

# Natural Gas Fundamentals

NOVEMBER 2020

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### 2020 Year-to-Date Recap

- COVID-19 Related Oil Demand Destruction Results in Sharply Lower Associated Gas Supply
  - $\circ$  ~ Oil focused rig count declined 68% since March 2020  $^{(1)}$
  - Natural gas supply declined 7%, or 6 Bcf/d from year end 2019, primarily due to lower associated gas volumes <sup>(2)</sup>
- LNG Export Cargo Cancellations
  - Pandemic related international demand destruction led to over 40 LNG cargo cancellations each month, June through August, reducing U.S. exports by over 5 Bcf/d<sup>(3)</sup>
- U.S. Demand Remained Resilient, but Lower Export Volumes Drove Storage to 5-Year High
  - U.S. demand remained stable through the pandemic at 75 Bcf/d during the summer; however sharply lower LNG exports drove storage to 5-year high

### Winter 2020/21 Outlook

- Producer Discipline Expected to Result in Flat Supply
  - $\,\circ\,$  Associated gas volumes from oil basins to remain depressed with the oil strip below \$45/Bbl
  - $\,\circ\,$  Gas producers are expected to stick with maintenance level capital programs in 2021, focus on maximizing free cash flow
- LNG Feedgas Demand to Exceed Pre-Pandemic Levels
  - $\circ~~$  U.S. LNG export volumes are now over 10 Bcf/d, above pre-COVID-19 levels  $^{(2)}$
  - $\circ$  Zero LNG cargo cancellations are forecast for December
  - Rising international natural gas prices are incentivizing increased exports <sup>(3)</sup>
- Falling Supply and Rebounding Demand Will Push Storage to 5-Year Lows
  - Forecasts for storage to decline towards 1 Tcf in March 2021, as a 6 Bcf/d supply decline and recovery in U.S. LNG exports could lead to the largest winter draw in the past decade

## Natural Gas Rig Count Highlights Producer Discipline



Gas rig count responded to lower natural gas prices with a 59% reduction in horizontal gas directed rigs since April 2019

- Minimal rig response as gas prices recovered in July 2020 suggest producers will remain disciplined

#### Horizontal Gas Rig Counts vs NYMEX Henry Hub



Source: U.S. rig counts from Baker Hughes as of 10/16/2020.

Note: NYMEX Henry Hub price represents natural gas front month futures settlement history.

1) Represents 4Q20 NYMEX Henry Hub average including October and November front month actuals and December futures as of 11/5/2020.

## **Completion Crew Count Also Remains Low**

Completion crew count has responded to lower natural gas and oil prices with a 74% reduction in active completion crews since April 2019

#### Monthly Average U.S. Completion Crews



Source: Completion crews from Primary Vision.

Note: NYMEX Henry Hub price represents natural gas futures settlement history.

1) Represents 4Q20 NYMEX Henry Hub average including October and November front month actuals and December futures as of 11/5/2020.

## **Dry Gas Production Trend**

#### Accordingly, exit-to-exit U.S. supply declined dramatically in 2020



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#### 2020 is projected to be slightly undersupplied with demand out weighing supply...



## 2021 Supply/Demand Balance Detail

...the undersupply is forecast to worsen in 2021 with demand out weighing supply by 1.6 Bcf/d overall

- Should result in sustained \$3.00+ NYEX prices
- Weather will be the key variable to watch



## 5-Year U.S. Gas Base Decline



## Significant U.S. base decline requires substantial new supply just to maintain flat production



Source: S&P Global Platts. Note: Platts supply forecast through 2024 is within 2% of EIA's supply forecast over the same period.

- 1) Historical and forecast volumes from Platts Analytics.
- 2) Top five basins/plays that are included in the Rest of U.S.

3) Base decline calculated using 4Q over 4Q forecast production rates for all wells producing as of year-end 2019 based on Platts bottoms up well by well analysis. See appendix for detailed calculations.

## U.S. Gas Supply and Required New Supply Wedge



#### Modest demand growth through 2024 plus base decline requires 70 Tcf of new supply



Source: S&P Global Platts. Platts supply forecast through 2024 is within 2% of EIA's supply forecast over the same period.

- 1) Historical and forecast volumes from Platts Analytics. Decline as of December 2019. Forecast volumes as of September 2020.
- 2) Top five basins/plays that are included in the Rest of U.S. are GOM, SCOOP/STACK, Green River, Barnett and Anadarko.

3) Base decline calculated using 4Q over 4Q forecast production rates for all wells producing as of year-end 2019 based on Platts bottoms up well by well analysis. See appendix for detailed calculations.

## **U.S. Gas Supply Growth Forecast**



Almost all U.S. gas supply <u>growth</u> over the next 5 years is expected to come from the Appalachian, Permian and Haynesville Basins

 Platts forecast assumes crude oil price averages \$49.40/Bbl through 2024 as compared to strip price of \$40.33/Bbl on 10/30/20



Source: S&P Global Platts. Platts supply forecast through 2024 is within 2% of EIA's supply forecast over the same period. Platts forecast assumes crude oil price averages \$49.40/Bbl through 2024 as compared to strip price of \$40.33/Bbl on 10/30/20.

1) Historical and forecast volumes from Platts Analytics. Decline as of December 2019. Forecast volumes as of September 2020.

2) Top five basins/plays that are included in the Rest of U.S.

## **New Gas Supply Breakdown**

46% of new gas supply needed in the 2020-2024 period is forecast to come from non-economic oil shale basins through breakeven prices there are higher than the long-term 2021-2024 strip of \$2.76/MMBtu for natural gas and \$40.33/Bbl for oil



Platts Analytics forecast supply growth.

Breakeven analysis source: J.P. Morgan Equity Research estimates. Defined as full cycle pre-tax ROR of 15%. Assumes \$40.33/Bbl WTI crude oil. Based on strip pricing as of 10/30/20. See appendix for oil basin 2) breakevens.

## Natural Gas Prices Must Support Dry Gas Development



- Only 21% of the new gas supply needed in the 2020 through 2024 period is forecast to come from associated gas plays where natural gas price is not the driving factor for development
- Remaining 64% of new gas supply must come from dry gas plays where producers generally need high-\$2.00 to low-\$3.00/MMBtu NYMEX natural gas prices to generate a 15% ROR on a full-cycle basis



## **Rich vs. Dry New Supply**

## Dry Gas Basin Breakeven Analysis

## Most of the dry gas plays in the U.S. have breakeven prices above the current 2021-2024 strip at \$2.76/MMBtu

- Dry gas producers will require higher realized prices than the current strip to incentivize the drilling activity needed to deliver new supply
- Dry gas rig count has declined 41%, or 50 rigs, since January 2020



Breakeven analysis source: J.P. Morgan Equity Research estimates in April 2020 report. RigData report dated 11/2/20.

1) Breakeven price is defined as full cycle pre-tax ROR of 15%. Excludes rich gas basins; SW Marcellus Rich, SCOOP/STACK, DJ Basin,

2020-2023 average Nymex Henry Hub price. Strip pricing as of 10/30/20.

3) Based on AR weighted average full cycle well economics for AR's position within area. Assumes 12,000' lateral lengths and excludes land and G&A costs. Assumes \$45/Bbl WTI and 60% of WTI C3+ NGL pricing.



## Most of the oil plays in the U.S. have breakeven prices above the current 2021-2024 strip at \$40.33/Bbl

- Oil rig count has declined 68%, or 441 rigs, since January 2020
- These shale oil plays contribute 24% of natural gas supply as well

#### **Oil Basin Breakeven at 15% ROR**



Breakeven analysis source: J.P. Morgan Equity Research estimates in April 2020 report. RigData report dated 10/30/20.

1) Breakeven price is defined as full cycle pre-tax ROR of 15%.

2) 2021-2024 average NYMEX WTI price. Strip pricing as of 10/30/20.

## Permian Gas Supply Growth



While Permian associated gas is expected to be a key contributor to U.S. gas supply growth, the Permian is not expected to dominate the eventual 99 Bcf/d U.S. dry gas supply market

- Permian marketed dry gas production contributed 13% of U.S. gas supply in 2019 and is expected to grow to 18% by 2024
- Permian dry marketed gas makes up only 18% of the 70 Tcf of new supply needed to meet demand through 2024
- Permian wellhead gas production is highly rich gas which must be "shrunk" by ~28% both for processing to extract NGLs and for compression fuel use to get to marketed dry gas production figures <sup>(1)</sup>
- While Permian gas supply is relatively insensitive to natural gas prices, it is very sensitive to oil prices in a lower oil price scenario
- The below forecast is based on Platts oil price assumption that averages \$49.40/Bbl through 2024 (vs. 10/30/20 strip of 40.33/Bbl)



#### Source: S&P Global Platts

- Associated gas in the Permian is highly rich gas which must be processed and compressed which reduces wellhead gas volumes by approximately 28%, the remainder being marketed dry gas production exiting the basin. 1)
- Historical and forecast volumes from Platts Analytics and differs from pipeline data scrapes. Decline as of December 2019. Forecast volumes as of September 2020. 2)
- 3) Base decline calculated using 4Q over 4Q forecast production rates for all wells producing as of year-end 2019 based on Platts bottoms up well by well analysis. See appendix for detailed calculations. 4)
  - Permian basin capacity forecast includes FID approved pipeline projects only.

## **Appalachian Gas Supply Growth**



## Appalachian production including the Marcellus and Utica Shales, contributes 36% of U.S. natural gas supply today and is expected to remain at 36% by YE 2024, or 35.6 Bcf/d

- 31.7 Bcf/d of current production is expected to grow by 3.9 Bcf/d to 35.6 Bcf/d by 2024
- An estimated 31% or 9.7 Bcf/d of Appalachian production is derived from rich gas wells and must be processed for NGLs but is less sensitive to gas prices



Source: S&P Global Platts

1) Historical and forecast volumes from Platts Analytics and differs from pipeline scrape data. Forecast volumes as of October 2020.

2) Base decline calculated using 4Q over 4Q forecast production rates for all wells producing as of year-end 2019 based on Platts bottoms up well by well analysis. See appendix for detailed calculations.

## **Appalachian Takeaway Capacity**





Basin capacity based on pipeline flow data scrapes. 1)

Bcf/d

2) Production forecast and new build In-Service dates based on Platt's Estimate

## **U.S. Natural Gas Demand Forecast**

Total U.S. natural gas demand is expected to grow by approximately 8.7 Bcf/d, or 10% from 2020 – 2024 driven by LNG feedgas and exports to Mexico

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

Source: S&P Global Platts. 1) Note that Platts U.S. supply includes Canadian and other imports and assumes that supply balances with expected Platts demand.

![](_page_18_Picture_5.jpeg)

## **Exports Drive Demand Growth**

~11.5 Bcf/d increase expected in U.S. natural gas exports from 2018-2024

LNG projects under construction and exports to Mexico will drive U.S. demand

#### U.S. Natural Gas Exports (Bcf/d)

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_7.jpeg)

## **Growing LNG Market**

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11.3 Bcf/d of LNG capacity in service today with multiple "2<sup>nd</sup> wave" projects seeking FID

#### AR is a top U.S. LNG supplier with commitments equaling 700 MMcf/d

#### U.S. LNG Export Capacity (2016-2026)

![](_page_20_Figure_5.jpeg)

## 2020 U.S. LNG

Cameron

Corpus Christi

Cove Point

Sabine Pass

**Cargo Cancellations** 

Cargo cancellations due to the pandemic, an active hurricane season and facility maintenance resulted in a sharp decline in export volumes through September 2020. LNG feedgas demand has now recovered to over 10 Bcf/d.

![](_page_21_Figure_3.jpeg)

12

APT-20 May-20

35

Jun-20

45

JUI-20 AUE-20

Hurricane Laura

26

Sep-20 Oct-20

40

6

NOV-20

0

Jan-20

Feb-20

Mar-20

12,000

10,000

8,000

6,000

4,000

2,000

3cf/d

## **Mexico Exports**

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

New highs in Mexico exports

- Mexico exports have continued to increase steadily since 2018 despite the major delays on connecting downstream projects in Mexico, reaching a high of 6.7 Bcf/d in September of 2020, which represents ~65% of Mexico's total demand<sup>(1)</sup>
- A new pipeline agreement with the Mexican government leads to additional capacity into Mexico, but exports are forecast to moderate toward 5 Bcf/d at year end 2020

![](_page_22_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Near Term Natural Gas Fundamentals – Power Burn

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

Despite negative heating/cooling degree day comparisons, average monthly power burn increased 0.7 Bcf/d from 2019 to 2020 on an annualized basis and year to date and is 14% above the five year average

U.S. Natural Gas Demand From Power Burn (2019-2021)

![](_page_23_Figure_4.jpeg)

## **Strong Near-Term Natural Gas Fundamentals**

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

Current 3,955 Bcf storage level is 12% above the 5-year average

2021 end of withdrawal is currently
trading at 1,250 Bcf which is 30%
below the 5-yr average

#### Total Natural Gas Storage (Bcf)

![](_page_24_Figure_5.jpeg)

## Summary

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

### Moderated Supply Growth, Strong Demand Growth and Challenges to New Supply Are Underappreciated by the Market

Following a Supply Decline in 2020 Due to a Decline in "Associated Gas", Supply Growth in 2021 is Expected to be limited with Oil Below \$45/Bbl

> Exports Lead Strong U.S. Natural Gas Demand Growth Through 2024

U.S. LNG Exports Expected to Increase to a Record High 10 Bcf/d-plus in December 2020, Expected 50% Growth by 2024 to 14.9 Bcf/d

Associated Gas Alone cannot Deliver the New Supply Needed to Address Base Decline + Demand Growth

Current Natural Gas Strip Prices (\$2.76/MMBtu) Not Expected To Incentivize the Drilling Activity Required by Dry Gas Producers to Address Base Decline + Demand Growth

Results in Bullish Multi-year Outlook for Natural Gas Prices

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Appendix

### **Base Decline Calculations**

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

U.S. Overall Decline Rate Detail			
Time	Average (Bcf/d)	Year-Over-Year Decline Rate (%)	
Q4 2019	91.97	-	
Q4 2020	66.94	-27%	
Q4 2021	55.01	-18%	
Q4 2022	47.73	-13%	
Q4 2023	42.60	-11%	
Q4 2024	38.70	-9%	

Permian Decline Rate Detail				
Time	Average (Bcf/d)	Year-Over-Year Decline Rate (%)		
Q4 2019	11.36	-		
Q4 2020	8.42	-26%		
Q4 2021	7.12	-15%		
Q4 2022	6.32	-11%		
Q4 2023	5.75	-9%		
Q4 2024	5.32	-8%		

Appalachia Overall Decline Rate Detail			
Time	Average (Bcf/d)	Year-Over-Year Decline Rate (%)	
Q4 2019	32.91	-	
Q4 2020	22.62	-31%	
Q4 2021	17.75	-22%	
Q4 2022	14.84	-16%	
Q4 2023	12.85	-13%	
Q4 2024	11.39	-11%	

Note: Base decline calculated using 4Q over 4Q forecast production rates for all wells producing as of year-end 2019 based on Platts bottoms up well by well analysis.