

News Tracker:

-Natural gas spot prices rose at most locations for the period of Wednesday, July 12 to Wednesday, July 19 (the Report Week). The Henry Hub spot price rose from \$2.98 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) to \$3.10/MMBtu from open to close of the Report Week.

-At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the August 2017 natural gas futures contract price rose 8¢ from \$2.985/MMBtu to \$3.066/MMBtu from beginning to end of the Report Week.

-Net injections into storage totaled 28 Bcf for the week ending July 14, compared with the five-year (2012-16) average net injection of 59 Bcf and last year's net injections of 38 Bcf during the same week. The smaller-than-average net injections this week likely resulted from the warmer-than-normal temperatures that prevailed throughout most of the Lower 48 states, increasing cooling demand for natural gas. Working natural gas stocks are 2,973 Bcf, which is 9% less than the year-ago level and 5% more than the five-year (2012-16) average for this week.

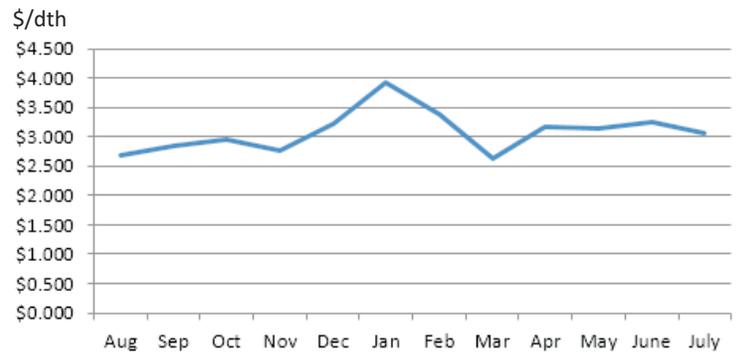
Natural gas supply and demand was flat for the Report Week. According to data from PointLogic, the average total supply of natural gas remained the same as the previous report week, averaging 78.3 Bcf/d. Dry natural gas production grew by 1% compared with the previous report week. Average net imports from Canada decreased by 1% from last week. Total U.S. consumption was unchanged from last week, averaging 74.1 Bcf/d. Power burn climbed by 2% week over week; industrial sector consumption stayed constant, averaging 19.7 Bcf/d; and residential and commercial sector consumption declined by 5%. Natural gas exports to Mexico increased 2%. U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports were flat week over week with four vessels (combined LNG-carrying capacity of 14.3 Bcf) departing Sabine Pass during the Report Week.

-The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 24¢, averaging \$6.09/MMBtu for the week ending July 19. The price of natural gasoline, ethane, propane, butane, and isobutane all rose, by 4%, 2%, 6%, 4%, and 5%, respectively.

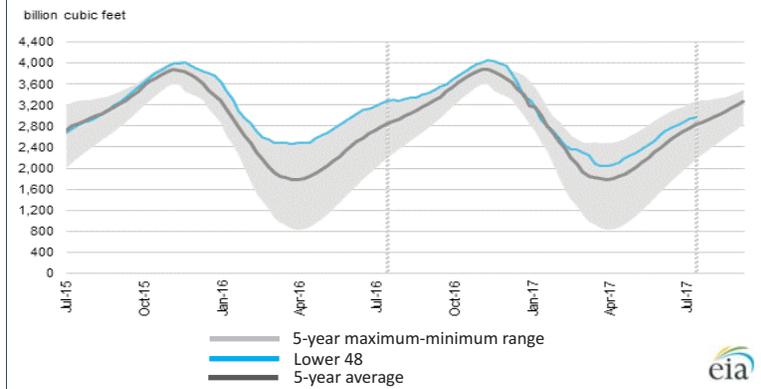
-According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Friday, July 14, the natural gas rig count decreased by 2 to 187. The number of oil-directed rigs rose by 2 to 765. The total rig count remained at 952.

Excerpted from 

Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Aug2016 - Jul 2017:



Working nat. gas in underground storage as of July 14, 2017

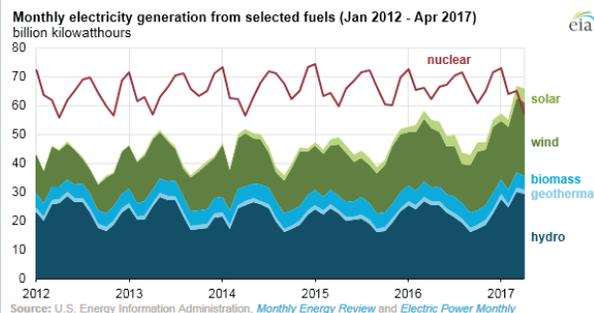


Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Aug17-Jul18:

Process Load-weighted \$3.110/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.066
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$3.217/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.069

Monthly renewable electricity generation surpasses nuclear for the first time since 1984:

In March, and again in April, U.S. monthly electricity generation from utility-scale renewable sources exceeded nuclear generation for the first time since July 1984. This outcome reflects both seasonal and trend growth in renewable generation, as well as maintenance and refueling schedules for nuclear plants, which tend to undergo maintenance during spring and fall months, when overall electricity demand is lower than in summer or winter. Record generation from both wind and solar as well as recent increases in hydroelectric power as a result of high precipitation across much of the West over the past winter contributed to the overall rise in renewable electricity generation this spring, while nuclear generation in April was at its lowest monthly level since April 2014. However, the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects that monthly nuclear electricity generation will surpass renewables again during the summer months of 2017 and that nuclear will generate more electricity than renewables for all of 2017.



Conventional hydroelectric generation, which remains the largest source of renewable electricity in most months, totaled 30 billion kilowatt-hours in March, the highest level in nearly six years. Electricity generation from wind and solar has increased as more generating capacity has been installed. More than 60% of all utility-scale electricity generating capacity that came online in 2016 was from wind and solar technologies. These sources contributed to record high levels of generation from both fuels: between March 2016 and March 2017, wind generation increased by 16%, and solar generation increased by 65%. In April, solar generation continued to increase, while wind generation fell slightly. As renewable generation has increased, net generation from nuclear power has remained relatively flat since the late 1990s. Retirements of a number of nuclear plants have resulted in a slightly lower level of overall nuclear generation capacity, and in turn, a lower level of generation.

Excerpted from 

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.” -Albert Einstein¹

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¹<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/alberteins121993.html>