

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.

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

Coke Oven Gas: The mixture of permanent gases produced by the carbonization of coal in a coke oven at temperatures in excess of 1,000 degrees Celsius.

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 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: Natural gas which remains after: 1) the liquefiable hydrocarbon portion has been removed from the gas stream (i.e., gas after lease, field, and/or plant separation);

and 2) any volumes of nonhydrocarbon gases have been removed where they occur in sufficient quantity to render the gas unmarketable. (Note: Dry natural gas is also known as consumer-grade natural gas. The parameters for measurement are cubic feet at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute.)

Dry Natural Gas Production: The process of producing consumer-grade natural gas. Natural gas withdrawn from reservoirs is reduced by volumes used at the production (lease) site and by processing losses. Volumes used at the production site include (1) the volume returned to reservoirs in cycling, repressuring of oil reservoirs, and conservation operations; and (2) gas dioxide, helium, hydrogen sulfide, and nitrogen removed from the gas stream; and (2) gas converted to liquid form, such as lease condensate and plant liquids. Volumes of dry gas withdrawn from gas storage reservoirs are not considered part of production. Dry natural gas production equals marketed production less extraction loss.

Electric Power Sector: An energy-consuming sector that consists of electricity only and combined heat and power (CHP) plants whose primary business is to sell electricity, or electricity and heat, to the public.

Electric Utility: A corporation, person, agency, authority, or other legal entity or instrumentality aligned with distribution facilities for delivery of electric energy for use primarily by the public. Included are investor-owned electric utilities, municipal and State utilities, Federal electric utilities, and rural electric cooperatives. A few entities that are tariff based and corporately aligned with companies that own distribution facilities are also included. (Note: Due to the issuance of FERC Order *** that required traditional electric utilities to functionally unbundled their generation, transmission, and distribution operations, "electric utility" currently has inconsistent interpretations from State to State.)

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

Electric Utility Sector: The electric utility sector consists of privately and publicly owned establishments that generate, transmit, distribute, or sell electricity primarily for use by the public and that meet the definition of an electric utility. Nonutility power producers are not included in the electric sector.

Exports: Shipments of goods from within the 50 States and the District of Columbia to U.S. possessions and territories or 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: Gas disposed of by burning in flares usually at the production sites 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. Such wells contain no completions for the production of crude oil.

Gross Withdrawals: Full well-stream volume, including all natural gas plant liquids and all 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: Receipts of goods into the 50 States and the District of Columbia from U.S. possessions and territories or from foreign countries.

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 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.

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 -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. Includes all quantities of gas used in field and processing plant operations.

Natural Gas: A gaseous mixture of hydrocarbon compounds, the primary one being methane.

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 corporation, person, agency, authority, or other legal entity or instrumentality that owns or operates facilities for electric generation and is not an electric utility. Nonutility power producers include qualifying cogenerators, qualifying small power producers, and other nonutility generators (including independent power producers). Nonutility power producers are without a designated franchised service area and do not file forms listed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 18, Part 141.

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.

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.

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: The volume of natural gas withdrawn from reservoirs less (1) the volume returned to such reservoirs in cycling, repressuring of oil reservoirs, and conservation operations; less (2) shrinkage resulting from the removal of lease condensate; and less (3) nonhydrocarbon gases where they occur in sufficient quantity to render the gas unmarketable. Note: Volumes of gas withdrawn from gas storage reservoirs and native gas that has been transferred to the storage category are not considered part of production. This production concept is not the same as marketed production, which excludes vented and flared gas.

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

Proved Energy Reserves: Estimated quantities of energy sources that analysis of geologic and engineering data demonstrates with reasonable certainty are recoverable under existing economic and operating conditions. The location, quantity, and grade of the energy source are usually considered to be well established in such reserves.

Receipts: Deliveries of fuel to an electric plant ; Purchases of fuel ; All revenues received by an exporter for the reported quantity exported.

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 Dome 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: Total volume of gas withdrawn from underground storage or from liquefied natural gas storage over a specified amount of time.

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): Also referred to as substitute natural gas) A manufactured product, chemically similar in most respects to natural gas, resulting from the conversion or reforming of petroleum hydrocarbons that may easily be substituted for or interchanged with pipeline-quality natural gas.

Therm: One hundred thousand British thermal units.

Unaccounted for (natural gas): Represents the difference between the sum of the components of natural gas supply and the sum of components of natural gas disposition, as reported by survey respondents. These differences may be due to quantities lost or to the effects of differences in company accounting systems in terms of scope and definition. A positive “unaccounted for” volume means that supply exceeds disposition by that amount. A negative “unaccounted for” volume means that supply is less than disposition.

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.

Unit Value, Wellhead: 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.

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

Wellhead Price: The value at the mouth of the well. In general, the wellhead price is considered to be the sales price obtainable from a third party in an arm’s length transaction. Posted prices, requested prices, or prices as defined by lease agreements, contracts, or tax regulations should be used where applicable.