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1. Non-discriminatory, fully equal access to transportation or transmission services a pipeline utility offers.
2. A monthly newsletter from the NWGA for Pacific NW natural gas industry stakeholders and observers.



ANNUAL ENERGY CONFERENCE COUNTDOWN!



Customers, Communities, and Affordability

Issues: Jim Cooper of United Ways of the Pacific Northwest will discuss how price volatility and reliability failures disproportionately affect working households, as measured by the ALICE program, reinforcing the need for policy frameworks that balance decarbonization objectives with cost containment.

The Danish Transition: Jayson Antonoff and Patric Cubben provide insights from the energy transition in Denmark and the Netherlands, emphasizing the role of natural gas in supporting reliability while facilitating decarbonization.

Aligning Gas and Electric Planning: Kelly Fukai, Northwest Gas Association, and Aliza Seelig, Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee, present findings on the need for integrated investment strategies to address system-planning misalignments driven by changes in load profiles.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Shared Energy Challenge: Jeff Droubay and Branden Suddeth of the Western Electricity Coordination Council highlight the urgent need to address the growing gap between rising electricity demand and the slow pace of infrastructure development, exacerbated by extreme weather events.

Reliability Reality Check: Arne Olson, E3, and Mary Weincke, Public Generating Pool, share findings from a major assessment on resource adequacy, stressing the need for coordinated planning to align policy frameworks with operational realities.

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Recently Published: Forecast and Study

PNUCC 2026 Forecast

The 2026 Forecast report by the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee (PNUCC) provides critical insights into the region's energy landscape, emphasizing trends in demand, supply, and renewable energy integration. This comprehensive analysis highlights the ongoing transition to cleaner energy sources and the

challenges of meeting future energy needs in the Pacific Northwest. Key findings will be presented at the upcoming Annual Energy Conference, offering attendees an opportunity to engage with the data and discuss its implications for policy and planning. [Click here](#) to access the full report.

E3 Resource Adequacy Study

E3 has completed a study on resource adequacy (RA) in the Pacific Northwest, examining how to maintain reliability and affordability while achieving clean energy goals. Conducted for a consortium of utilities and independent power producers, the analysis covers future load growth, generator retirements, and transmission constraints across the region. Key findings were presented in a recent webinar featuring authors Arne Olson and Aaron Burdick.

The study identifies a near-term resource gap of approximately 9 GW by 2030 and 14-18 GW by 2035, driven by rising demand and retirements of thermal generation. It stresses the importance of a diverse resource portfolio, including energy efficiency, renewables, and natural gas, to ensure reliability and meet decarbonization targets through 2045. To address these challenges, the region must enhance its transmission infrastructure and adopt flexible policies to enable coordinated planning. [Click here](#) to access more resources, including the recorded webinar below.

Newsbits

Natural Gas Plants Key to Keeping Electricity Reliable in the Northwest

A 2026 analysis warns the Pacific Northwest is facing a growing electricity shortfall as demand outpaces supply and hydropower becomes less reliable. Wind, solar, and storage alone can't ensure reliability during multi-day winter outages, so dispatchable firm generation is needed soon—likely natural gas peakers in the near term. Efficiency and renewables won't close the gap without this anchor. Urgent policy action is required to accelerate infrastructure and protect public safety; [click here](#) to read the full article.

Major Projects in British Columbia Delivered Faster

As of April 30, 2026, British Columbia is accelerating the delivery of major projects, with a focus on clean energy, critical minerals, mining, and natural gas. By expediting permits and approvals, the province aims to create good jobs and drive economic growth while addressing global uncertainty. These projects are vital for providing clean energy and natural gas, strengthening the Canadian economy, and reducing reliance on the U.S. Importantly, every project involves First Nations as partners, reflecting a commitment to inclusive development. The Look West strategy supports 35 major initiatives, including 18 priority projects announced in 2025, which are expected to generate tens of thousands of jobs and attract \$88 billion in investment toward a \$200 billion goal by 2035. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

The Reliability Reckoning: Why Dispatchable Capacity Matters Now

BC Hydro has asked the BC Utilities Commission for more time to revise its long-term plan as the power-supply gap widens and peak demand grows. The utility now projects a significant shortfall by 2030 and says about 500 MW of dispatchable capacity is needed to reliably meet peak loads, even as CleanBC pressures limit new natural gas generation. With BC increasingly relying on imports and facing policy constraints, officials warn that dependable, affordable energy is at risk and that urgent planning is needed. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Gas Prices Stay Low: How U.S. Natural Gas Defies Global Turmoil

For a comprehensive analysis of why U.S. natural gas bills remain stable despite rising gasoline prices driven by the ongoing conflict in Iran, it's essential to explore the intricate dynamics of domestic energy production and global market influences. The article by Mike Soraghan delves into the factors that contribute to the resilience of U.S. natural gas prices, highlighting the country's unique position as a major producer of oil and gas. It discusses how the Henry Hub benchmark in Louisiana sets the stage for pricing, the role of local weather patterns, and the implications of geopolitical events on energy markets. To gain a fuller perspective on these critical issues and their impact on consumers and the economy, [click here](#) to read the full article.

Natural Gas as Critical Infrastructure

A recent article on Medium discusses the vital role of natural gas as a system-critical infrastructure, emphasizing that it should not merely be viewed as a bridge fuel but as an essential component of a sustainable energy future. The piece highlights how natural gas provides a reliable energy supply, supports the integration of renewable sources, and helps balance the grid during periods of high demand or low renewable output. It also outlines the importance of investing in natural gas infrastructure to enhance energy security and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The article advocates for a comprehensive approach to energy planning that recognizes natural gas's role in achieving a cleaner, more resilient energy system. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Political Spin in New CO₂ Emissions Reports

A recent publication from the Washington Policy Center critiques the new CO₂ emissions reports released by various states, arguing that they obscure failures in climate policy. The report highlights how these official emissions statistics are often framed to present a more favorable view of state actions on climate change, masking the reality of rising emissions and inadequate policy responses. It emphasizes the importance of transparency and accountability in climate reporting, suggesting that misleading narratives can hinder meaningful progress toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The analysis calls for a reevaluation of current policies to ensure they are effective in addressing the climate crisis. For a deeper understanding, [click here](#).

INDUSTRY EVENTS



22nd Annual LDC GAS FORUMS

August 10-12, 2026

San Diego, CA, at the Omni Hotel

More information: <https://tinyurl.com/5n87m7t8>

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/2d5k5mku>

Use discount code **RWNWGA125** for **\$125 off!**

Over three hundred energy industry professionals convene in August to gain insight and conduct analysis of up to the minute issues facing the Rockies & West U.S. natural gas market region. This is the industry's premier gathering for natural gas industry professionals, which is much more than simply a conference, with participants routinely negotiating transactions during the event. Timely panel discussions featuring key industry authorities focus on important questions facing buyers, sellers, transportation operators, service/product suppliers, and other market stakeholders in competitive energy markets.

Participants at the Forums include market

leaders, subject-matter experts, and decision-makers representing all segments of the commercial value chain, including utilities, industrial gas consumers, producers, pipelines, marketers, key service/product providers, as well as regulators and analysts. Several dedicated networking opportunities give you access to your clients, prospects, and peers to pursue opportunities in the market.

2026 Discussion Topics: Fundamentals: NatGas/LNG Markets; Current State; Forecasts; Pricing, Demand: NatGas; LNG Exports; AI Data Center Power; Industrial, Production: Key producing basins; Associated gas; Dry gas, Infrastructure: Capabilities; Constraints; Storage; New projects; Virtual ----Pipeline, Gas/Electric Coordination, Energy Policy, Regulatory & Other: NatGas Supply Chain Considerations; Technology; Low Carbon Energy.



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