High natural gas output and inventories contribute to lower prices

High natural gas production and ample gas inventories are expected to keep natural gas prices relatively low for the rest of 2015.

In its new monthly forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration says that while expected production growth is slowing from last year’s torrid pace, domestic natural gas production in 2015 is still expected to be almost 6 percent above the 2014 level.

Higher production has pushed U.S. natural gas inventories about 1 trillion cubic feet above a year ago. Continued strong output is also expected to keep natural gas prices below $3 per million Btu through August and less than $4 through the end of the year.

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