

**JULY 2025** 

# **ENERGY MARKET UPDATE**

NATURAL GAS, POWER, AND SUPPLY AND DEMAND OUTLOOK



## Energy Prices on the Rise: Strengthening Bullish Momentum

Energy prices have shifted from "elevated-but-steady" in June to a clear upward trend across both natural gas and power markets in July. Forward curves for Henry Hub and the Eastern ISOs slope higher month-over-month through December, signaling firmer cost pressure for large energy consumers as we move deeper into cooling season and head toward winter contract months.



#### **Natural Gas Summary**

Natural gas prices at Henry Hub continue to climb in July, closing the month \$0.06 above June and 24% above July 2024. This marks the second consecutive month of gains and reflects a market responding to multiple pressure points. The forward strip now prices progressively higher levels, peaking in Q4, on expectations of:

- Tightening storage: inventories remain below last year's cushion despite injections tracking the five-year average.
- Relentless power-sector burn: early-season heat waves have lifted gas-fired generation to record highs for June and show no sign of retreat.
- Weather risk: an active hurricane forecast threatens Gulf production and LNG export flows later this summer.

The **East basis curve** sits near parity with Henry Hub, while the **West** retains a modest premium amid lingering pipeline constraints.

Overall, the market's message is "higher for longer" unless supply growth meaningfully outpaces rising demand. See page 2 for the full set of natural gas graphs and data.

#### **Power Summary**

Power prices across major Eastern markets also moved higher in July, largely in response to rising natural gas prices and **record-breaking electricity demand**.

Forward on-peak power prices firmed across PJM, NYISO and ISO-NE compared with last month's curves, reflecting higher gas costs and fresh capacity premiums:

- PJM: July-August on-peak now clears ~\$73-\$78/MWh, a ~\$4/MWh jump MoM, with capacity adders from the \$269.92 MW-day BRA embedded in fixed-price retail offers
- **NYISO:** Zone J summer strips climbed into the low-\$80s/MWh after hovering in the high-\$70s in June.
- **ISO-NE**: Forward prices moved into the mid-\$70s/MWh, gaining ~5% on stronger heat-rate assumptions.

With gas input costs trending higher, the EIA's projection of a ~4 % YoY rise in average U.S. electric bills now looks conservative, especially for commercial customers exposed to capacity and transmission surcharges. See page 3 for the full set of power graphs and data.

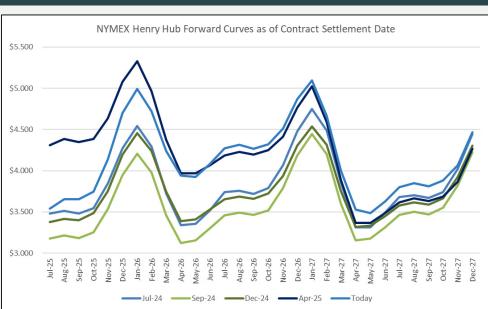


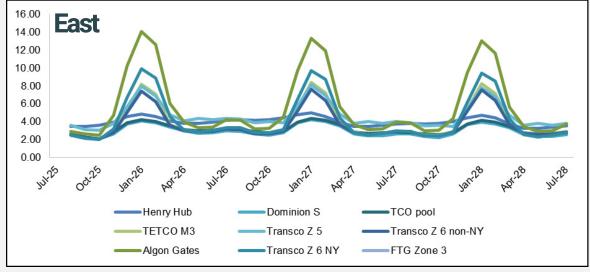


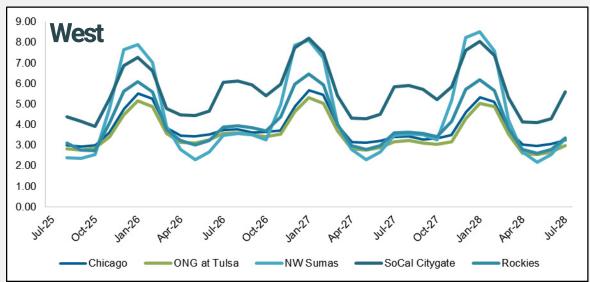
#### **NATURAL GAS**

## Forward Natural Gas Prices (\$/MMBtu)







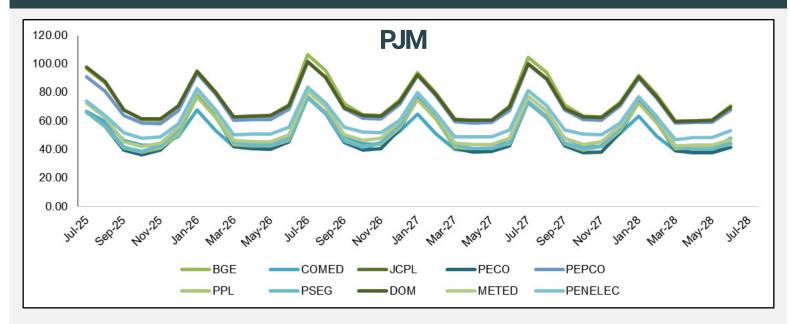


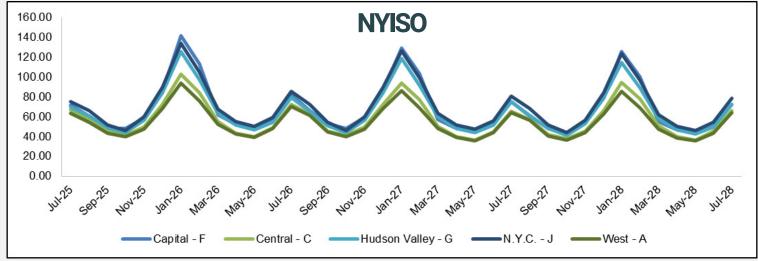


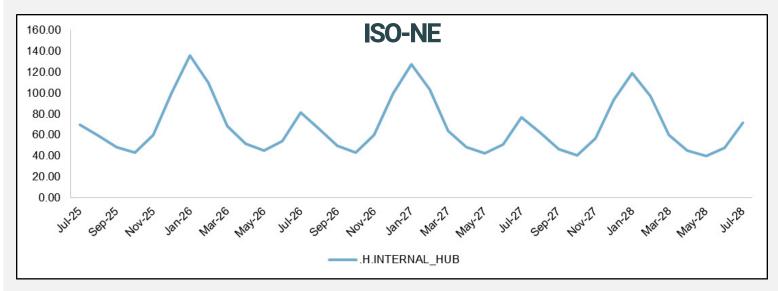


#### **POWER**

### Forward On-Peak Power Prices (\$/MWh)





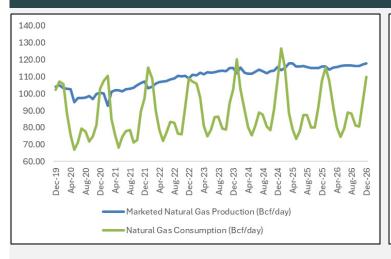


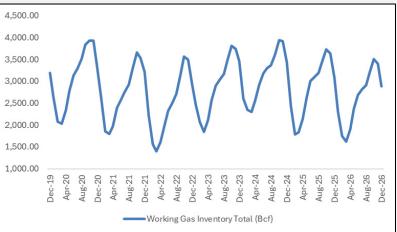




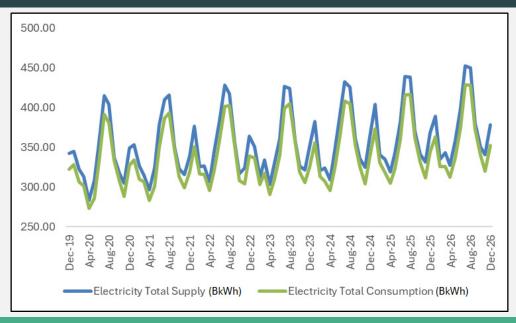
#### **SUPPLY AND DEMAND**

#### **Natural Gas**





#### **Power**



#### **Key Takeaways**

- Storage lag widens Working gas sits ~12 % below July 2024 even after seasonally strong injections, underscoring
  a thinner buffer heading into winter.
- Production plateaus U.S. natural gas output has stalled near 103 Bcf/d since May; incremental supply growth has
  not kept pace with surging power-sector burn.
- **Record peak loads** Late June and early-July heat pushed PJM and ISO-NE to **new summer demand highs** while NYISO approached its all-time record, tightening reserve margins.
- Weather premium persists NOAA continues to call for above-normal Atlantic hurricane activity, sustaining a
  weather-risk premium in late-summer contracts.

