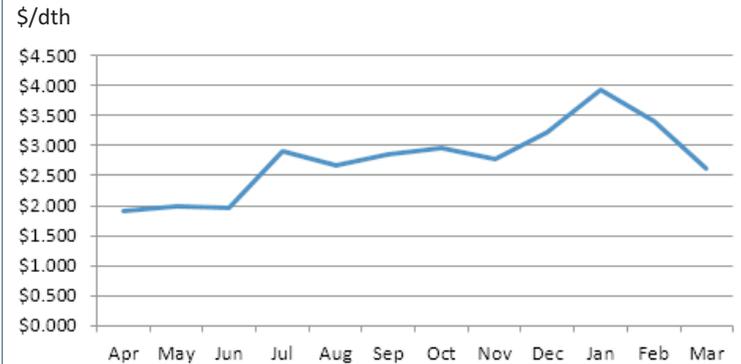


## News Tracker:

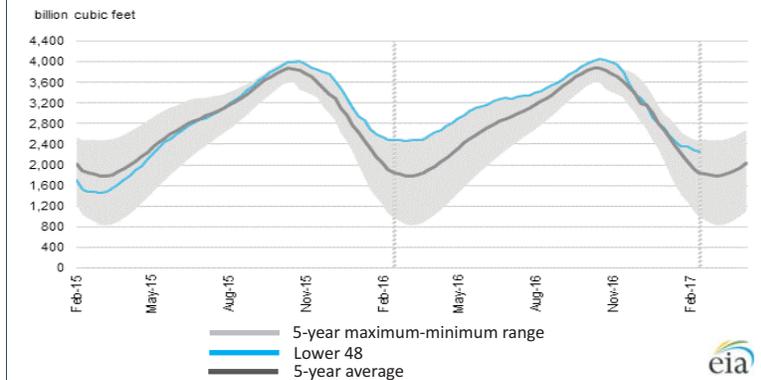
- Natural gas spot prices rose at most US locations for the term Wednesday, March 8 to Wednesday, March 15 (the Report Week). The Henry Hub spot price rose from \$2.69/MMBtu to \$3.00/MMBtu from open to close of the Report Week.
- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the April 2017 natural gas futures contract price rose 8¢ from \$2.901/MMBtu to \$2.981/MMBtu from beginning to end of the Report Week.
- Unseasonably mild temperatures continued during the natural gas storage calendar week ending March 10, resulting in below-normal withdrawals from working gas storage. Net withdrawals from storage totaled 53 Bcf, compared with the five-year (2012-16) average net withdrawal of 85 Bcf and last year's net withdrawal of 9 Bcf during the same week. Mild temperatures throughout the week for most of the Lower 48 states contributed to decreased heating demand for natural gas compared with normal levels and lower withdrawals from storage. Working gas stocks total 2,242 Bcf, which is 395 Bcf (21%) more than the five-year average and 236 Bcf (10%) less than last year at this time. Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 45°F, 3°F higher than the normal and the same as last year at this time.
- The average natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, fell by 11¢, averaging \$6.12/MMBtu for the week ending March 10. The price of natural gasoline, butane, and isobutane fell by 4%, 6%, and 3%, respectively. The price of ethane rose by 2%, while the price of propane remained flat week over week.
- According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Friday, March 10, the natural gas rig count increased by 5 to 151. The number of oil-directed rigs rose by 8 to 617. The number of miscellaneous rigs went down by 1 during the week. The total rig count increased by 12, and it now stands at 768.
- U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports. Natural gas pipeline deliveries to the Sabine Pass liquefaction terminal averaged 2.0 Bcf/d for the report week, 73% higher than in the previous week.

Excerpted from 

## Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Apr2016 - Mar 2017:



## Working nat. gas in underground storage as of March 10, 2017



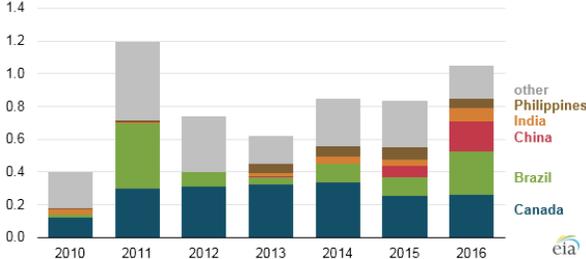
## Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Apr17-Mar18:

Process Load-weighted \$3.209/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.024  
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$3.251/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.016

## US ethanol exports rise 26% in 2016 to second-highest level on record:

The US exported more than 1 billion gallons (68,000 barrels per day) of fuel ethanol in 2016, an increase of 26% from export levels in 2015. US imports of ethanol, which are much smaller, decreased by 60% to 36 million gallons in 2016. The US remained a net exporter of fuel ethanol for the seventh consecutive year, exporting ethanol to 34 different countries, with Asian and South American markets receiving the highest volumes. In the US, ethanol is primarily used as a blending component in the production of motor gasoline and mainly blended in volumes up to 10% ethanol, also known as E10. Corn is the primary feedstock of ethanol in the US, and large corn harvests have contributed to increased ethanol production in recent years. The US Dept. of Agriculture estimates that the US produced a record 15.1 billion bushels of corn in the 2016-17 harvest year, 11% more than the 2015-16 harvest. US ethanol production reached a record level of 15 billion gallons in 2016 (equivalent to about 1 million barrels per day). Volumes of domestic production beyond those used in US ethanol blending were exported in 2016, mainly to countries with ethanol mandates and those that use ethanol to increase octane levels. Brazil surpassed Canada as the top destination for US fuel ethanol exports, receiving 267 million gallons in 2016. Brazil is one of the world's largest producers and consumers of fuel ethanol, but unlike the US, Brazil's main ethanol feedstock is sugarcane. Relatively high global sugar prices during 2016 encouraged more sugar production over sugarcane ethanol production. US ethanol imports fell 60% in 2016 to 36 million gallons, the lowest level since 2010. Imports were almost exclusively (99%) sugarcane ethanol from Brazil. Most of the imported ethanol went to the West Coast region, most likely for compliance with California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Program, which uses scoring rules that count sugarcane ethanol as a fuel with a much lower carbon content than corn ethanol.

Annual U.S. exports of fuel ethanol (2010-16)  
billion gallons



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Petroleum Supply Monthly*

Excerpted from 

"I always wanted to be somebody, but now I realize I should have been more specific." -Lily Tomlin<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/l/lilytomlin109612.html?src=t\\_funny](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/l/lilytomlin109612.html?src=t_funny)