

IMGA gas NEWS

Interstate Municipal Gas Agency

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Don't worry there's enough natural gas to go around this winter.

Danielle Wentz/ Shale Plays Media

No need to worry about natural gas this winter, for we will have plenty-if not record breaking levels-in storage.

According to data provided by Bloomberg, by November 1st, the start of the new heating season, gas inventories could reach new highs. As explained by Bloomberg, "If injections for the rest of this year track 2014 levels, storage may come close to 4.3 trillion cubic feet, more than 300 billion cubic feet above earlier highs." While this is great news for those who rely on natural gas for heat and electricity, the oversupply could impact drillers, who are already taking negative hits from low energy prices.

If injections for the rest of the year continue as predicted, natural gas prices will remain low for a period of time, "even as new sources of demand arise, including exports of liquefied natural gas that are slated to begin from the Gulf of Mexico," said Bloomberg.

According to Senior Energy Analyst Jeff Moore of Bentek Energy, the U.S. is trending towards all-time natural gas storage highs. The U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) July 17th data, showed the nation's storage inventories sat at 2.8 trillion cubic feet (Tcf), which is after a net increase of 61 billion cubic feet (Bcf) from the week before. When compared to last year, inventories are 622 Bcf higher and 81 Bcf higher than the five year average, 2.7 Tcf.

As reported by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, "In the east, where the prolific Marcellus Shale has helped feed the country's oversupply, the amount of natural gas in storage reached nearly 1.3 Tcf, which is actually below the five-year average of 63 Bcf." Moore commented on the east's natural gas supply:

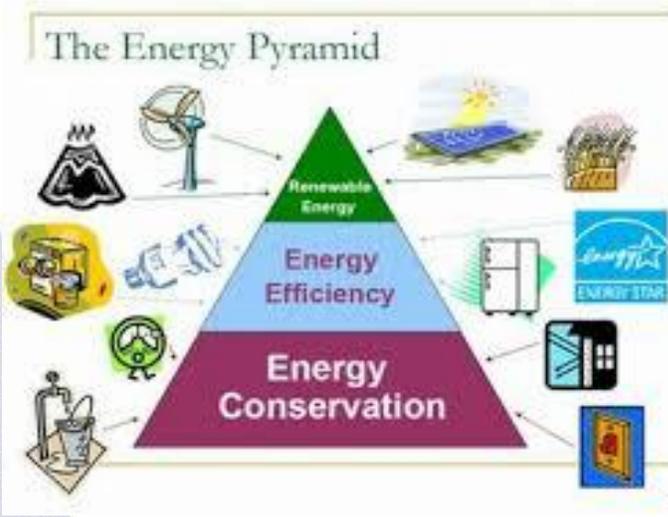
The east region is an interesting region because that's where the majority of the supply growth has occurred, and, currently, it's the only region below the five-year average.

Moore also touched on this winter's temperatures and the possible outcomes for the industry:

This past winter was very cold, especially in the Northeast, and we withdrew a lot of gas-down to near historic low levels ...If we start this winter with record-high inventories, and we don't have a cold winter, it won't bring down supply, and it could look ugly for natural gas prices.

TIME FOR ENERGY SAVING PACKETS TO BE MAILED TO OUR CUSTOMERS

IMGA will be mailing Energy Conservation packets to each of our members in early September. Each packet is designed to give you options and flexibility in presenting the information to your community. The packets will include posters, newspaper advertisements, and other options for spreading the news on how to conserve energy and help save money.



Natural gas prices have been low for quite some time, and Moody's Investor Services says the national gas benchmark, Henry Hub, will reach \$2.75 this year and only make it to \$3 in 2016. While power plants that are coal-fired are in the process of switching to natural gas due to federal mandates and the cost of natural gas being cheaper than coal, power generation is extremely important.



25 years of service

IMGA Member Communities

Aledo, Illinois
Auburn, Illinois
Bethany, Illinois
Chester, Illinois
Cobden, Illinois
Corning, Iowa
Creal Springs, Illinois
Divernon, Illinois
Enfield, Illinois
Findlay, Illinois
Franklin, Illinois
Fulton, Missouri
Grayville, Illinois
Karnak, Illinois
Lamoni, Iowa
Louisville, Illinois
Milford, Illinois
New Boston, Illinois
Perryville, Missouri
Pinckneyville, Illinois
Pittsfield, Illinois
Plattsburg, Missouri
Pleasant Hill, Illinois
Riverton, Illinois
Rossville, Illinois
Tamms, Illinois
Thebes, Illinois
Vienna, Illinois
Waverly, Illinois
Westville, Illinois
White Hall, Illinois
Winchester, Illinois

IMGA Eligible Utility

DD Farms, Inc.
Graceland University
Illinois State University
Western Illinois University

SIF Drug & Alcohol Plan Development Tool Now Available

The APGA Security and Integrity Foundation (SIF), with support from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), has created an affordable, web-based [Drug & Alcohol \(D&A\) Plan Development Tool](#) that will help detect illegal drug use and alcohol misuse in the workplace! For more information, contact us at 202-370-6211 or apgasif.org/da.



The Drug & Alcohol Plan Development Tool:

- ◆ Creates a customized plan that meets all CFR Part 199 and Part 40 requirements and is consistent with the PHMSA Comprehensive Audit and Inspection Protocol Form.
- ◆ Works by asking a series of questions with the final result being a useful, efficient, downloadable plan.
- ◆ Has built-in flexibility allowing the tool to work with any size system.
- ◆ Will benefit system employees and managers through standardization of substance abuse plans and guidances provided in the tool.

2015 Public Natural Gas Week– October 4-10, 2015 Start Planning Now!

Public Natural Gas Week (PNGW) is a nationwide observance that offers the perfect opportunity for you to showcase your natural gas system and generate enthusiasm about the benefits of public natural gas. The following activities have been used successfully in the past to celebrate PNGW and we encourage you to choose one or more that fit your community needs and budgets.

Residential Customers

- ◆ Celebrate PNGW with a customer appreciation day. Provide refreshments and a presentation by an employee of your system who can explain to attendees the importance of having a public natural gas system in their community and why natural gas is a responsible and affordable choice.
- ◆ Put an announcement about PNGW on your website.
- ◆ Explore opportunities to speak to local civic organizations about energy efficiency with natural gas appliances and the benefits of public gas.
- ◆ Insert a message about the benefits of public gas as a bill stuffer in your October bills.
- ◆ Use your social networking sites to publicize the week and to promote your events. Offer natural gas efficiency tips for your followers and prizes for those that interact with you online.

Send a news release, place an ad or send a public service announcement to your local newspaper, TV and radio editors. Tailor the release to fit your system and add any news you have to announce like figures on your system's growth, expansion plans, status of projects, new business procedures, new commercial customers and employee recognitions.

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