



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information
Administration

August 11, 2015

Natural gas inventories expected at second-highest level at start of heating season

While there's still more than a month left of summer...winter will soon be here...and U.S. natural gas inventories are expected to be in good shape to meet heating demand.

In its new forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said natural gas inventories are on track to reach 3.9 trillion cubic feet by the end of October...which is the start of the winter heating season in many areas of the country. This would be the second-highest natural gas inventory ever for October.

Record U.S. natural gas production boosted gas injections into underground storage during this summer at rates that were well above the five-year average. Inventories have increased even though warmer temperatures resulted in power plants burning more natural gas to generate electricity to meet cooling demand.

Natural gas consumption in the U.S. power sector is forecast to increase by almost 14% this year.

Jonathan Cogan, for EIA, Washington