

# Argus US Electricity

Incorporating the Energy Market Report



Power Market Prices and Analysis

Issue 11-200

17 October 2011

## Day-ahead peak prices

Trade date 17-Oct-11

	\$/MWh	Price*	Change	Low	High	MW	Trades
East	NY G	49.25	2.25	48.75	49.75	-	-
	PJM W	42.00	-0.25	41.50	42.50	-	-
	NE Pool	46.00	-5.00	45.50	46.50	-	-
ERCOT	Houston	36.25	-6.00	35.75	36.75	-	-
	North	30.67	-7.00	30.50	31.00	225	4
	South	35.75	-2.75	35.25	36.25	-	-
	West	18.00	-11.00	17.50	18.50	-	-
Midwest	Cinergy	36.75	1.75	36.25	37.25	-	-
	N. Ill.	35.00	5.00	34.50	35.50	-	-
	PJM AD	39.50	2.50	39.00	40.00	-	-
Southeast	Entergy	33.25	-1.00	32.75	33.75	-	-
	Southern	35.00	0.00	34.50	35.50	-	-
West	COB	29.46	2.15	29.00	30.00	325	10
	Four Corners	39.75	5.25	39.25	40.25	-	-
	Mead	38.75	3.75	38.25	39.25	-	-
	Mid-C	27.42	1.50	27.00	28.75	2,725	101
	Mona	35.00	6.00	34.50	35.50	-	-
	NP 15	38.00	5.00	37.50	38.50	-	-
	Palo Verde	39.18	3.50	37.50	41.00	600	24
	SP 15	39.00	3.50	38.50	39.50	-	-

## Day-ahead off-peak prices

Trade date 17-Oct-11

	\$/MWh	Price*	Change	Low	High	Volume	Trades
East	NY G	28.25	-4.75	27.75	28.75	-	-
	PJM W	31.50	0.50	31.00	32.00	-	-
	NE Pool	33.50	-0.50	33.00	34.00	-	-
ERCOT	Houston	20.75	-1.50	20.25	21.25	-	-
	North	21.45	0.01	21.25	21.55	200	3
	South	21.00	-1.00	20.50	21.50	-	-
	West	11.75	-3.25	11.25	12.25	-	-
Midwest	Cinergy	28.00	3.25	27.50	28.50	-	-
	N. Ill.	21.25	10.50	20.75	21.75	-	-
	PJM AD	31.00	3.00	30.50	31.50	-	-
Southeast	Entergy	25.75	0.75	25.25	26.25	-	-
	Southern	26.25	0.25	25.75	26.75	-	-
West	COB	28.31	2.95	27.70	29.00	175	6
	Four Corners	22.75	-1.50	22.25	23.25	-	-
	Mead	23.25	-2.75	22.75	23.75	-	-
	Mid-C	26.41	2.02	25.50	28.50	1,650	66
	Mona	19.25	-4.75	18.75	19.75	-	-
	NP 15	24.25	-3.00	23.75	24.75	-	-
	Palo Verde	24.00	-2.00	23.50	24.50	-	-
	SP 15	24.00	-3.00	23.50	24.50	-	-

\* When MW and trade number are blank, the low/high/price represent bid/ask/assessment. When MW and trade number have values, low/high/price represent low trade, high trade and volume-weighted average

## News

### East

New York dailies decreased today on slightly lighter loads forecast for tomorrow. **New York Zone G's peak day-ahead declined 1.8pc to \$49.23/MWh.** New York City's peak daily went down 2pc to \$50.80.

*Continued on page 2*

### Midwest

**Weekend prices in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) were more volatile than during the 8-9 October weekend,** creating locational price differentials within the footprint. Peak and off-peak averages fell sharply from the previous weekend.

*Continued on page 5*

### West

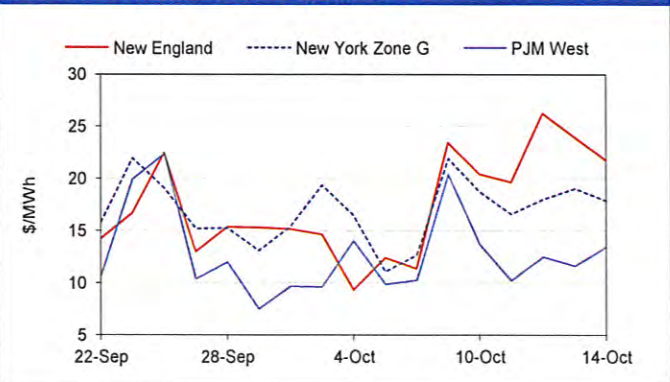
**Peak prices popped for tomorrow on divergent weather patterns.** SP 15 approached \$40 and was up 13pc. NP 15 lagged SP 15 by \$1 but gained 15pc. Mid-Columbia gained 6pc on the day to \$27.42/MWh, only 4pc more than off-peak.

*Continued on page 9*

### ERCOT

ERCOT North next-day peak dropped 19pc to \$30.67/MWh today in the *Argus* index on a drastically reduced demand forecast for tomorrow, off-peak was unchanged at \$21.44.

## Northeast peak gas spark spreads



## Inside

- Nuclear availability rises in southeast 2
- Cooler temperatures slash ERCOT peak loads 5
- Mid-C prompt month falls on wet forecast 9
- Gas prices slip despite cooler forecasts 12

## East Markets

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- Average daily peak load in New England on 18-23 October is 15,673MW, 1pc lower than the projected peak for 11-16 October, according to the grid operator's forecast. **Outages are forecast to total 63,154MW, 9pc lower than forecasted outages for the prior period.**
- **Heating demand in eastern states this week is forecast to be well below normal for this time of year.** New England is projected to have 34pc fewer heating degree days (HDDs) than normal for the week ending 22 October, according to the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center. The mid-Atlantic is forecast to have 27pc fewer HDDs than usual. New York is projected to have 26pc fewer HDDs.
- Operators returned the 498MW Ginna reactor in New York State to full output today after the nuclear plant automatically tripped off line on 12 October. **The station was running at 49pc of power yesterday, Argus data show.**
- Exelon continued to bump up capacity at its 1,112MW Peach Bottom Unit 3 reactor in Pennsylvania following the unit's maintenance and refueling outage. **The unit was operating at 68pc of capacity today, up 37 percentage points from yesterday.**
- **Southeastern nuclear capacity jumped 10.72 percentage points over the past week to 90.53pc** following the restart of several reactors from maintenance outages. Northeastern output increased 2.62 percentage points over the same period to 80.35pc
- **PJM West's peak load will increase 9pc 17-20 October, likely putting upward pressure on dailies this week.**

### Market-implied heat rates and spark spreads

		Heat rate (Btu/kWh)	Spark spreads in 000 Btu/kWh at heating efficiencies of:					
			7	8	10	12	15	18
Peak	NYISO G	12,116	20.80	16.73	8.60	0.47	-11.73	-23.92
	PJM West	10,714	14.56	10.64	2.80	-5.04	-16.80	-28.56
	NE Pool	11,690	18.46	14.52	6.65	-1.22	-13.03	-24.83
	Southern	9,162	8.26	4.44	-3.20	-10.84	-22.30	-33.76
Off-peak	NYISO G	6,950	-0.21	-4.27	-12.40	-20.53	-32.73	-44.92
	PJM West	8,036	4.06	0.14	-7.70	-15.54	-27.30	-39.06
	NE Pool	8,513	5.95	2.02	-5.85	-13.72	-25.53	-37.33
	Southern	6,872	-0.49	-4.31	-11.95	-19.59	-31.05	-42.51

### Forward markets

\$/MWh

	PJM West			NEPOOL			New York A			New York G			New York J			
	Peak		Off-Peak	Peak		Off-Peak	Peak		Off-Peak	Peak		Off-Peak	Peak		Off-Peak	
	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price
Nov-11	44.00	16.42	3.70	34.70	48.35	20.56	38.50	38.95	11.51	32.90	50.50	20.05	37.95	55.05	25.93	39.55
Dec-11	52.25	15.43	12.05	41.55	64.85	24.74	52.25	41.85	12.10	36.75	65.40	25.08	50.55	72.10	29.12	53.85
Jan-12	56.25	13.97	16.55	46.15	75.95	19.04	58.25	46.80	14.53	38.55	75.50	26.85	56.50	85.15	30.41	58.60
Feb-12	53.25	13.56	14.35	45.70	67.75	13.57	56.35	45.00	13.29	38.65	67.40	20.64	56.60	76.00	24.62	58.70
Mar-12	48.30	17.15	9.00	38.15	50.45	10.41	39.80	40.45	9.58	34.55	54.25	17.43	40.25	61.00	24.04	42.25
Apr-12	47.40	18.07	8.60	35.30	45.45	12.27	35.90	39.00	9.11	33.65	48.85	17.49	39.75	54.95	23.17	41.20
Win-12	54.75	13.80	15.45	45.95	71.85	16.27	57.35	45.90	13.91	38.60	71.45	23.78	56.55	80.60	27.54	58.65
Spr-12	47.85	17.61	8.45	36.75	48.00	11.39	37.90	39.75	9.37	34.10	51.60	17.51	40.00	58.05	23.68	41.75
Sum-12	59.90	29.66	20.20	38.20	55.30	23.80	38.65	45.15	12.25	36.20	65.10	33.46	43.70	73.80	41.88	48.30
Q4-12	47.50	13.48	8.10	37.90	53.70	18.21	42.45	40.55	7.44	34.90	54.85	17.89	42.45	60.25	23.15	43.90
Win-13	56.85	14.43	16.75	47.80	73.40	15.72	58.90	48.05	11.23	40.35	73.85	23.73	56.70	82.70	28.45	59.75
Spr-13	50.15	16.06	9.75	39.05	50.80	9.43	39.75	41.40	6.96	35.65	55.30	16.59	41.70	61.70	22.50	44.00
Sum-13	62.75	29.85	21.05	41.70	58.40	23.61	42.20	47.90	11.57	37.30	70.95	35.88	46.50	80.75	45.54	52.45
Q4-13	50.50	14.24	10.10	39.50	55.85	17.56	43.10	42.75	6.42	35.60	58.40	18.50	42.50	63.75	23.78	45.30
Cal-12	51.45	18.55	11.85	38.35	54.30	17.20	41.75	41.80	9.88	35.20	58.30	22.39	43.85	65.25	28.29	45.95
Cal-13	54.05	18.56	13.45	40.30	56.65	16.33	43.50	44.00	8.30	36.30	62.15	22.88	44.85	69.25	29.14	48.05
Cal-14	57.05	20.37	15.35	43.40	58.50	16.78	44.90	46.60	8.66	38.50	64.45	23.71	47.05	71.30	29.79	49.70
Cal-15	59.55	19.65	16.75	45.80	60.25	14.89	45.75	48.80	8.97	39.95	67.25	23.29	49.10	74.75	28.83	51.80

East Markets

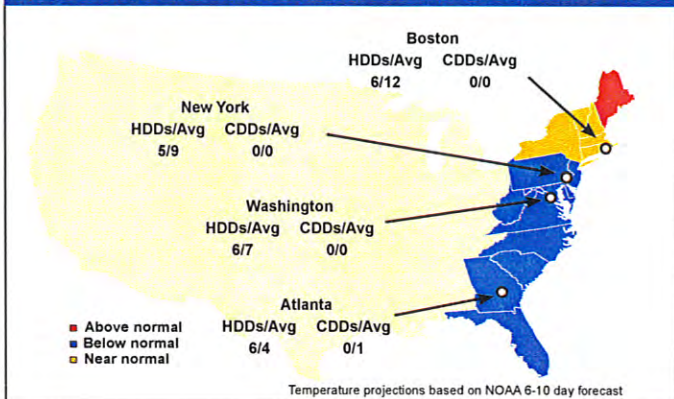
Spot natural gas in \$/mmBtu

Location	Average	Low	High
Col Gas Appalachia	3.795	3.700	3.850
Dominion South Point	3.800	3.752	3.830
Florida Gas, zone 3	3.695	3.605	3.720
Texas Eastern zone M3	3.920	3.770	3.970
Transco zone 4	3.690	3.630	3.755
Transco zone 6 NY	3.955	3.870	4.060

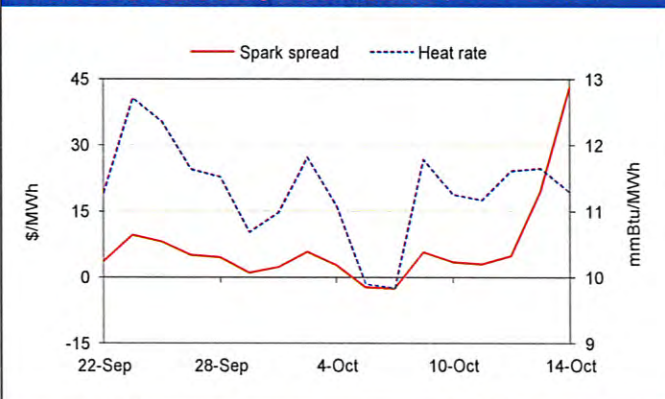
Forward natural gas in \$/mmBtu

Location	November	Nov 2011-Dec 2011	Nov 2011-Mar 2012
Columbia Gas App.	3.718	3.906	4.044
Dominion South Pt.	3.773	4.001	4.044
Florida Gas Zone 3	3.748	—	4.062
Texas Eastern M-3	4.028	4.901	5.429
Transco Zone 4	3.693	—	4.027
Transco Zone 6 NY	4.228	5.836	6.759

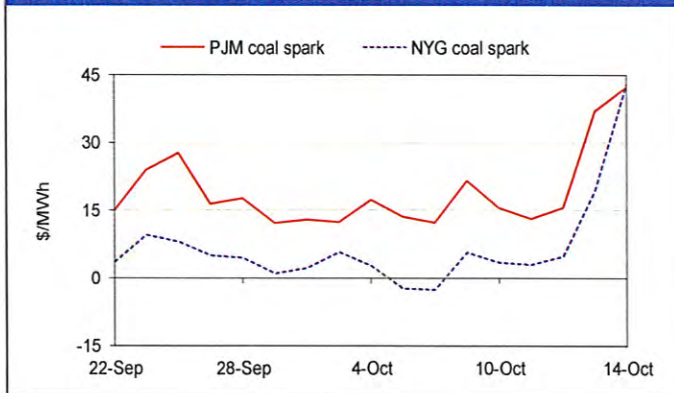
Degree days outlook vs temperature: 23-Oct



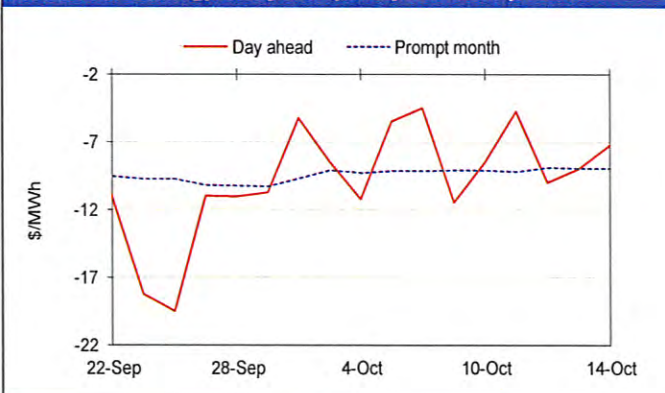
Carbon-adjusted coal generation: NYG



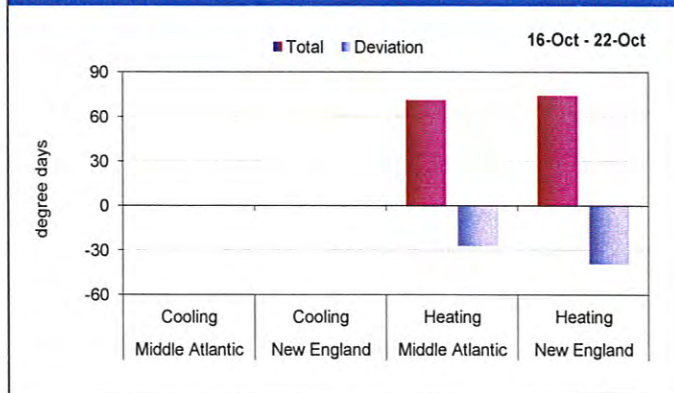
Carbon-adjusted coal spark spreads



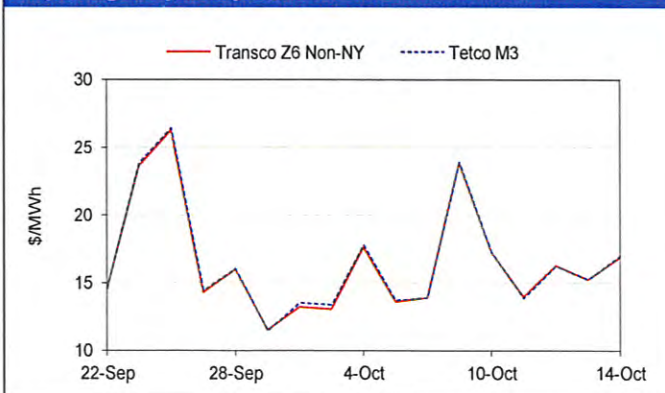
PJM W vs Cinergy, daily and prompt month spreads



Degree days



Implied gas spark spreads



East Prices at a Glance

\$/MWh

Day ahead markets for 17-Oct-11

Day-ahead minus hourly spread		
14-Oct-11	Peak	Off-Peak
<b>ISO NE</b>		
Internal Hub	2.87	-0.03
Phase I/II	2.01	-0.09
<b>NY ISO</b>		
Zone A	2.57	1.41
Zone G	2.14	1.88
Zone J	5.73	2.40
Cross Sound	-1.03	1.89
<b>PJM</b>		
PJM Western Hub	-0.42	1.46
PJM Eastern Hub	-0.35	3.00
PJM Dominion Hub	1.17	1.16
PJM New Jersey Hub	2.24	10.00

New England	
Day-ahead Peak	46.00
Day-ahead Off-Peak	33.50
Prompt Peak	48.35
Prompt Off-Peak	38.50

PJM West	
Day-ahead Peak	42.00
Day-ahead Off-Peak	31.50
Prompt Peak	44.00
Prompt Off-Peak	34.70

New York zone G	
Day-ahead Peak	49.25
Day-ahead Off-Peak	28.25
Prompt Peak	50.50
Prompt Off-Peak	37.95

Southern	
Day-ahead Peak	35.00
Day-ahead Off-Peak	26.25

Hourly price averages				
	Peak		Off-peak	
	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11
<b>ISO NE</b>				
Internal Hub	48.72	43.45	32.56	32.56
Phase I/II	49.51	42.89	32.29	32.30
<b>NY ISO</b>				
Zone A	37.72	37.69	31.00	29.66
Zone G	46.36	43.17	33.37	31.99
Zone J	47.08	43.50	33.34	31.95
Cross Sound	49.93	52.15	32.85	31.53
<b>PJM</b>				
PJM Western Hub	40.92	48.27	30.29	34.12
PJM Eastern Hub	42.81	53.35	28.86	33.08
PJM Dominion Hub	40.21	51.70	31.00	35.00
PJM New Jersey Hub	40.93	57.34	21.91	32.83

Emissions-adjusted day-ahead power prices			
	SO <sub>2</sub>	RGGI	All credits
<b>Peak</b>			
Nepool	46.28	47.91	48.19
New York G	49.33	51.16	51.23
PJM West	42.08	43.91	43.98
<b>Off-peak</b>			
Nepool	33.78	35.41	35.69
New York G	28.33	30.16	30.23
PJM West	31.58	33.41	33.48
<b>24-hour emissions-adjusted pricing, all credits</b>			
Nepool	42.11	43.74	44.02
New York G	42.33	44.16	44.23
PJM West	38.58	40.41	40.48

Day-ahead peak spreads							
	New England	NY G	PJM West	Cinergy	AEP Dayton	Northern Ill	Southern
New England	—	-3.25	4.00	9.25	6.50	11.00	11.00
NY G	3.25	—	7.25	12.50	9.75	14.25	14.25
PJM West	-4.00	-7.25	—	5.25	2.50	7.00	7.00
Cinergy	-9.25	-12.50	-5.25	—	-2.75	1.75	1.75
AEP Dayton	-6.50	-9.75	-2.50	2.75	—	4.50	4.50
Northern Ill	-11.00	-14.25	-7.00	-1.75	-4.50	—	0.00
Southern	-11.00	-14.25	-7.00	-1.75	-4.50	0.00	—

Sources: ISOs, Argus assessments

## Midwest Markets

Continued from page 1

- Peak-hour locational imbalance prices at many generation points in SPP had a much wider range this weekend than last. **Peak averages ranged from \$11.63 at Nebraska Public Power District's Cooper plant in the north to \$40/MWh at the New Mexico interties.** Last weekend's range was \$25.75 to \$39.62. Peak fell 18pc week-to-week to about \$28; off-peak dropped 33pc to \$17.

- Falling temperatures and reduced cooling demand are expected to reduce peak loads this week in Texas. **ERCOT calls for peak demand of 36,564MW tomorrow, a 27pc decrease from today's expected peak demand.** The National Weather Service is calling for a high of 70°F (21.1°C) tomorrow in Dallas following today's high of 90°F.

- Cooling degree days (CDDs) in Texas are forecast to drop 44pc** over the seven days ending 20 October to about 36 CDDs

according to forecaster MDA Federal. The result will be 2pc fewer CDDs than normal.

- Maximum hourly wind output during the light-load hours tomorrow in ERCOT is expected to be lower than during those same hours today. **But mid-day peak-hour wind generation tomorrow is expected to exceed today's.** Maximum hourly output from 10am to 6pm CT tomorrow is forecast to average 68pc more than it did today.

- Average peak demand in ERCOT for the week ending 23 October will be 38,717MW, according to ERCOT's models today. This is 10pc less than the average for the 10-16 October period because high temperatures will probably come into line with historical norms. **Month-to-date peak demand in ERCOT has averaged 43,192MW, 11pc more than during the same period last year.**

### Market-implied heat rates and spark spreads

		Heat rate (Btu/kWh)	Spark spreads in 000 Btu/kWh at heating efficiencies of:					
			7	8	10	12	15	18
Peak	Cinergy	9,709	10.26	6.47	-1.10	-8.67	-20.03	-31.38
	N. Ill.	9,174	8.30	4.48	-3.15	-10.78	-22.23	-33.67
	PJM AD	10,408	12.94	9.14	1.55	-6.04	-17.43	-28.81
	Entergy	8,974	7.31	3.61	-3.80	-11.21	-22.33	-33.44
Off-peak	Cinergy	7,398	1.51	-2.28	-9.85	-17.42	-28.78	-40.13
	N. Ill.	5,570	-5.45	-9.27	-16.90	-24.53	-35.98	-47.42
	PJM AD	8,169	4.44	0.64	-6.95	-14.54	-25.93	-37.31
	Entergy	6,950	-0.19	-3.89	-11.30	-18.71	-29.83	-40.94

### Forward markets

	\$/MWh															
	Cinergy				Northern Illinois				PJM AD				ERCOT North			
	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak			Off-Peak
Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	
Nov-11	35.45	8.43	5.25	26.40	34.00	6.91	12.40	22.25	38.45	11.99	6.05	31.85	31.35	6.22	7.35	24.25
Dec-11	40.00	11.23	9.80	28.65	39.50	10.80	17.90	26.55	43.50	14.73	11.00	34.05	34.05	7.24	9.95	27.60
Jan-12	43.15	13.33	11.15	32.90	43.95	14.34	20.15	33.50	47.15	17.05	16.75	37.95	37.90	10.39	14.40	31.30
Feb-12	41.75	12.00	10.05	32.45	42.90	13.15	19.30	33.05	46.10	16.49	16.10	37.50	38.00	10.42	13.70	31.40
Mar-12	38.15	8.54	4.85	30.35	37.70	8.16	13.60	26.65	42.20	12.59	10.60	35.05	34.50	6.78	9.50	26.95
Apr-12	37.35	7.88	5.15	27.60	37.40	8.98	13.40	24.05	41.30	11.83	10.70	31.65	34.95	7.51	10.95	26.85
Win-12	42.45	12.63	10.15	32.70	43.45	13.77	19.65	33.30	46.65	16.83	15.95	37.75	37.95	10.37	13.65	31.35
Spr-12	37.75	8.21	5.25	29.00	37.55	8.57	13.55	25.35	41.75	12.21	10.85	33.35	34.70	7.12	10.20	26.90
Sum-12	46.15	15.91	13.35	28.80	48.25	18.92	24.05	29.35	51.75	22.00	20.65	34.85	70.65	42.09	45.95	37.00
Q4-12	37.25	5.40	4.75	28.40	35.90	4.61	11.90	24.75	40.65	9.08	9.85	33.40	36.95	6.99	12.45	28.10
Win-13	43.80	9.29	11.00	35.55	44.45	10.43	19.75	34.45	48.10	13.38	16.60	41.05	43.55	11.21	18.25	35.10
Spr-13	40.40	6.87	7.60	30.85	39.05	6.29	14.25	27.90	44.45	10.78	12.65	35.80	39.20	7.56	13.80	32.05
Sum-13	49.45	15.92	15.45	31.70	51.10	18.48	25.60	30.50	55.50	22.32	22.60	37.00	77.15	45.30	51.25	39.20
Q4-13	39.50	4.57	5.60	29.85	38.55	4.11	13.75	26.10	43.60	8.81	11.80	34.75	40.45	7.27	15.05	31.15
Cal-12	40.05	9.67	7.35	28.80	40.15	10.40	16.05	26.90	44.30	14.20	13.20	33.85	43.95	15.46	19.35	30.25
Cal-13	42.60	8.58	9.00	31.00	42.25	9.00	17.25	28.35	47.20	13.32	15.20	36.00	48.70	16.57	23.20	33.95
Cal-14	46.35	10.30	11.75	34.25	44.70	8.79	18.80	30.80	50.40	14.28	17.40	39.75	52.00	17.77	25.40	36.45
Cal-15	49.25	11.59	13.55	36.95	46.90	10.78	20.00	33.05	53.20	15.33	19.10	42.40	55.10	19.12	27.30	38.05

Midwest Markets

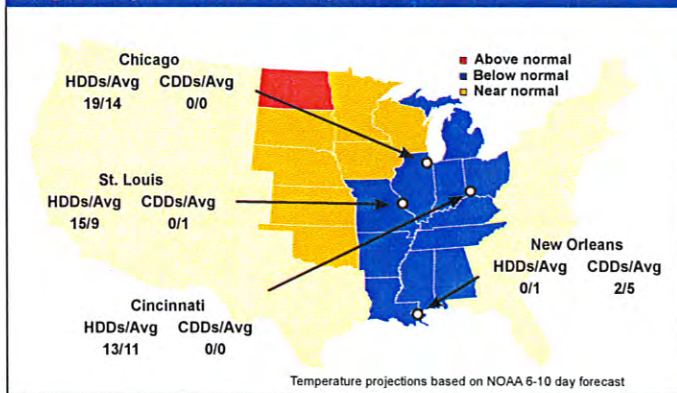
Spot natural gas in \$/mmBtu

Location	Average	Low	High
CenterPoint	3.530	3.465	3.600
Chicago Citygates	3.815	3.770	3.890
Mich Con Citygates	3.835	3.792	3.880
NGPL Texok Zone	3.650	3.590	3.690
NNG Ventura	3.780	3.770	3.800
Panhandle OK Mainline	3.525	3.470	3.545

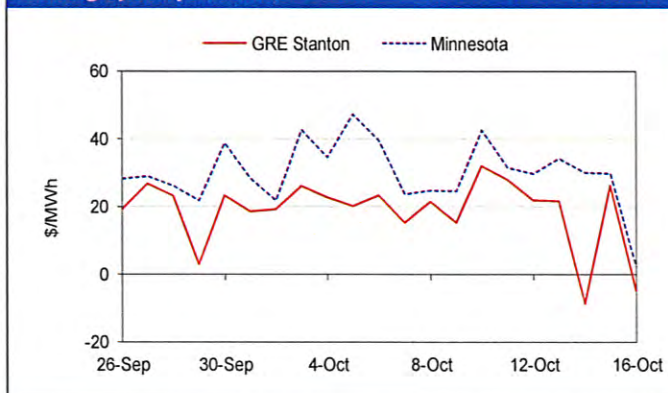
Forward natural gas in \$/mmBtu

Location	November	Nov 2011-Dec 2011	Nov 2011-Mar 2012
CenterPoint	3.531	—	3.979
Chicago Citygates	3.837	—	4.319
MichCon Citygate	3.908	—	4.332
NGPL Texok Zone	3.603	—	4.023
NNG Ventura	3.763	—	4.267
Panhandle OK Mainline	3.521	—	3.974

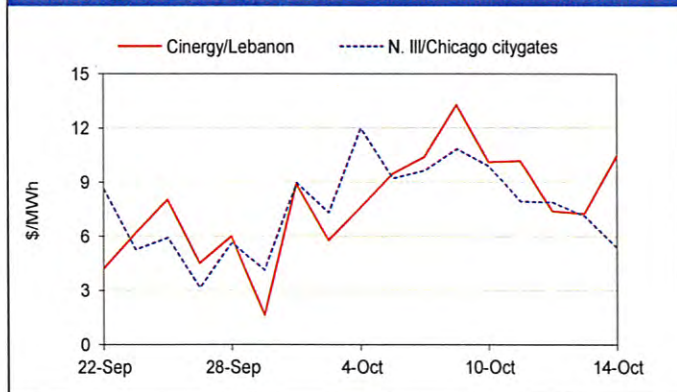
Degree days outlook vs temperature: 23-Oct



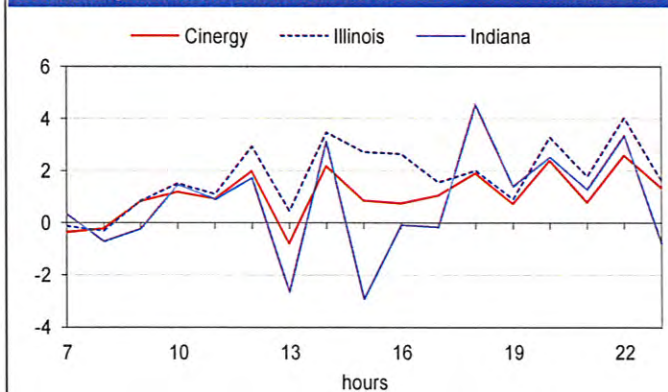
Average peak price



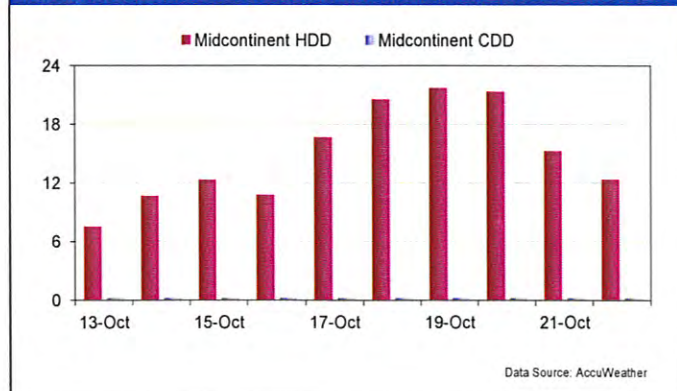
Implied gas spark spreads



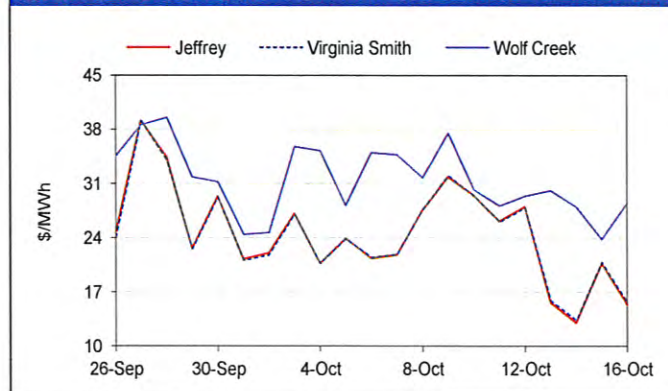
MISO day-ahead minus real-time



Degree days



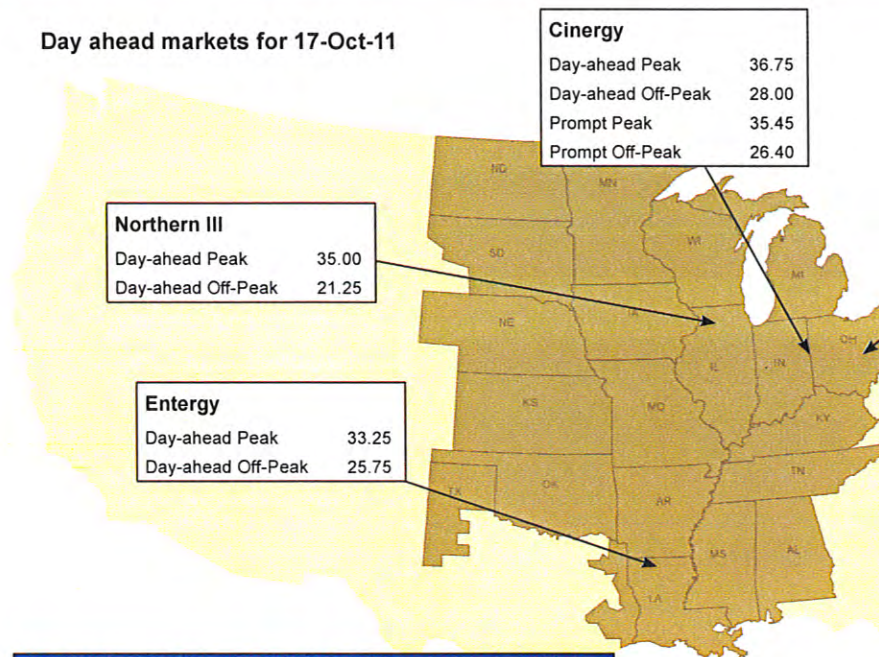
SPP North nodes LIP



Midwest Prices at a Glance

\$/MWh

Day ahead markets for 17-Oct-11



**PJM AD**

Day-ahead Peak	39.50
Day-ahead Off-Peak	31.00
Prompt Peak	38.45
Prompt Off-Peak	31.85

**Day-ahead minus hourly spread**

	14-Oct-11	Peak	Off-Peak
<b>MISO</b>			
Cinergy	-1.39	-0.24	
Indiana	3.18	-0.40	
Michigan	-2.68	-1.43	
Minnesota	0.03	3.48	
Illinois	4.79	3.49	
<b>PJM</b>			
Northern Ill	7.20	0.95	
A-D	-0.18	1.72	

SPP imbalance prices: Flow date — 14-Oct-11

	Peak	Off-peak
<b>SPP North</b>		
Cooper	7.95	13.90
Gentleman	13.26	14.80
Holcomb	17.71	15.45
Jeffrey	12.98	14.75
Emporia	22.57	17.13
Empire	27.49	17.57
Wolf Creek	28.01	17.61
WAPA-Nebraska	13.34	14.82
<b>SPP East</b>		
Sibley	34.00	19.13
Ameren Missouri	25.35	17.22
AECI	26.06	17.31
SPA-Arkansas	25.65	17.26
<b>SPP South</b>		
Sooner	26.32	17.44
Muskogee	26.53	17.46
Oneta	26.71	17.48
Redbud	26.35	17.47
Seminole	26.30	17.48
Kiamichi	26.19	17.47
Wilkes	25.64	17.31
Arsenal Hill	25.57	17.29
Entergy	25.24	17.21
Cleco	25.25	17.21
Ercot-East	25.69	17.32
Ercot-North	27.74	18.23
<b>SPP West</b>		
Tolk	35.35	21.45
WAPA-Colorado	13.85	14.94
Blackwater	24.88	17.33
EDDY	35.07	21.33

Emissions-adjusted day-ahead power prices

	SO <sub>2</sub>		24-hour average
	Peak	Off-peak	
Cinergy	36.83	28.08	33.91
Northern Ill	35.07	21.32	30.49
PJM A-D	39.58	31.08	36.74
Entergy	33.27	25.77	30.77

Hourly price averages

	Peak		Off-peak	
	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11
<b>MISO</b>				
Cinergy	32.89	38.53	26.99	26.67
Indiana	28.36	38.85	27.34	27.01
Michigan	36.55	40.14	29.11	28.71
Minnesota	30.02	34.15	12.04	16.93
Illinois	23.24	25.58	16.86	18.51
<b>PJM</b>				
Northern Ill	24.05	36.95	9.80	26.73
A-D	37.43	43.82	29.78	33.60

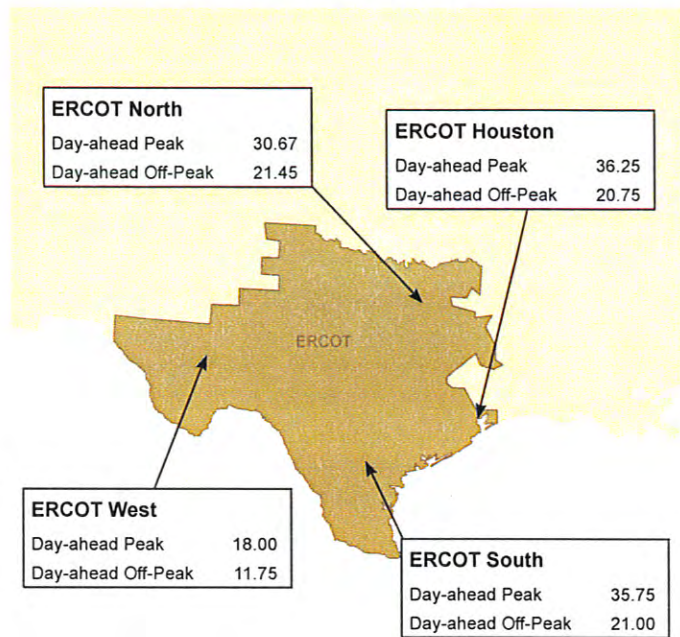
Day-ahead peak spreads

	Cinergy	Northern Ill	PJM A-D	PJM West	Entergy	Southern
Cinergy	—	1.75	-2.75	-5.25	3.50	1.75
Northern Ill	-1.75	—	-4.50	-7.00	1.75	0.00
PJM A-D	2.75	4.50	—	-2.50	6.25	4.50
PJM West	5.25	7.00	2.50	—	8.75	7.00
Entergy	-3.50	-1.75	-6.25	-8.75	—	-1.75
Southern	-1.75	0.00	-4.50	-7.00	1.75	—

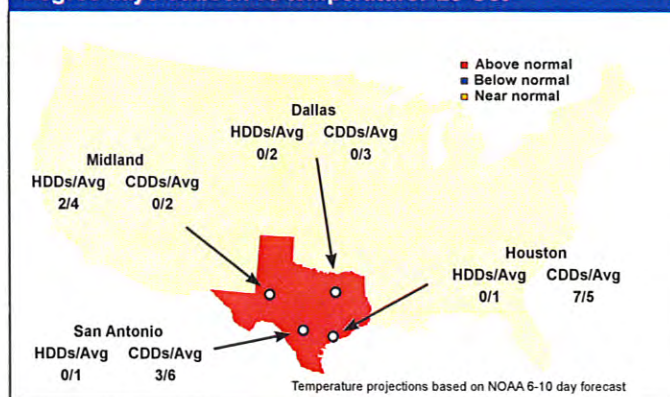
Sources: ISOs, Argus assessments

**ERCOT Prices at a Glance** \$/MWh

Day ahead markets for 17-Oct-11



Degree days outlook vs temperature: 23-Oct



Day-ahead minus real time

16-Oct	Peak (\$/MWh)	Off-peak (\$/MWh)
<b>Hubs</b>		
Houston	-3.56	11.06
North	-6.20	4.27
South	-75.85	-8.47
West	-12.71	2.02
<b>Load zones</b>		
Houston	-3.41	11.26
North	-6.40	4.12
South	-112.90	-23.38
West	-56.50	0.70

Emissions-adjusted day-ahead power prices

	SO <sub>2</sub>	Voluntary RECs	All credits
<b>Peak</b>			
Houston	36.27	37.80	37.82
South	35.77	37.30	37.32
North	30.69	32.22	32.24
West	18.02	19.55	19.57
<b>Off-peak</b>			
Houston	20.77	22.30	22.32
South	21.02	22.55	22.57
North	21.47	23.00	23.02
West	11.77	13.30	13.32
<b>24-hour emissions-adjusted pricing, all credits</b>			
Houston	31.35	32.88	32.90
South	31.10	32.63	32.65
North	27.87	29.40	29.42
West	16.19	17.72	17.74

Day-ahead nodal prices

18-Oct	Peak (\$/MWh)	Off-peak (\$/MWh)
<b>Hubs</b>		
Houston	38.00	20.68
North	27.27	19.75
South	37.36	22.85
West	21.99	11.72
<b>Load zones</b>		
Houston	39.25	20.64
North	27.30	19.69
South	40.36	24.23
West	27.45	13.36
<b>Hub average</b>	<b>31.17</b>	<b>18.75</b>
<b>Bus average</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>19.54</b>

Market-implied heat rates and spark spreads

		Heat rate (Btu/kWh)	Spark spreads in 000 Btu/kWh at heating efficiencies of:					
			7	8	10	12	15	18
Peak	Houston	10,014	10.91	7.29	0.05	-7.19	-18.05	-28.91
	North	8,403	5.12	1.47	-5.83	-13.13	-24.08	-35.03
	South	9,972	10.66	7.07	-0.10	-7.27	-18.03	-28.78
	West	5,049	-6.95	-10.52	-17.65	-24.78	-35.48	-46.17
Off-peak	Houston	5,732	-4.59	-8.21	-15.45	-22.69	-33.55	-44.41
	North	5,877	-4.10	-7.75	-15.05	-22.35	-33.30	-44.25
	South	5,858	-4.09	-7.68	-14.85	-22.02	-32.78	-43.53
	West	3,296	-13.21	-16.77	-23.90	-31.03	-41.73	-52.42



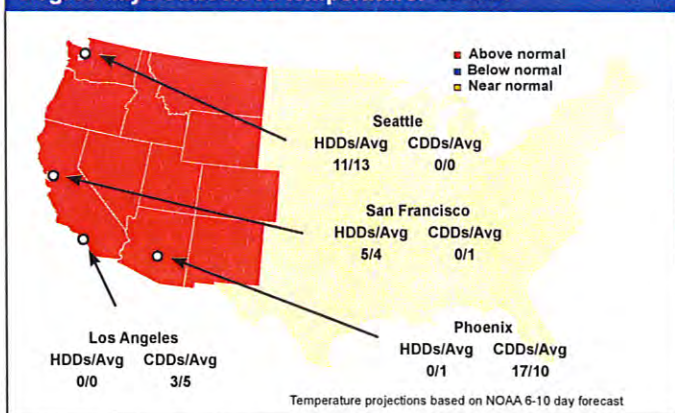
**West Markets**

Continued from page 1

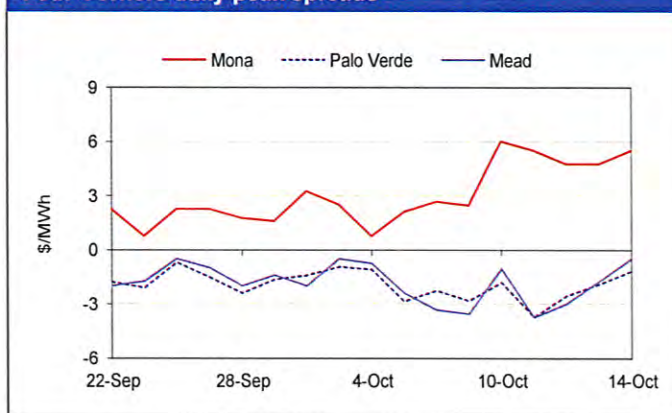
- A full weekday load also boosted prices across the region. Mona gained 21pc, Mead 10pc. Off-peak prices were inconsistent. Most locations were down around 10pc, but COB and Mid-Columbia gained by the same proportion.
- Below normal temperatures foreseen in the west this month by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) of the National Weather Service have not occurred. For the rest of October, the CPC is looking at above average readings. Cooling degree days persist in the southwest, but lower temperatures and high winds are predicted to move tonight from the Northwest to the central Rockies.

- La Niña conditions in the Pacific are expected to strengthen this winter, usually making the northwest extra wet. The implicit forecast for more water seemed to depress November as the prompt through late last week. California points and Mid-Columbia were down at least 7 pc for November for 1-13 October. But November Henry Hub gas futures rose 2pc the next day, so Mead and Palo Verde were little changed. SP 15, NP 15 and Mid-Columbia were down 3-4pc.
- Key nodes in the California Independent System Operator were around \$25/MWh at 10:10am PT today. But Friday, 14 October pricing was in the low-\$90s for the peak hours.

Degree days outlook vs temperature: 23-Oct



Four Corners daily peak spreads



**Forward markets**

\$/MWh

	Mid-Columbia			Palo Verde				SP-15				NP-15			Mead			
	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak			Off-Peak	Peak		Off-Peak			
	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Coal Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price	Price	Gas Spark	Price
Nov-11	29.65	5.78	9.75	26.60	31.35	6.36	7.35	23.20	32.75	7.34	15.45	25.30	33.60	7.14	27.05	33.55	8.00	23.35
Dec-11	35.15	9.46	15.15	30.00	32.75	5.73	8.65	24.50	34.75	7.80	17.35	26.60	35.75	7.82	28.60	35.05	7.82	24.65
Jan-12	32.30	6.12	11.80	27.05	33.10	4.82	8.10	25.20	35.70	7.84	13.30	26.90	35.55	6.64	28.60	36.35	8.07	27.90
Feb-12	31.05	4.94	10.95	25.20	33.00	5.84	7.30	25.00	35.45	7.45	11.85	26.70	35.20	6.22	28.40	36.20	8.27	27.40
Mar-12	28.25	2.21	8.55	21.80	32.65	4.44	6.15	23.95	35.10	7.31	11.00	25.55	34.65	5.88	27.20	35.80	7.59	26.30
Apr-12	27.40	1.85	7.50	18.00	33.65	6.56	8.05	22.85	34.15	6.43	11.15	21.50	33.65	4.88	20.20	36.35	8.49	24.95
Q1-12	30.45	4.34	10.35	24.75	32.90	5.04	7.20	24.75	35.40	7.54	12.00	26.40	35.10	6.19	28.10	36.10	7.96	27.25
Q2-12	23.05	-2.50	2.75	9.90	34.65	7.56	8.75	19.30	33.80	6.08	10.30	18.15	32.95	4.18	17.05	37.40	9.54	21.25
Q3-12	36.00	9.68	15.50	23.75	44.15	16.08	18.05	27.00	43.75	15.05	20.15	28.25	41.30	11.55	28.25	47.60	18.76	29.65
Q4-12	36.75	8.54	16.45	32.15	37.65	7.48	11.75	28.40	40.50	10.26	17.10	30.75	40.25	9.03	31.60	40.70	10.18	31.20
Q1-13	38.25	8.08	17.15	31.85	39.85	7.30	13.35	30.35	49.75	17.27	26.05	37.10	47.90	15.14	36.45	42.20	9.44	34.30
Q2-13	28.70	-0.56	7.50	14.75	39.85	9.05	13.15	23.75	45.20	13.84	21.30	25.35	42.90	10.14	25.05	42.30	10.80	26.90
Q3-13	43.00	13.32	21.30	30.10	52.50	21.00	25.20	32.75	59.65	27.59	34.75	38.25	56.50	23.74	38.50	55.60	23.40	37.15
Q4-13	43.50	10.25	22.30	34.10	41.75	8.43	15.05	32.35	53.30	19.98	29.40	38.35	53.20	20.44	40.20	44.25	10.58	36.70
Cal-12	31.55	4.95	11.15	22.70	37.30	11.26	11.30	24.90	38.35	12.17	14.75	25.95	37.40	10.17	26.30	40.40	14.01	27.35
Cal-13	38.35	7.69	17.05	27.75	43.50	15.15	16.70	29.85	51.95	23.25	27.85	34.80	50.15	20.40	35.10	46.10	17.19	33.80
Cal-14	43.50	9.34	21.20	31.15	48.35	16.22	20.65	32.50	58.25	25.91	33.55	38.45	56.10	23.34	39.10	51.80	19.18	37.45
Cal-15	48.25	15.98	24.85	33.80	53.20	19.18	24.60	35.85	63.60	29.44	38.30	41.85	61.20	26.06	42.50	56.35	21.91	39.65

**West Markets**

**Western generating unit outages**

Capacity	Unit	Owner	Fuel	Begins	Reason
11,872	Total CAISO units curtailed	various	various	NA	planned and unplanned
820	Big Creek	SCE	hydro	3-Oct-11	@108MW, unplanned
668	Colusa Generating Station	PG&E	gas	17-Oct-11	@282MW, planned
407	Helms Pump-Gen 2	PG&E	hydro	26-Sep-11	planned
933	Hyatt-Thermalito	CDWR	hydro	18-May-11	@503MW, planned/unplanned
366	Inland Empire 2	Calpine	gas	17-Oct-11	planned
525	Mountainview 3	SCE	gas	17-Oct-11	planned
741	Ormond Beach 1	GenOn	gas	14-Oct-11	unplanned
590	Sunrise 2	Edison Mission	gas	6-Oct-11	planned
625	Termoelectrica de Mexicali 1	Sempre	gas	5-Oct-11	@270MW, planned

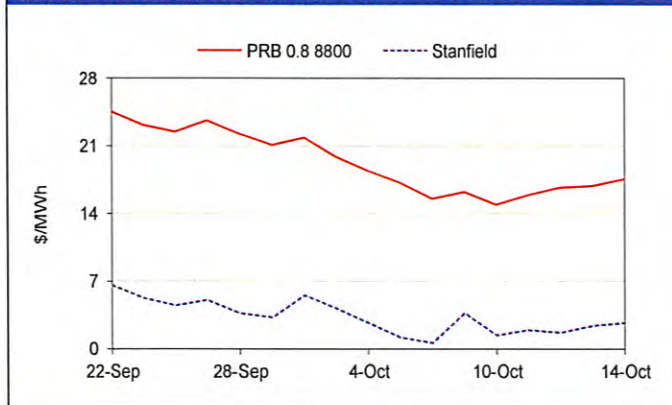
**Spot natural gas in \$/mmBtu**

Location	Average	Low	High
PG&E Citygates	3.800	3.770	3.825
Stanfield	3.510	3.510	3.520
SoCal Gas Co	3.670	3.645	3.700
El Paso San Juan Basin	3.435	3.370	3.500
El Paso Permian Basin	3.540	3.440	3.565
El Paso, South Mainline	3.735	3.730	3.755
Northwest Sumas	3.470	3.440	3.530
Northwest Wyoming	3.495	3.440	3.530

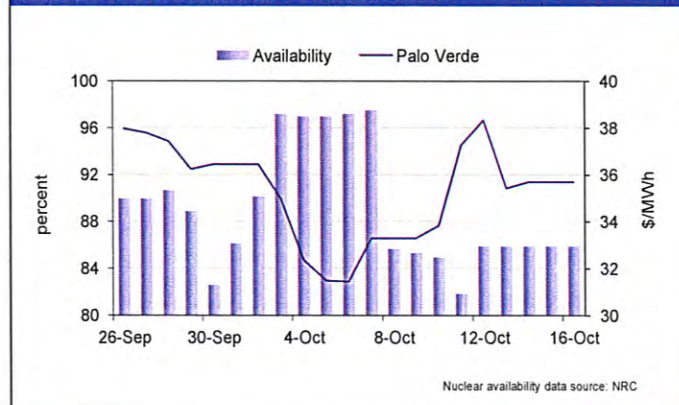
**Forward natural gas in \$/mmBtu**

Location	November	Nov 2011-Dec 2011	Nov 2011-Mar 2012
El Paso Permian	3.461	—	3.809
El Paso San Juan	3.368	—	3.774
Northwest, Wyoming	3.486	—	3.849
Northwest PL at Sumas	3.568	—	3.984
PG&E Citygates	3.823	—	4.114
SoCal Gas	3.603	—	3.974

**Mid-C spark spreads: Coal vs gas**



**West nuclear availability vs Palo Verde**

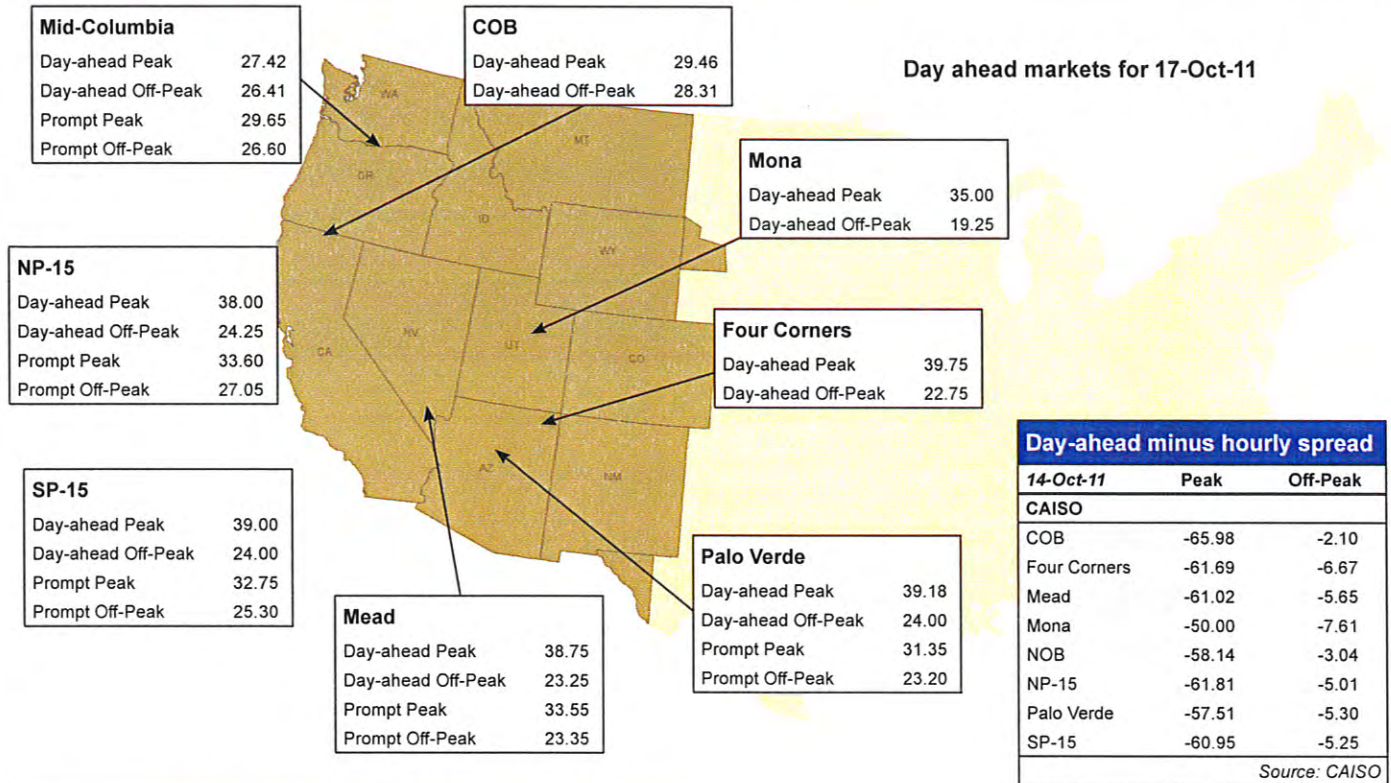


**Market-implied heat rates and spark spreads**

		Heat rate	Spark spreads in 000 Btu/kWh at heating efficiencies of:					
		(Btu/kWh)	7	8	10	12	15	18
Peak	COB	8,027	3.77	0.10	-7.24	-14.58	-25.59	-36.60
	Four Corners	11,505	15.57	12.11	5.20	-1.71	-12.08	-22.44
	Mead	10,559	13.06	9.39	2.05	-5.29	-16.30	-27.31
	Mid-C	7,812	2.85	-0.66	-7.68	-14.70	-25.23	-35.76
	Mona	9,915	10.29	6.76	-0.30	-7.36	-17.95	-28.54
	NP 15	10,000	11.40	7.60	0.00	-7.60	-19.00	-30.40
	Palo Verde	10,676	13.49	9.82	2.48	-4.86	-15.87	-26.88
Off-peak	SP 15	10,627	13.31	9.64	2.30	-5.04	-16.05	-27.06
Off-peak	COB	7,714	2.62	-1.05	-8.39	-15.73	-26.74	-37.75
	Four Corners	6,585	-1.44	-4.89	-11.80	-18.71	-29.08	-39.44
	Mead	6,335	-2.44	-6.11	-13.45	-20.79	-31.80	-42.81
	Mid-C	7,524	1.84	-1.67	-8.69	-15.71	-26.24	-36.77
	Mona	5,453	-5.46	-8.99	-16.05	-23.11	-33.70	-44.29
	NP 15	6,382	-2.35	-6.15	-13.75	-21.35	-32.75	-44.15
	Palo Verde	6,540	-1.69	-5.36	-12.70	-20.04	-31.05	-42.06
Off-peak	SP 15	6,540	-1.69	-5.36	-12.70	-20.04	-31.05	-42.06

West Prices at a Glance

\$/MWh



Hourly price averages				
	Peak		Off-peak	
	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11	14-Oct-11	13-Oct-11
<b>CAISO</b>				
COB	93.51	22.59	27.79	23.40
Four Corners	95.19	29.19	27.17	23.14
Mead	96.27	28.17	27.53	23.40
Mona	78.75	-131.84	26.61	-167.60
NOB	97.81	34.21	28.04	23.81
NP-15	93.81	27.12	28.26	23.31
Palo Verde	92.92	29.61	27.11	23.06
SP-15	97.44	45.33	27.75	23.58

Source: CAISO

Emissions-adjusted day-ahead power prices			
	SO <sub>2</sub>		24-hour average
	Peak	Off-peak	
COB	29.47	28.32	29.09
Four Corners	39.77	22.77	34.10
Mead	38.76	23.26	33.59
Mona	35.02	19.27	29.77
Mid-C	27.43	26.42	27.09
NP-15	38.01	24.26	33.43
Palo Verde	39.20	24.02	34.14
SP-15	39.01	24.01	34.01

Day-ahead peak spreads								
	COB	Four Corners	Mead	Mona	Mid-C	NP-15	Palo Verde	SP-15
COB	—	-10.29	-9.29	-5.54	2.04	-8.54	-9.72	-9.54
Four Corners	10.29	—	1.00	4.75	12.33	1.75	0.57	0.75
Mead	9.29	-1.00	—	3.75	11.33	0.75	-0.43	-0.25
Mona	5.54	-4.75	-3.75	—	7.58	-3.00	-4.18	-4.00
Mid-C	-2.04	-12.33	-11.33	-7.58	—	-10.58	-11.76	-11.58
NP-15	8.54	-1.75	-0.75	3.00	10.58	—	-1.18	-1.00
Palo Verde	9.72	-0.57	0.43	4.18	11.76	1.18	—	0.18
SP-15	9.54	-0.75	0.25	4.00	11.58	1.00	-0.18	—

Source: Argus assessments

## Markets

## Gas slips despite cooler forecasts

NYMEX gas for November delivery fell by 1.5¢/mmBtu, or 0.4pc, to settle at \$3.688/mmBtu. The 12-month strip and the 2012-calendar strip were each down 1.1pc to \$4.039/mmBtu and \$4.153/mmBtu, respectively.

Heading into today's session, prices had climbed 6.1pc since 12 October on a wave of bargain buying following a US government report showing a massive build in natural gas inventories. The steep price increase spurred some traders, who had bet on higher prices, to sell off contracts today and take profits.

"After a considerably large move on [13-14 October], we are seeing some give-back," Summit Energy commodity analyst Matt Smith said.

At the same time, forecasters are predicting colder weather over the next few weeks that could stoke demand for the heating fuel. The National Weather Service sees below-normal temperatures across parts of the southeast and midcontinent from 22-26 October and cooler-than-normal temperatures across the eastern US the following week.

Colder weather could stunt the recent rapid growth natural gas inventories. The US Energy Information Administration (EIA) has reported a larger-than-average build in each of the last five weeks.

Nymex natural gas settlements			\$/mmBtu
Contract	Price	Change	Volume*
Nov-11 M1	3.688	-0.015	106,129
Dec-11 M2	3.903	-0.057	57,787
Jan-12 M3	4.037	-0.063	31,115
Feb-12 M4	4.052	-0.059	9,261
Mar-12 M5	4.020	-0.053	12,584
Apr-12 M6	4.008	-0.045	13,372
May-12 M7	4.044	-0.043	2,150
Jun-12 M8	4.086	-0.040	1,533
Jul-12 M9	4.131	-0.038	2,475
Aug-12 M10	4.155	-0.039	657
Sep-12 M11	4.156	-0.040	544
Oct-12 M12	4.192	-0.041	2,199
Nov-12 M13	4.342	-0.036	537
Dec-12 M14	4.607	-0.038	552
Jan-13 M15	4.747	-0.038	365
Feb-13 M16	4.725	-0.038	76
Mar-13 M17	4.660	-0.038	125
Apr-13 M18	4.539	-0.034	121
May-13 M19	4.557	-0.034	1

\*Volume data estimated by Nymex, subject to verification.



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## Argus North American Electricity Methodology

Prices are based on daily survey data received from the non-commercial departments of market participants. Day-ahead peak and off-peak volume-weighted price indexes and assessments are compiled based on this data. Argus publishes the total volume of trades reported, the number of transactions, the high price, low price, and the volume weighted average price where sufficient data exists.

In low-liquidity markets when insufficient data is received to support a volume weighted index calculation (less than three trades of 25MW minimum each are received) a clearly marked price assessment is made. Volume and number of trades are left blank when an assessment is made.

Peak and off-peak electricity price indexes are based on data submitted daily to Argus voluntarily by the risk-management divisions or non-commercial departments of market participants.

All data submitted is treated confidentially and used only to establish the index or form a market price assessment. The Argus electricity index procedures are audited at least annually by the company's global compliance officer.

Only firm deals equal to or greater than 25MW are included in each index. Firm delivery means that a contract for liquidated damages in the event of non-performance is in place. Swaps, contracts for difference, and derivative-linked deals are not included but financially settled deals are included where the price does not diverge from what is observed in the physical market.

In low-liquidity markets, Argus publishes assessments based on an intelligent range of trade. Argus assesses the range within which electricity did or could have traded, based on actual deals and bids and offers throughout the trading day for next-day power, historical price relationships and other market conditions.

Assessments are clearly identifiable from volume-weighted average indexes. The volume and number of trades will be blank where an assessment is made.

## News

## Exelon, EdF argue over utility

**Exelon, Constellation Energy stakeholder EdF SA of France and Maryland regulators disagree over the affects of the US power companies' proposed merger.**

EdF, which owns 7.3pc of Constellation and has a nuclear power joint venture with it, filed testimony with the Maryland Public Service Commission last week saying Exelon's acquisition would have "serious and negative ramifications for Maryland, as well as for EdF," and that the state agency should reject the merger. An Exelon spokesman told *Argus* the company is "perplexed" by EdF's testimony and that EdF will be "unharmd" by the transaction.

The commission will begin hearings on Exelon's proposed \$7.9bn purchase of Constellation next week. It is expected to issue a decision in January.

"The proposed merger raises serious market power concerns," Jeffrey Johnson, a consultant to the chief executive of EdF Trading and a director at the EdF-Constellation joint venture Constellation Energy Nuclear Group (CENG), said in testimony to the commission filed on 12 October.

Other testimony filed last week by the Office of People's Counsel recommended that Constellation's Baltimore Gas & Electric (BGE) subsidiary be prohibited from asking for permission to increase rates for at least three years following the merger, contrary to the public service commission's staff recommendation. It also recommended Exelon be required to put up a \$68mn "reliability fund" to "address the immediate impacts of the merger on BGE and commission decisions regarding the trade-off between reliability and rates."

The proposed merger has faced other challenges, including from Maryland officials who last month said it should proceed only if conditions are set to protect electricity consumers. The transaction received approval from the Public Utility Commission of Texas in August.

A primary concern for EdF is the size of Exelon's nuclear fleet, which accounts for about 20pc of US nuclear output. The merger might preclude CENG from buying more capacity within its

home PJM Interconnection market and in other areas of the country because Exelon already is the largest US provider of nuclear energy, Johnson said.

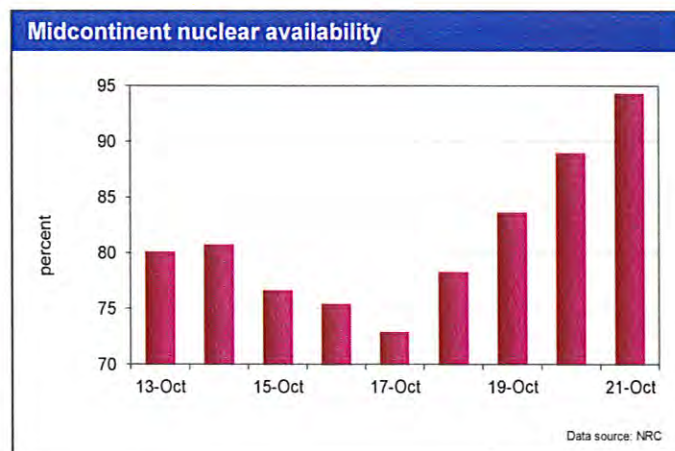
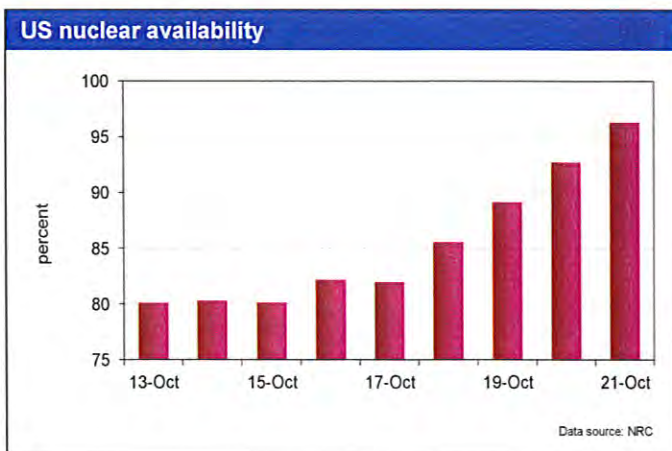
The transaction also might hurt CENG because Exelon would want to support its wholly-owned nuclear plants more than the joint venture, Johnson said. And CENG "would be highly vulnerable" to job losses and a change in management as well as moving headquarters out of Maryland, which could affect state-based jobs and its tax revenue, he said.

Johnson proposed that if regulators choose to approve the merger, they consider requiring "ring-fencing" to support CENG's autonomy, including entering a contract that would require the joint-venture's chief executive be a US citizen independent of either EdF or the combined Exelon-Constellation, that the right to remove the chief executive should alternate between the companies every two years, that EdF have the right to appoint the chief financial officer and that the size of the board be expanded by three.

"As EdF knows, the merger will not change their prior agreement with Constellation Energy Nuclear Group, nor will it in any way affect their ability to build new generating plants," Exelon spokesman Paul Elsberg said. He added that Exelon and Constellation do not need EdF's approval to proceed with the merger.

Exelon last week filed testimony from executives that it says "strengthens the companies' commitments related to the proposed merger," and "addresses BGE's ability to continue to provide safe and reliable service and operate in the public interest." The provisions include having BGE chief executive Kenneth DeFontes Jr. serve on Exelon's executive committee as well as corporate governance measures that "will ensure that BGE will remain locally managed and has the resources to provide safe and reliable power."

The company said some proposals, including one from the Maryland Energy Administration to require Exelon to increase its 25MW commitment to new renewable energy projects in the state, are "unnecessary, could harm BGE and its customers, or would adversely impact the terms of the transaction." It also said the Office of People's Counsel suggestion of a three-year rate



## News

freeze “would jeopardize BGE’s ability to make significant capital expenditures needed to maintain the reliability of the distribution system.”

Exelon earlier this month agreed to restrict the sale of three coal-fired units to exclude eight power companies that already own 3pc or more of the overall PJM market. The companies also agreed to give 18 months written notice before retiring any generating unit and to limit the price on offers from gas units used during peak energy demand to PJM guidelines plus “the higher of 10pc of such costs or the applicable percentage of cost permitted under the PJM tariff to the extent a unit is a frequently mitigated unit, plus an adder not to exceed \$1/MWh,” according to terms of the letter that Joseph Bowring, the independent market monitor for PJM, sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Maryland Public Service Commission.

## California mulls new RPS criteria

**The California Energy Commission is moving toward incorporating the state’s new 33pc by 2020 renewable portfolio standard (RPS) into the agency’s renewable energy eligibility guidebook, with a draft released last week showing several changes to the criteria.**

Some of the most significant changes in the guidebook will have to wait until the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) revises its regulations on renewable energy certificate (REC) procurement, trading and enforcement to meet the stipulations in the law that established the 33pc RPS, SB 2X. But the CEC had to revise the guidebook at this time because its last revision was issued before the PUC decided to allow using tradable, unbundled RECs for compliance.

The commission stripped the language associated with the in-state delivery requirement. SB 2X eliminates the criteria that formerly required all renewable energy to be delivered into the state for it to be RPS-eligible.

The agency also needed to incorporate mandatory RPS levels for publicly owned utilities (POU), which had previously faced

only voluntary targets. The commission will administer the POU requirements of the standard, but the Air Resources Board will impose any non-compliance penalties, while the PUC will continue to administer and enforce the RPS for retail utilities. The CEC guidebook sets compliance deadlines and monitoring and reporting requirements for POU. It establishes an interim tracking system but POU must complete their compliance reporting through the Western Renewable Energy Information Generation System by 2013.

The draft rulebook incorporates the feed-in tariff the PUC adopted this year. It stipulates that distributed generation facilities participating in retail utilities’ net-metering programs retain all of the RECs associated with their generation, including any surplus power they sell to utilities rather than use onsite. The PUC’s decision did not allow utilities to count the distributed generation from their net-metering customers to their RPS obligation, but the CEC says because tradable RECs can be used for compliance, utilities can procure and surrender RECs from distributed generation.

The draft would expand RPS eligibility to hydroelectric facilities larger than 30MW, so long as they operate as part of a water supply or conveyance system and are 40MW or less.

The draft guidebook revision also clarifies that while SB 2X has three-year compliance periods, utilities and POU will be required to submit annual procurement reports to the CEC.

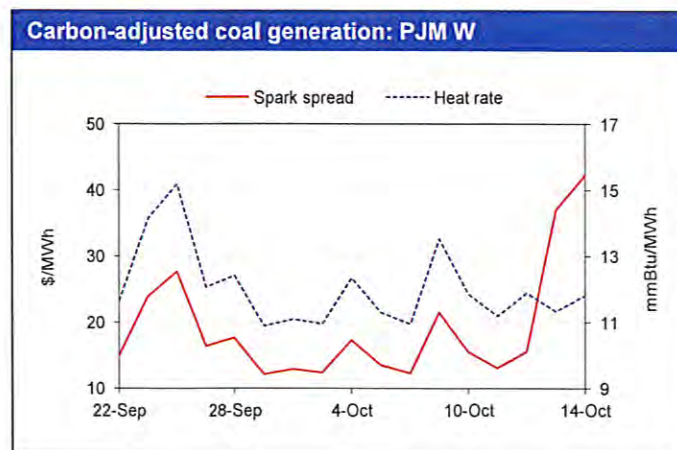
The CEC has determined that facilities can use up to 2pc of nonrenewable resources and still meet the RPS eligibility requirements. That de minimis level can be raised to 5pc if a facility meets several stipulations, including that the use of nonrenewable fuel will increase the renewable energy facility’s generation “significantly” more than generation associated with using nonrenewable fuel.

And for a facility to become eligible after repowering, the capital investment to revamp the facility must be at least 80pc of the total value of the repowered facility.

The CEC is holding a workshop on 21 October to discuss the draft. It has particularly asked for feedback on how to define “significantly” the measure of increased generation associated with a facility’s use of nonrenewable fuel. It is also seeking input on whether the 80pc investment requirement is appropriate in terms of determining whether a repowered facility is considered “new” for eligibility requirements.

The commission is also seeking stakeholder thoughts on the process of pre-certification and whether it should continue. The CEC says nearly 650 facilities have been pre-certified, many for five years or longer. Facilities cannot begin generating RECs until they have been certified by the CEC and pre-certification is designed to speed up the process of certification when the project is operating. A pre-certified facility can also boast the likelihood of its RPS eligibility based on the CEC’s pre-approval. But the CEC is considering eliminating the pre-certification process for any facilities that are not fully developed and operational.

The agency is soliciting comment on the benefits of pre-certi-



fication and if the process is continued, whether an expiration date should be set for the eligibility assurance.

## RGGI fix may hinge on state laws

**Seven of nine states in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) can ratchet down on their part of the program's collective carbon cap administratively, according to an Argus analysis of each RGGI state's laws.**

Expanding the program to cover imported electricity or other sectors of the economy would be a heavier lift, with four states legislatively specifying what entities could be covered under RGGI's cap-and-trade program.

Each RGGI state, except for New York, has passed laws enabling its regulators to create and participate in the regional CO<sub>2</sub> trading program. New York's regulators relied on a broad grant of authority under the state's clean air act to implement the program. Broadly, each enabling law recognized the 2005 memorandum of understanding between the RGGI states and directed their state's environmental regulators to implement the program outlined in the memorandum.

But New Hampshire and Maine, which both have Republican-controlled legislatures, specified their state's carbon emissions cap under RGGI in their enabling legislation, which means that the state's regulators would need the law amended before their portion of RGGI's cap can be lowered.

Republicans in New Hampshire's legislature spent most of the spring attempting to leave RGGI, but the Democratic

governor vetoed the bill and the Senate fell short of a passing a measure to override the veto. During the floor debates on the RGGI repeal bill, Republican members of the state's House of Representatives bitterly attacked RGGI on philosophical grounds, making it unlikely that they will warmly receive legislation to improve the program.

While the majority of the states referred to the memorandum and left most of the details up to regulators, several legislatively enacted the terms of the memorandum, making it difficult or impossible for regulators in those states to make changes without asking the legislature to amend the enabling law. The legislation largely specifies which facilities may be covered by the rule and could limit the ability to extend the cap to include imported power or other economic sectors.

RGGI's emissions are far below the program's caps, which has left the CO<sub>2</sub> allowance market significantly oversupplied. RGGI CO<sub>2</sub> allowance prices have held very close to the program's price floor and the program has not led to any meaningful emissions reductions in the regulated sector. Any serious action to fix the program will require that the emissions cap is set at, or below, the program's current CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The RGGI-enabling laws in New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and Massachusetts specified that the covered entities in RGGI are fossil fuel-fired electric units above 25MW. The RGGI states recently held a learning session on how to put electricity imports under the program's cap, which would likely require those states, which make up slightly more than a quarter of the program's emissions, to amend their enabling laws.

### Using Argus Data?

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## Argus Webinar

### Changes in California and US west coast gas markets

Register by contacting:  
[kristin.allen@argusmedia.com](mailto:kristin.allen@argusmedia.com)

19 October, 2011 10:00 a.m. CST

#### Topics will include:

- Outlook for gas demand: California, US northwest and US southwest
- Impact of new pipelines, expansions and storage facilities
- Whether or not prices will be sustained in production areas and consumption markets
- How basis differentials will change and why

#### Presented by:

David Givens, Head of Gas and Power Services, North America  
Anusha de Silva, Argus Natural Gas Americas, Editor