

## **GENERAL UPDATE**

- Financial gas markets slipped \$0.08/MMBtu, roughly 2.5%, to close the week at \$2.94/MMBtu. Physical spot gas markets were mixed. At the Chicago Citygate, prices rose \$0.04 (1.5%) to \$2.77/MMBtu.
- Prices at the SoCal Citygate in Southern California jumped \$0.43 (almost 13%) to \$3.79/MMBtu, largely due to unseasonably warm temperatures.
- At Boston's Algonquin Citygate prices rose \$0.22 (9%) to \$2.72/MMBtu. At New York's Transco Zone 6 point prices ticked just \$0.01 higher to \$2.80/MMBtu.
- Prices in the Marcellus basin (Mid-Atlantic) continued to move higher. At the Tennessee Zone 4 point prices rose \$0.16 (8%) to \$2.19/MMBtu. Prices at Dominion South added \$0.02 (<0.5%) to \$2.31/MMBtu.</li>

#### Near-month natural gas futures prices (Nymex)



# POWER

- Power curves drifted generally lower, with modest losses in most ISOs. ERCOT prices are still dropping, but at a slower pace. The 12-month ATC strip in ERCOT's Houston zone fell \$1.00 (2.5%) to \$39.61/MWh. The 24-month slipped \$0.75 (1.8%) to \$39.68/MWh, and the calendar 2019 term fell \$0.90 (2.2%) to \$39.05/MWh.
- In New York's Zone J, the 12-month ATC strip dropped \$0.15 to \$40.78; the 24-month curve added \$0.05 to \$40.95; each of these changes was less than 0.5%. The calendar 2019 term was unchanged at \$40.49/MWh. NEMASS curves were also relatively flat. The 12 and 24-month strips each slipped \$0.05 to \$43.69 and \$43.51, respectively. The calendar 2019 term fell \$0.10 to \$42.80/MWh. Again, each of these changes was less than 0.5%.
- PJM curves also experienced minor changes. In the COMED zone, the 12-month ATC strip dropped \$0.10 to \$29.49/MWh; the 24month was unchanged and the calendar 2019 term slipped \$0.05 to \$28.49/MWh. The percentage changes were less than 0.5%.



- The current Price to Compare (PTC) for Eversource Eastern MA, previously Cambridge Electric Co (CELCO), General Service Large Commercial rate class (G2) is \$0.11498/kWh starting July 1, 2018 and effective through September 30, 2018. This PTC is a 0.05% decrease from the previous PTC of \$0.11492/kWh, effective for the April 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018 price period.
- Headroom has decreased overall since CELCO PTC was last reported a month ago on May 22, 2018, with the 1 month term jumping 43.1% from \$0.0038/kWh to \$0.00544/kWh but the 3 month term dropping 41.6% from \$0.00499/kWh to \$0.00291/kWh. Capitalizing on the increase in headroom for the short term is time sensitive, as headroom is not likely available for the 6, 9, and 12 month terms.



- Over the last week, the CELCO ATC 12-month strip experienced a slight decrease of 1.46%, finishing at \$43.86/MWh.
- Since the beginning of the year, the ATC strip has reached a high of \$50.26/MWh on Jan 30, 2018 and a low of \$37.58/ MWh on Feb 27, 2018 and has traded between \$40.01/MWh and \$44.51/MWh since March 1, 2018.



- Net injections into storage reached +91 Bcf for the week ending June 15, bearish compared to the 5-year average (+83) and last year's fill (+63), but relatively bullish versus last week, when 96 Bcf was injected. The report also surpassed market expectations; estimates ranged from +81 to +91 Bcf, with a median estimate of +86 Bcf.
- Working gas stocks now sit at 2,004 Bcf. That is 499 Bcf (20%) lower than the 5-year average and 757 Bcf (27%) less than last year at this time.

## SUPPLY & DEMAND

- The average total supply of natural gas grew 1% week over week. Dry gas production rose 1%, while Canadian imports added 7%.
- Demand growth outpaced supply for the week, adding 4%. Warmer weather drove power burn demand 12% higher. Industrial consumption slipped 1%, while residential/commercial demand fell 11%. Mexican exports were unchanged at 4.4 Bcf/day.
- LNG exports rose week over week. Five LNG vessels (18.7 Bcf total capacity) departed the United States from June 14 through June 20.

# MARKET INTELLIGENCE

FirstEnergy Solutions filed comments with FERC last week accusing the commission for failing to act on subsidizing "fuel-secure" resources. The unprofitability of FES's assets led to its declaration of bankruptcy several months ago, prompting the company's plea to the Department of Energy to save its units de-

spite PJM's determination that none of their power plants are necessary for reliability. While the market seems to expect the units to retire, the ongoing risk of subsidizing these resources keeps uncertainty on forward prices in Ohio.

Summer prices in ERCOT continue to trend downwards following the steep run up in late May. While ERCOT hit record monthly demand peaks for both May and June, the system did see a dose of volatility but likely not enough volatility to justify the extremely high forward prices for July and August.



Working gas in underground storage compared with the 5-year maximum and minimum billion cubic feet 4,400 4,000 3,600 3,200 2,800 2,400 2,000 1,600 1.200 800 400 0 Jun-16 Dec-16 Mar-17 Sep-17 Dec-17 Mar-18 Sep-16 Jun-17 Jun-18 5-year maximum - minimum range Lower 48 -5-year average Source: U.S. Energy Information inistration







Temperatures averaged 72°F in the Lower 48 states, 2° higher than normal and unchanged from last year.

WEATHER

- In the short-term a large upper-low system over the Central Plains will push rain and some heavy flooding into the Midwest. As the system drifts East, the warm temperatures and rain goes with it. Well organized higher pressure ridges in the Southeast and Southwest keep the heat well contained on that side, but the above average air will likely spread into the North.
- The above normal air spreads in the 8-14 day time frame, dominating most of the map. Some models indicate triple digit temperatures from Chicago to Boston. Rain is most probable in the Plains and Upper Rockies, where the temperatures will trend towards the normal pattern.

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