

Glossary

Aquifer Storage Field: A sub-surface facility for storing natural gas consisting of water-bearing sands topped by an impermeable cap rock.

Balancing Item: Represents differences between the sum of the components of natural gas supply and the sum of the components of natural gas disposition. These differences may be due to quantities lost or to the effects of data-reporting problems. Reporting problems include differences due to the net result of conversions of flow data metered at varying temperature and pressure bases and converted to a standard temperature and pressure base; the effect of variations in company accounting and billing practices; differences between billing cycle and calendar period time frames; and imbalances resulting from the merger of data-reporting systems that vary in scope, format, definitions, and type of respondents.

Biomass Gas: A medium Btu gas containing methane and carbon dioxide, resulting from the action of microorganisms on organic materials such as a landfill.

British Thermal Unit (Btu): The quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 pound of water by 1 degree Fahrenheit at or near 39.2 degrees Fahrenheit.

City Gate: A point or measuring station at which a gas distribution company receives gas from a pipeline company or transmission system.

Coke Oven Gas: The gaseous portion of volatile substances driven off in the coking process after other coal chemicals are removed.

Commercial Consumption: Gas used by nonmanufacturing establishments or agencies primarily engaged in the sale of goods or services. Included are such establishments as hotels, restaurants, wholesale and retail stores and other service enterprises; gas used by establishments engaged in forestry and fisheries; and gas used by local, State, and Federal agencies engaged in nonmanufacturing activities.

Delivered: The physical transfer of natural, synthetic, and/or supplemental gas from facilities operated by the responding company to facilities operated by others or to consumers.

Depleted Storage Field: A sub-surface natural geological reservoir, usually a depleted oil or gas field, used for storing natural gas.

Dry Natural Gas Production: Marketed production less extraction loss.

Electric Utility: An enterprise that is engaged in the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric energy primarily for use by the public and that is the major power supplier within a designated service area. Electric utilities include investor-owned, publicly-owned, cooperatively-owned, and government-owned (municipals, Federal agencies, State projects, and public power districts) systems.

Electric Utility Consumption: Gas used as fuel in electric utility plants.

Exports: Natural gas deliveries out of the continental United States and Alaska to foreign countries.

Extraction Loss: The reduction in volume of natural gas due to the removal of natural gas liquid constituents such as ethane, propane, and butane at natural gas processing plants.

Flared: Natural gas burned in flares at the base site or at gas-processing plants.

Gas Condensate Well: A gas well that produces from a gas reservoir containing considerable quantities of liquid hydrocarbons in the pentane and heavier range generally described as "condensate."

Gas Well: A well completed for the production of natural gas from one or more gas zones or reservoirs.

Gross Withdrawals: Full well-stream volume, including all natural gas plant liquids and all nonhydrocarbon gases, but excluding lease condensate.

Heating Value: The average number of British thermal units per cubic foot of natural gas as determined from tests of fuel samples.

Imports: Gas receipts into the United States from a foreign country.

Industrial Consumers: Establishments engaged in a process which creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Generation of electricity, other than by electric utilities, and agricultural uses are included.

Industrial Consumption: Natural gas used by manufacturing and mining establishments and for agricultural purposes for heat, power, and chemical feedstock.

Intransit Deliveries: Redeliveries to a foreign country of foreign gas received for transportation across U.S. territory and deliveries of U.S. gas to a foreign country for transportation across its territory and redelivery to the United States.

Intransit Receipts: Receipts of foreign gas for transportation across U.S. territory and redelivery to a foreign country and redeliveries to the United States of U.S. gas transported across foreign territory.

Lease Fuel: Natural gas used in well, field, and lease operations such as gas used in drilling operations, heaters, dehydrators, and field compressors.

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG): Natural gas (primarily methane) that has been liquefied by reducing its temperature to minus 260 degrees Fahrenheit at atmospheric pressure.

Manufactured Gas: A gas obtained by destructive distillation of coal, or by the thermal decomposition of oil, or by the reaction of steam passing through a bed of heated coal or coke. Examples are coal gases, coke oven gases, producer gas, blast furnace gas, blue (water) gas, carbureted water gas. Btu content varies widely.

Marketed Production: Gross withdrawals less gas used for repressuring, quantities vented and flared, and nonhydrocarbon gases removed in treating or processing operations.

Natural Gas: A mixture of hydrocarbon compounds and small quantities of various nonhydrocarbons existing in the gaseous phase or in solution with crude oil in natural underground reservoirs at reservoir conditions.

Natural Gas, Wet After Lease Separation: The volume of natural gas remaining after removal of lease condensate in lease and/or field separation facilities, if any, and after exclusion of nonhydrocarbon gases where they occur in sufficient quantity to render the gas unmarketable. Natural gas liquids may be recovered from volumes of natural gas, wet after lease separation, at natural gas processing plants.

Nonhydrocarbon Gases: Typical nonhydrocarbon gases which may be present in reservoir natural gas, such as carbon dioxide, helium, hydrogen sulfide, and nitrogen.

Nonutility Power Producers: A company which owns electric generating capacity and is not an electric utility. Nonutility power producers include qualifying cogenerators, qualifying small power producers, and other nonutility generators including independent power producers.

Offshore Reserves and Production: Unless otherwise indicated, reserves and production that are in either State or Federal domains, located seaward of the coastline.

Oil Well (Casinghead) Gas: Associated and dissolved gas produced along with crude oil from oil completions.

Outer Continental Shelf: Offshore Federal domain.

Pipeline: A continuous pipe conduit, complete with such equipment as valves, compressor stations, communications systems, and meters, for transporting natural and/or supplemental gas from one point to another, usually from a point in or beyond the producing field or processing plant to another pipeline or to points of use. Also refers to a company operating such facilities.

Pipeline Fuel: Gas consumed in the operation of pipelines, primarily in compressors.

Plant Fuel: Natural gas used as fuel in natural gas processing plants.

Production, Wet After Lease Separation: Gross withdrawals less gas used for repressuring and nonhydrocarbon gases removed in treating or processing operations.

Propane-air: A mixture of propane and air resulting in a gaseous fuel suitable for pipeline distribution.

Proved Reserves: The estimated quantities that analysis of geological and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known oil and gas reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions.

Receipts: Gas physically transferred into the responding company's transportation, storage, and/or distribution facilities.

Refinery Gas: Noncondensate gas collected in petroleum refineries.

Repressuring: The injection of gas into oil or gas reservoir formations to effect greater ultimate recovery.

Residential Consumption: Gas used in private dwellings, including apartments, for heating, air-conditioning, cooking, water heating, and other household uses.

Salt Cavern Storage Field: A sub-surface storage facility that is a cavern hollowed out in either a salt "bed" or "dome" formation.

Storage Additions: Volumes of gas injected or otherwise added to underground natural gas reservoirs or liquefied natural gas storage.

Storage Withdrawals: Volumes of gas withdrawn from underground storage or liquefied natural gas storage.

Supplemental Gaseous Fuels Supplies: Synthetic natural gas, propane-air, coke oven gas, refinery gas, biomass gas, air injected for Btu stabilization, and manufactured gas commingled and distributed with natural gas.

Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG): A manufactured product chemically similar in most respects to natural gas, resulting from the conversion or reforming of petroleum hydrocarbons or from coal gasification. It may easily be substituted for or interchanged with pipeline quality natural gas.

Therm: One hundred thousand British thermal units.

Underground Gas Storage: The use of sub-surface facilities for storing gas that has been transferred from its original location. The facilities are usually hollowed-out salt domes, natural geological reservoirs (depleted oil or gas fields) or water-bearing sands topped by an impermeable cap rock (aquifer).

Underground Storage Injections: Gas from extraneous sources put into underground storage reservoirs.

Underground Storage Withdrawals: Gas removed from underground storage reservoirs.

Unit Value, Consumption: Total price per specified unit, including all taxes, at the point of consumption.