Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report

Working Gas in Underground Storage
Data Released August 24, 2006 at 10:30 A.M.,
For the Week Ending August 18, 2006

Region	Stocks (Bcf) for August 18, 2006	Stocks (Bcf) for August 11, 2006	Implied Net Change (Bcf)	Year Ago Stocks (Bcf)
East	1,639	1,591	48	1,445
West	391	384	7	376
Producing	827	825	2	745
Total Lower 48	2,857	2,800	57	2,566

Region	5-Year (2001-2005) Average Stocks (Bcf)	Difference from 5-Year Average (Percent)
East	1,437	14.1
West	346	13.0
Producing	735	12.5
Total Lower 48	2,518	13.5

Notes and Definitions

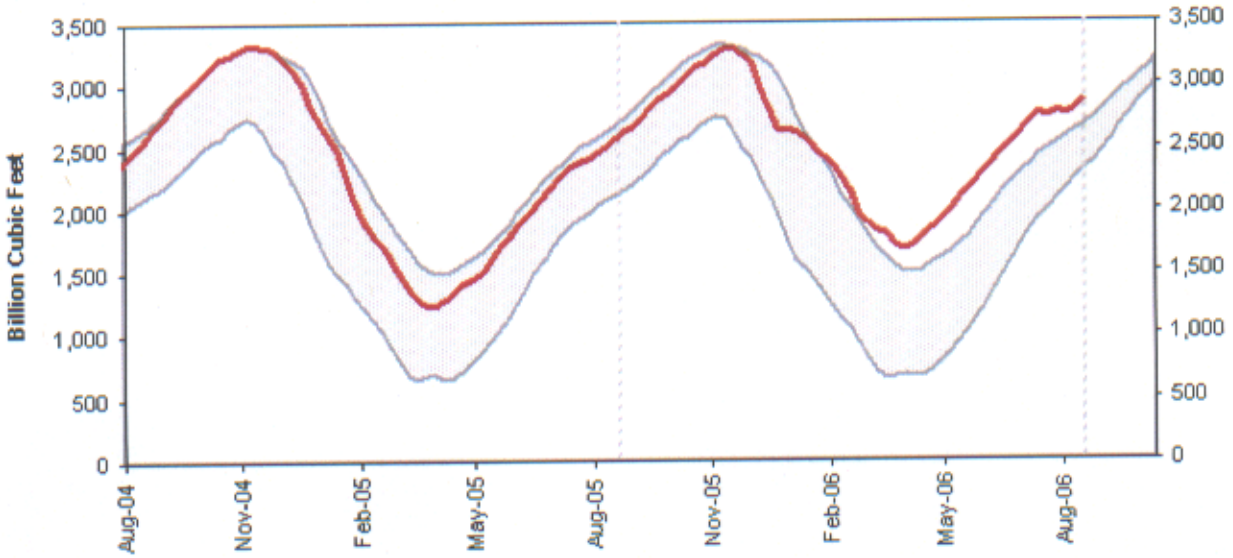
Note: This report tracks U.S. natural gas inventories held in underground storage facilities. The weekly stocks generally are the volumes of working gas as of the report date. Changes in reported stock levels reflect all events affecting working gas in storage, including injections, withdrawals, and reclassifications between base and working gas.

Note: The weekly storage estimates are based on a survey sample that does not include all companies that operate underground storage facilities. The sample was selected from the list of storage operators to achieve a target standard error of the estimate of working gas in storage which was no greater than 5 percent for each region. Based on a comparison of weekly estimates and monthly data from May 2002 through May 2006, estimated total working gas stocks have exhibited an average absolute error of 19 billion cubic feet, or 0.9 percent. For an expanded discussion of the relationship between the current and prior estimates, please see Differences Between Monthly and Weekly Working Gas in Storage.

Storage Highlights:
Working gas in storage was 2,857 Bcf as of Friday, August 18, 2006, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 57 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 291 Bcf higher than last year at this time and 339 Bcf above the 5-year average of 2,518 Bcf. In the East Region,

stocks were 202 Bcf above the 5-year average following net injections of 48 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 92 Bcf above the 5-year average of 735 Bcf after a net injection of 2 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 45 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net addition of 7 Bcf. At 2,857 Bcf, total working gas is above the 5-year historical range.

Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with 5-Year Range



Notes: A weekly record for March 8, 2002, was linearly interpolated between the derived weekly estimates that end March 1 and the initial estimate from the EIA-912 on March 15. The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 2000 through 2004.
Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

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