

# 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 the difference 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 which vary in scope, format, definitions, and type of respondents.

**Base (Cushion) Gas:** The volume of gas needed as a permanent inventory to maintain adequate underground storage reservoir pressures and deliverability rates throughout the withdrawal season. All native gas is included in the base gas volume.

**British Thermal Unit (Btu):** The heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one 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.

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

**Depletion:** The loss in service value incurred in connection with the exhaustion of the natural gas reserves in the course of service.

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

**Depreciation:** The loss in service value not restored by current maintenance, incurred in connection with the consumption or respective retirement of a gas plant in the course of service from causes that are known to be in current operation and against which the utility is not protected by insurance; for example, wear and tear, decay, obsolescence, changes in demand and requirements of public authorities, and the exhaustion of natural resources.

**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 resulting from the removal of natural gas liquid constituents at natural gas processing plants.

**Flared:** The volume of gas burned in flares on 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 liquid and nonhydrocarbon gases, but excluding lease condensate. Also includes amounts delivered as royalty payments or consumed in field operations.

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

**Imports:** Natural gas received in the Continental United States (including Alaska) from a foreign country.

**Independent Producers:** Any person who is engaged in the production or gathering of natural gas and who sells natural gas in interstate commerce for resale but who is not engaged in the transportation of natural gas (other than gathering) by pipeline in interstate commerce.

**Industrial Consumption:** Natural gas used for heat, power, or chemical feedstock by manufacturing establishments or those engaged in mining or other mineral extraction as well as consumers in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Also included in industrial consumption are natural gas volumes used in the generation of electricity by other than regulated electric utilities.

**Interstate Companies:** Natural gas pipeline companies subject to FERC jurisdiction.

**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.

**Intrastate Companies:** Companies not subject to FERC jurisdiction.

**Lease and Plant Fuel:** Natural gas used in well, field, lease operations and as fuel in natural gas processing plants.

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

**Marketed Production:** Gross withdrawals less gas used for repressuring, quantities vented and flared, and nonhydrocarbon gases removed in treating or processing operations. Includes all quantities of gas used in field and processing operations. See Explanatory Note 1 for discussion of coverage of data concerning nonhydrocarbon gases removed.

**Native Gas:** Gas in place at the time that a reservoir was converted to use as an underground storage reservoir as in contrast to injected gas volumes.

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

**Nonhydrocarbon Gases:** Typical nonhydrocarbon gases that may be present in reservoir natural gas are carbon dioxide, helium, hydrogen sulfide, and nitrogen.

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

**Onsystem Sales:** Sales to customers where the delivery point is a point on, or directly interconnected with, a transportation, storage, and/or distribution system operated by the reporting company.

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

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

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

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

**Storage Additions:** The volume of gas injected or otherwise added to underground natural gas or liquefied natural gas storage during the applicable reporting period.

**Storage Withdrawals:** Total volume of gas withdrawn from underground storage or liquefied natural gas storage during the applicable reporting period.

**Supplemental Gaseous Fuels Supplies:** Synthetic natural gas, propane-air, refinery gas, biomass gas, air injected for stabilization of heating content, and manufactured gas commingled and distributed with natural gas.

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

**Therm:** One-hundred thousand British thermal units.

**Underground Gas Storage Reservoir Capacity:** Interstate company reservoir capacities are those certificated by FERC. Independent producer and intrastate

company reservoir capacities are reported as developed capacity.

**Vented Gas:** Gas released into the air on the base site or at processing plants.

**Wellhead Price:** Represents the wellhead sales price, including charges for natural gas plant liquids subsequently removed from the gas, gathering and compression charges, and State production, severance, and/or similar charges.

**Working (Top Storage) Gas:** The volume of gas in an underground storage reservoir above the designed level of the base. It may or may not be completely withdrawn during any particular withdrawal season. Conditions permitting, the total working capacity could be used more than once during any season.