

NATURAL GAS FUTURES

NYMEX December gas settles at \$2.749/MMBtu

The NYMEX December natural gas futures contract settled Monday at \$2.749/MMBtu, up 13 cents.

December traded between \$2.644/MMBtu and \$2.778/MMBtu on Monday.

Expectations for increased demand and stagnant production provided an upward push to gas prices.

"Cooler weather across the country caused total US demand to hit 78.7 Bcf on Saturday, its highest since mid-August," Platts Analytics' Bentek Energy said in a commentary.

US dry production volumes are slated to remain near 71.5 Bcf through the remainder of November and are about 700 MMcf lower month to date than in 2015. However, US demand is expected to tick up sharply eight to 14 days out to 82.2 Bcf from an estimated Monday volume of 70.8 Bcf, Platts Analytics data showed.

Amid record storage levels, any signs of optimism in the market are allowing prices to rise.

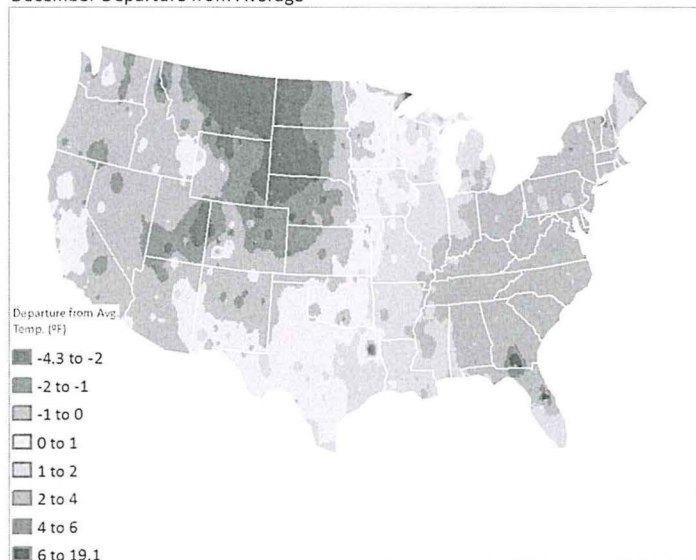
"Some forecast models are indicating shots of cold over the next couple of weeks in the Northeast, which may be enough to get the bulls excited," Kent Bayazitoglu, analyst at Gelber and Associates, said.

Despite bullish forecasts for the Northeast toward the end of the month, National Weather Service models were more reserved, predicting that average temperatures will remain above normal for the eight- to 14-day forecast. The weather service expects a majority of the continental US to remain warmer than normal, and this will prove to be a challenge for continued increases in the NYMEX contracts in the days to come, particularly in the US Midwest.

The average temperature in Chicago for the second half of November is 45 degrees, historical data from the weather service showed. So far, Chicago has been 8.7 degrees above normal in November, data showed.

MONTH-AHEAD TEMPERATURE FORECAST MAP

December Departure from Average



Source: Platts, Custom Weather

NYMEX HENRY HUB GAS FUTURES CONTRACT, NOV 14

	Settlement	High	Low	+/-	Volume
Dec 2016	2.749	2.778	2.644	0.130	174040
Jan 2017	2.937	2.959	2.875	0.087	125816
Feb 2017	2.974	2.993	2.920	0.076	34465
Mar 2017	2.967	2.991	2.922	0.068	45133
Apr 2017	2.917	2.946	2.884	0.054	42563
May 2017	2.927	2.953	2.896	0.053	14812
Jun 2017	2.966	2.987	2.940	0.052	8376
Jul 2017	3.004	3.024	2.981	0.051	7034
Aug 2017	3.008	3.027	2.982	0.052	6047
Sep 2017	2.995	3.013	2.970	0.052	4539
Oct 2017	3.015	3.033	2.980	0.053	13375
Nov 2017	3.062	3.075	3.035	0.053	5764
Dec 2017	3.209	3.221	3.182	0.053	3160
Jan 2018	3.295	3.312	3.269	0.051	3355
Feb 2018	3.270	3.283	3.261	0.046	1822
Mar 2018	3.204	3.214	3.185	0.045	2070
Apr 2018	2.814	2.825	2.778	0.035	1175
May 2018	2.791	2.801	2.786	0.030	188
Jun 2018	2.804	2.815	2.800	0.027	263
Jul 2018	2.827	2.861	2.827	0.023	77
Aug 2018	2.829	2.829	2.829	0.024	78
Sep 2018	2.815	2.815	2.808	0.023	6
Oct 2018	2.841	2.865	2.837	0.027	4
Nov 2018	2.894	2.894	2.894	0.027	4
Dec 2018	3.027	3.027	3.018	0.027	26
Jan 2019	3.129	3.129	3.129	0.024	11
Feb 2019	3.096	3.096	3.096	0.019	3
Mar 2019	3.046	3.046	3.046	0.012	60
Apr 2019	2.751	2.751	2.751	0.007	50
May 2019	2.744	2.744	2.744	0.007	6
Jun 2019	2.778	2.778	2.778	0.007	0
Jul 2019	2.815	2.815	2.815	0.007	0
Aug 2019	2.832	2.832	2.832	0.007	0
Sep 2019	2.829	2.829	2.829	0.007	0
Oct 2019	2.861	2.744	2.744	0.007	0
Nov 2019	2.919	2.919	2.919	0.007	0

Contract data for Friday

Volume of contracts traded: 494,338

Front-months open interest:

Dec, 114,583; Jan, 277,302; Feb, 74,510

Total open interest: 1,185,679

Data is provided by a third-party vendor and is accurate as of 5:30 pm Eastern time.

NYMEX PROMPT MONTH FUTURES CONTINUATION



Source: Platts

BENTEK US GAS STORAGE SURPLUS VS. ROLLING 5-YEAR AVERAGE

