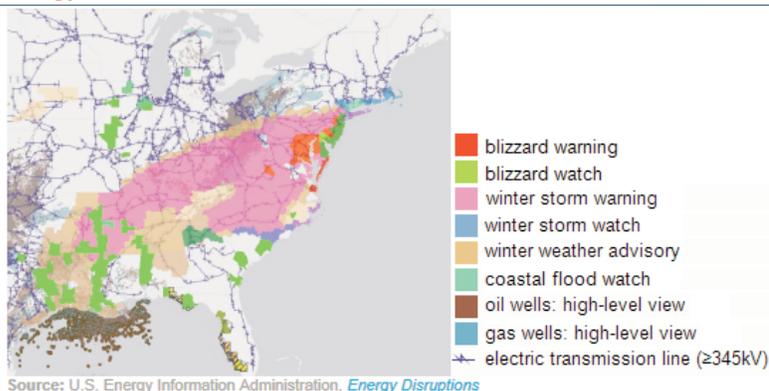
**Working nat. gas in underground storage as of January 15, 2016**



**Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Feb16-Jan17:**

Process Load-weighted \$2.399/dth (w/w = -\$0.102)  
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$2.377/dth (w/w = -\$0.111)

**Energy infrastructure with real-time storm information:**



An upcoming winter storm has resulted in blizzard watches in major Mid-Atlantic cities, including Washington, DC, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City. Nearly 75 million people are in regions expected to be affected by the storm. In addition to record levels of snowfall, affected areas could experience high winds as well as coastal storm surges and flooding in susceptible regions. To help analysts assess potential storm impacts, EIA.gov ([click here to access EIA site](#)) maintains an energy disruptions map that displays key layers of energy infrastructure, including oil refineries, power plants, and major electric transmission lines, and real-time storm information from the National Weather Service. This web page also contains links to U.S. Department of Energy websites that provide updates to the effect of severe weather on energy infrastructure. Snowfall may approach two feet for some locations, including the Baltimore and Washington, DC, metropolitan areas. To the north, there is more uncertainty in the amount of snowfall along the coastal metropolitan

corridor from New York City to Boston. To the south, significant icing may occur in areas in Kentucky and North Carolina. Governors in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, and the mayor of Washington, DC, have declared states of emergency ahead of this weekend's storm. A combination of heavy snow and strong winds could lead to downed trees and power outages, and utilities in affected regions are preparing for storm-related impacts.

"I was seldom able to see opportunity until it had ceased to be one." -Mark Twain