



News Tracker:

-Natural gas spot prices rose at most locations this Report Week (Wednesday, September 14 to Wednesday, September 21). The Henry Hub spot price rose from \$3.04 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) to begin the Report Week to \$3.14/MMBtu to finish the Report Week.

-At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the October 2016 natural gas futures contract price rose 17¢ from \$2.889/MMBtu to open the Report Week to \$3.057/MMBtu to close the Report Week.

- Net injections into storage totaled 52 Bcf for the storage week ending September 16, compared with the five-year (2011-15) average net injection of 83 Bcf and last year's net injections of 96 Bcf during the same week. Working gas stocks total 3,551 Bcf, 268 Bcf, or 8%, above the five-year average and 140 Bcf, or 4% above last year at this time. When the refill season began on April 1, working gas stocks were 874 Bcf above the five-year average. Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 73°F for the storage week, 4°F higher than the normal and 4°F higher than last year at this time. Cooling degree-days in the Lower 48 states totaled 60, compared with 42 last year and compared to a normal of 40.

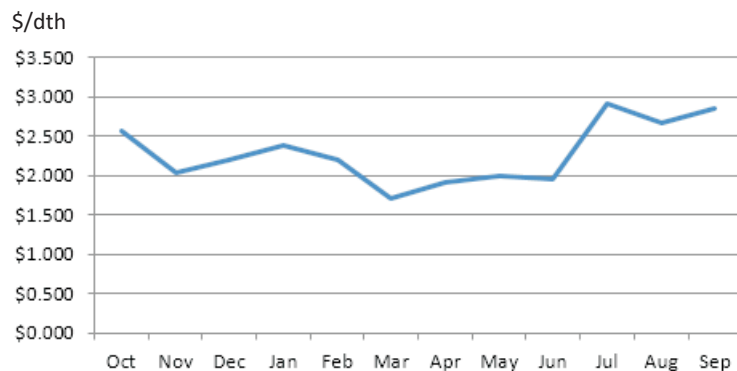
-The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 19¢, closing at \$5.02/MMBtu for the week ending September 16. The price of natural gasoline fell by 1%. The price of ethane, propane, butane, and isobutane rose by 8%, 3%, 2%, and 9%, respectively.

-According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Friday, September 16, the natural gas rig count decreased by 3 to 89. The number of oil-directed rigs rose by 2 to 416. The number of miscellaneous rigs went down by one during the week. The total rig count dropped by 2, and now stands at 506.

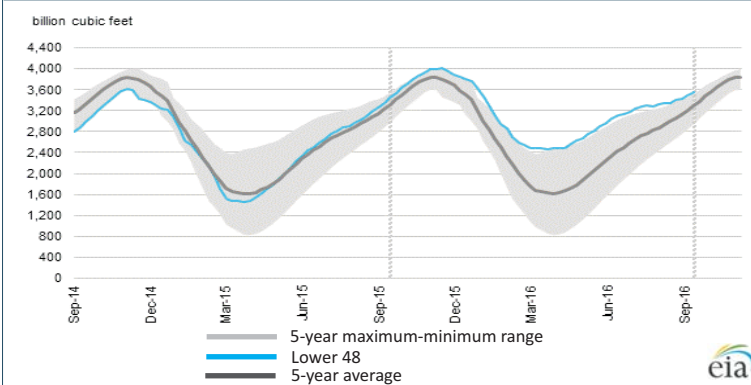
- Total U.S. consumption of natural gas was unchanged from last week, averaging 59.4 Bcf/d, according to data from PointLogic. Power burn declined by 3% week over week, and industrial sector consumption stayed constant, averaging 19.4 Bcf/d. Natural gas exports to Mexico decreased 5%.

Excerpted from EIA

Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Oct 2015 - Sep 2016:



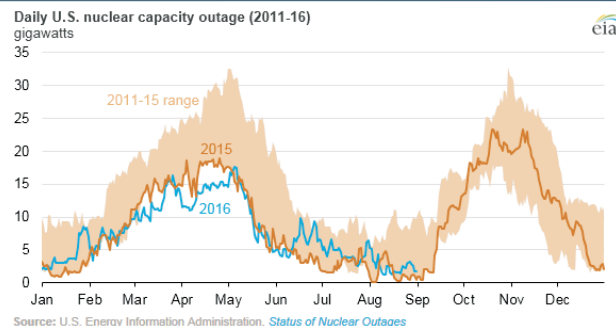
Working nat. gas in underground storage as of September 16, 2016



Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Oct16-Sep17:

Process Load-weighted \$3.207/dth (w/w = +\$0.113)
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$3.282/dth (w/w = +\$0.123)

US nuclear outages this summer were higher than in summer 2015:



U.S. nuclear power plant outages were higher this summer (June through August), averaging 4.3 gigawatts (GW), or 51% more than in 2015. Summer outages were at their highest in June, reaching 9.9 GW, or about 10% of total U.S. nuclear capacity, on June 17 and averaging 6.2 GW for the month. Outages dropped to an average of 4.4 GW in July and 2.4 GW in August. Nuclear power plants, which provide baseload generation, account for nearly 20% of total U.S. electricity generation on an annual basis. Nuclear power plants provide power at a steady rate rather than in response to daily or hourly fluctuations in electricity demand. Nuclear outages typically arise from refueling and maintenance, power uprates, and unplanned shutdowns. Nuclear outages reached the lowest level since 2007 last year, when outages totaled just 0.1 GW during four days in August 2015. Nuclear power plants typically refuel every 18 to 24 months during fall or spring. Other noncritical maintenance work is often scheduled at the same time as refueling to minimize downtime. In the early 1990s, refueling-related outages lasted about 12 weeks. More recently, refueling outage durations have been reduced to fewer than six weeks. In spring 2016, refueling outages averaged 29 days. However, outages can last much longer when complicated maintenance is required. For instance, in May, two nuclear units, Indian Point 2 in lower New York and Salem 1 in southern New Jersey, entered outages that lasted for 100 and 101 days, respectively, to replace damaged reactor core baffle bolts. Indian Point 2 resumed electricity generation in mid-June, and Salem 1 resumed generation in July. In contrast, the Clinton Power Station, a boiling water reactor (BWR) in central Illinois, set a record in May for the shortest BWR refueling outage in the United States, at just 11 days.

“Most of the technology involved in the web, like the hypertext, like the Internet, multifont text objects, had all been designed already. I just had to put them together.” -Sir Timothy Berners-Lee¹