

July 26, 2013

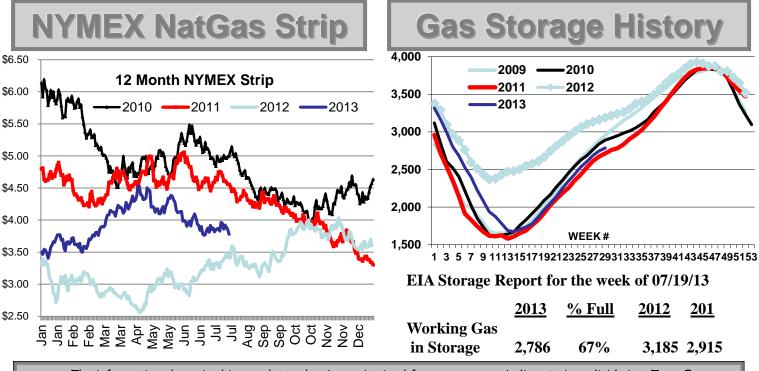


ENERGY LINE

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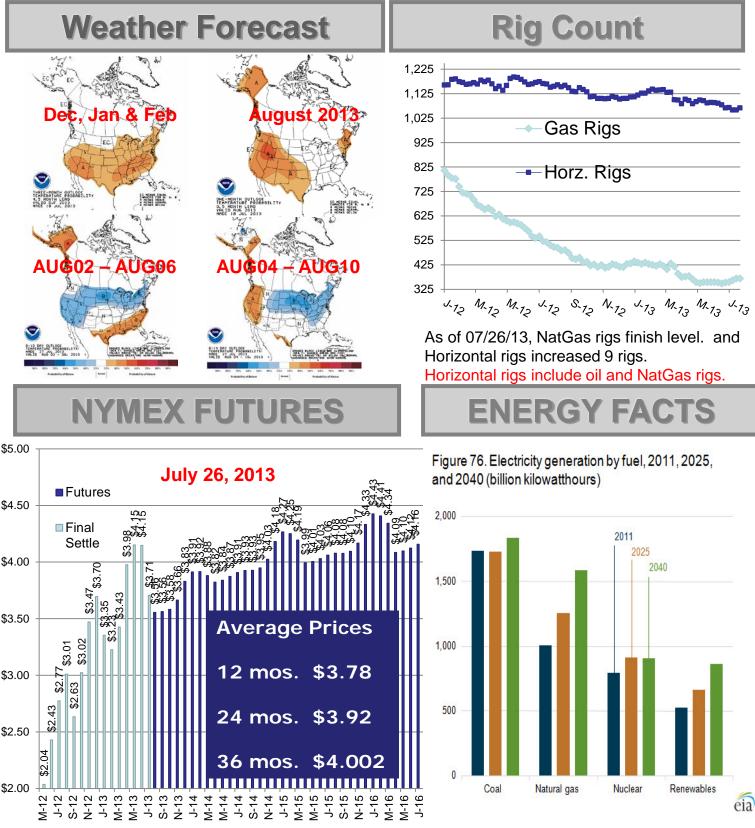


August NatGas futures ended the week \$.23 cents lower this week. The 12 month strip closed at \$3.78, near a 5 month low. Limited hot weather and a recovering storage inventory have played a large role in the declining prices. Overall, NatGas consumption was up by more than 3% through the first half of this year. A 5.6 bcf per day combined increase in residential, commercial, and industrial consumption more than compensated for a 3.3 Bcf/d decline in power generation. As a result, total demand rose faster than total supply, which contributed to upward pressure on prices. Dry NatGas production continued to grow during the first half of 2013, albeit at a slower pace compared to prior years. NatGas production was up 1.8% during the first 6 months of 2013 compared to increases of 6% and 7.3% during the first halves of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Despite relatively high injections during May and June, storage levels have remained below their five-year average. The EIA projects storage will reach 3,809 bcf by the end of October with injections similar to those in 2008-11 but much higher than in 2012.



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