NWGA
Northwest Gas Association

Upcoming Events

July 2026

Open Access

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.

NWGA's 2026 Pacific Northwest Gas Market Outlook

The Pacific Northwest is entering a new energy era. Rapid population growth, electrification, artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing, large energy loads, and increasing expectations for reliability are fundamentally changing the region's energy needs. Yet much of today's public conversation still treats energy as a simple choice between competing fuels.

The Northwest Gas Association's **2026 Pacific Northwest Gas Market Outlook** report reaches a different conclusion. After examining the region's energy systems, infrastructure, demand forecasts, and reliability challenges, the report makes one point unmistakably clear: the Pacific Northwest's energy future will depend on an integrated, diverse energy system—not a single technology or a single fuel.

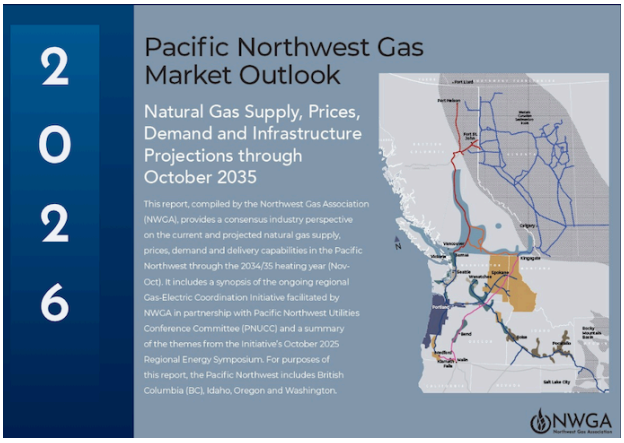
That reality begins with a simple fact. To read the full blog, ***click here***. To download Outlook, ***click here***

WEBINAR: NWGA Outlook Study

July 30, 2026 | 12 - 1 p.m. Pacific Time

Kelly Fukai will present the key highlights of the 2026 Gas Outlook, which will cover the fundamentals of the market, the sources of our natural gas, the sufficiency of pipeline capacity, the causes of short-duration price volatility, how we use natural gas and the demand forecast, the availability of capacity margin for unexpected outages, and the industry's investments in decarbonization.

REGISTER HERE



Newsbits

Pacific Northwest Faces Growing Natural Gas Demand, Capacity Concerns
A newly released industry outlook is projecting significant growth in natural gas demand across the Pacific Northwest over the next decade, while raising concerns about whether the region's existing infrastructure can keep pace. To read the full article, ***click here.***

Opportunities for Cutting Emissions via Emerging Natural Gas Direct-Use Tech
A new American Gas Foundation (AGF) report, Natural Gas Pathways to Lowering Emissions, says emissions can fall without sacrificing affordability or reliability. It finds that improving high-efficiency natural gas appliances

could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 20%, while also lowering energy costs. The report emphasizes that there's no one-size-fits-all strategy, since local needs and infrastructure vary. It points to an expanding set of options—including dual-fuel systems, gas heat pumps, and low-carbon gas—to help communities cut emissions while maintaining heating performance and consumer choice. To download the full report, ***click here***.

BC's CleanBC Policy and the Search for New Hydroelectric Dam

British Columbia says BC Hydro is studying two proposed hydroelectric dams: Site E on the Peace River and one near Bute Inlet/Homathko. Together, they could add 1,600+ MW and produce about 6,000–7,500 GWh of electricity annually, but both are expected to take over a decade due to consultation, permitting, financing, and construction timelines.

The announcement drew criticism from Barry Penner of the Energy Futures Institute, who argues the drive for new power is not mainly driven by LNG exports or industrial growth, but by the province's CleanBC policy framework. BC Hydro filings suggest the Zero Carbon Building Code and limits on natural-gas space- and water-heating will add roughly 10,300 GWh of demand by 2050—rising to about 16,450 GWh with projected EV use, or more than three Site C dams. To read the full article, ***click here.***

Why Are Electricity Rates in Washington State Rising?

According to the Washington Policy Center, Todd Myers explains why electricity rates are rising rapidly across Washington state. Despite popular theories blaming data centers or utility profits, Myers argues the real drivers are the state's own climate laws and wildfire infrastructure costs. The state's Clean Energy Transformation Act requires utilities to shift to wind and solar by 2030, but those sources — while cheap to produce — cannot reliably meet peak winter demand, making their true effective cost nearly four times that of natural gas. Myers also warns that ratepayers should not assume the Attorney General's public representative is looking out for their interests, citing a 2023 attempt to hide the cost of the Climate Commitment Act from customer bills. To read the full article, ***click here***.