

SPOTLIGHT | High demand and stagnating supply have changed voluntary REC markets

As long-term virtual power purchase agreements and regional green power programs gain popularity, renewable energy project developers have focused on these revenue streams rather than short-term Green-E REC sales. A year ago, Green-E RECs, the most common instrument for entities to voluntarily offset electricity emissions, were typically available for less than \$1/MWh. Now, pricing ranges \$3-\$3.50/MWh, with much of the increase occurring over the last two months. While this price is still much lower than RECs available in most state compliance markets, customers who have typically been using Green-E for emission offsets are seeing large year-over-year jumps in cost. With many 2020 emissions goals, voluntary REC demand has increased, while supply has stagnated in recent years. Since peaking in 2015, total new generation opting to qualify for retail Green-E RECs has steadily decreased. As long-term virtual power purchase agreements and regional green power programs gain popularity, renewable energy project developers have focused on these revenue streams rather than short-term Green-E REC sales, leaving a challenging outlook for the voluntary market.

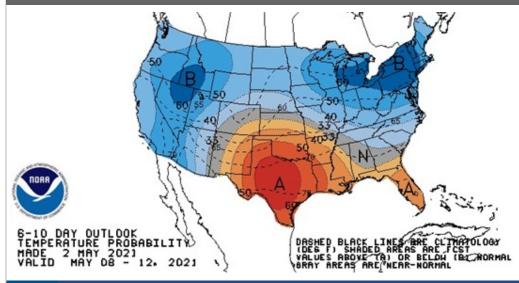
CES SCORE | Is it time for action?

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The **CES SCORE** shows how current <u>wholesale commodity</u> prices compare to their 52 week range. A score close to 0 indicates that current prices are close to their 52 week **HIGH**; a score close to 100 indicates that current prices are close to their 52 week **LOW**. Many factors influence how wholesale prices are translated into <u>retail prices</u> paid by consumers and when it is time to consider a price lock. Please contact your CES Energy Services Advisor for customized strategic procurement advice.

| NATURAL GAS NYMEX TERMS | NEW ENGLAND ELECTRICITY TERMS | CRUDE OII TERMS |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 12 MONTH: 32 | 12 MONTH: 54 | 12 MONTH : 5 |
| 18 MONTH: 46 | 18 MONTH: 66 | 18 MONTH: 5 |
| 24 MONTH: 43 | 24 MONTH: 59 | 24 MONTH: 5 |
| 36 MONTH: 44 | 36 MONTH: 61 | 36 MONTH: 5 |

WEATHER | 6-10 Day Forecast

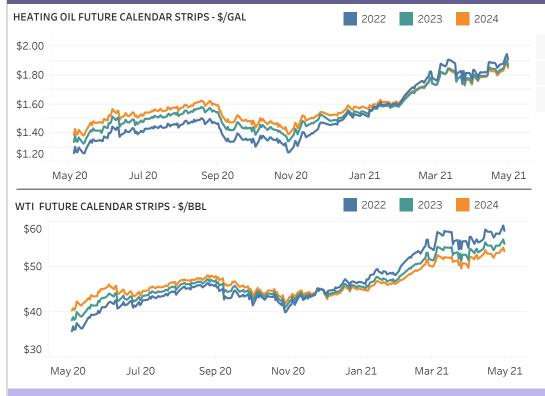


Below average temperatures dominate the Northern US!

100

This map depicts forecasted temperatures for next week compared to the long term average. The **blue/purple** areas are forecast to be colder than normal, grey areas are normal, and **yellow/orange/red** areas are warmer than normal. Abnormally hot weather in the summer and cold weather in the winter can increase the price for natural gas, oil, and electricity.



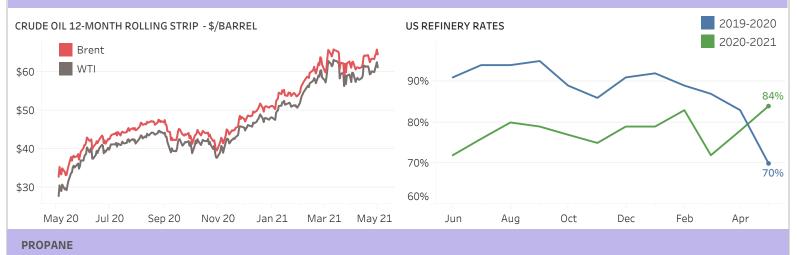




| CHANGE: | \$1.44 | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Prior Week: | \$62.14/Barrel | |
| This Week: | \$63.58/Barrel | |
| PROMPT MONTH PRICE FOR JUN 21 | | |

Crude oil prices ended Friday at \$63.58/barrel, a 2.3% increase from the week prior. As vaccination rates climb and demand in the US, China, the UK, and Europe continues to increase, many see higher fuel consumption in the summer and later this year as an almost certainty. Even with increasing COVID-19 cases in India, Brazil, and Japan, all of whom are large oil consumers, the largely positive news out of the rest of the world bodes well for the coming months. If India, Brazil, and Japan can reduce the spread, many see prices reaching or even surpassing March highs.

FUNDAMENTALS







NATURAL GAS OVERVIEW

WINTER NATURAL GAS NYMEX STRIPS - \$/MMBTU



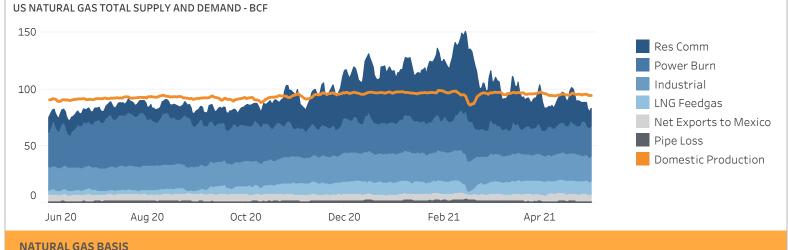
Winter natural gas NYMEX strips are an average of commodity prices for the months of December -March of each winter. Prices are presented in this format to highlight what consumers will pay during the typical heating season in the US.

PROMPT MONTH PRICE FOR JUN 21

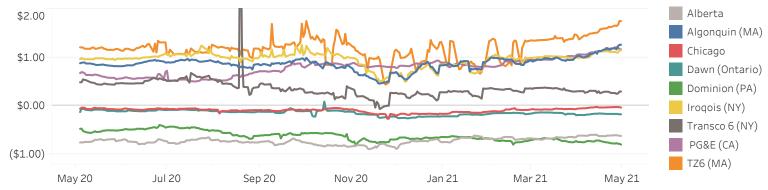
| CHANGE: |
|-------------|
| Prior Week: |
| This Week: |

June front-month natural gas futures increased 7% from the previous week, settling at \$2.93/MMBtu on Friday. Prices rose with high US exports supported by lean storage inventories in Europe and Asia. LNG feedgas peaked at 11.5 bcf/d on Tuesday, up 74% year-over-year. Additionally, the EIA reported a net injection into US storage inventories of just 15 Bcf following a period of abnormally cold late-April temperatures. This below-average injection lifted prices, highlighting the impact of sustained high gas demand and reduced dry gas production on the gas market.



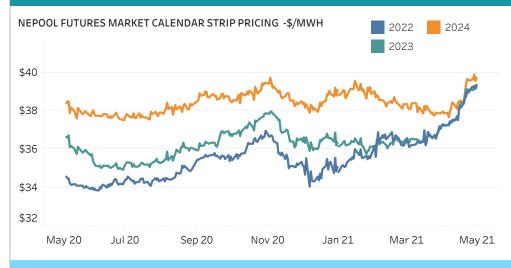


NATURAL GAS BASIS - ROLLING 12 MO. FUTURES STRIP - \$/MMBTU





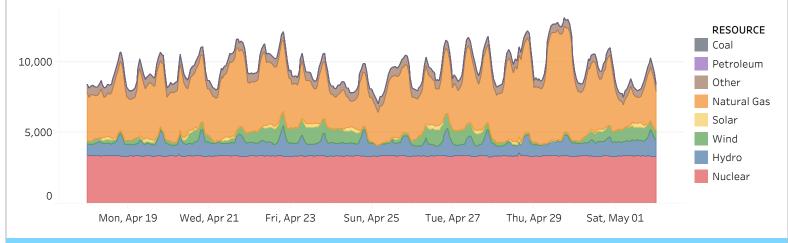
NEW ENGLAND ELECTRICITY OVERVIEW



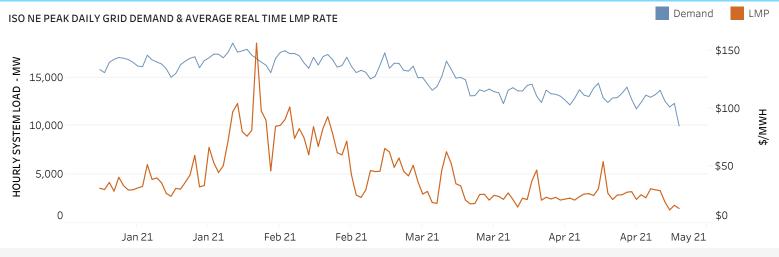
New England electricity markets leveled off last week. The NEPOOL 12-mo. strip settled at \$39.09/MWh on Friday, up 1.1% week-over-week. Long-term electricity prices gained less than 1% and 2024 prices fell 0.3%. Despite weak gains this week, natural gas markets remain bullish which will bolster electricity prices in the near term. Across the New England region, demand continues to decline with decreased heating demand. However, New England generation from natural gas plants increased to nearly 8,000 MWs on Thursday as regional electricity demand trended about 500 MW above forecasts, previewing the grid's response to future summer cooling demand.



ISO NE GRID ELECTRICITY GENERATION MIX - EXCLUDES IMPORTS - MW



NEW ENGLAND GRID FUNDAMENTALS



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For all your energy market questions, please contact your Energy Services Advisors today.