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U.S. electricity generation from natural gas expected to reach record level in 2020 as renewables surpass coal

In its June *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) forecasts a 6.3% decline in the generation of electricity in the United States this year. Nevertheless, U.S. electricity generation from natural gas grows to a record high of 1,505 billion kilowatthours in 2020 as a result of low natural gas prices.

In the *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, EIA forecasts that the share of U.S. utility-scale electricity generation from natural gas will increase from 37% in 2019 to 41% in 2020. The natural gas share declines to 36% in 2021 as natural gas prices increase. Coal's share falls from 24% in 2019 to 17% in 2020 and then increases to 20% in 2021. Electricity generation from renewable energy sources rises from a share of 17% last year to 21% in 2020 and to 23% in 2021. If this forecast is realized, 2020 would mark the first year on record that renewable electricity generation surpasses coal.

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