



OGA News & Views

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IN THIS ISSUE

OGA Kicks Off the Year with the OGA Legislative Forum	Page 2
America's Natural Gas Utilities Add One New Customer Every Minute	Page 3
Encourage High School Seniors to Apply for an OGA Scholarship	Page 3
Association Report Confirms Natural Gas Dominance in U.S. Capacity Mix	Page 5
U.S. Proved Reserves of Natural Gas Increase 5%, Oil Reserves Remain Level at Year-end 2016	Page 6

*We want to hear from you!
Ideas, concerns, ways to make the
association more effective for you.*

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OGA Scholarship Classic Scheduled for April 19

The 2018 OGA Scholarship Classic and Exhibit is scheduled for April 19 at Cimarron National Golf Club in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Registration information is available at [OGA Scholarship Registration](#).

"The classic has provided a way to help fund OGA scholarships," said Tom Rider, OGA Executive Director. "To allow us to plan and move forward with the event, I encourage members to sign up as soon as possible.

"We have seen a down turn in golf-related events over the past few years," Rider added. "The OGA Board voted to move forward with the event with a minimum of 32 players registered by April 13."

Proceeds from the annual OGA Scholarship Classic and Exhibit benefit the OGA Scholarship Fund. Each year the association awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a dependent of an OGA member.

In addition to the golf tournament, the event includes an Equipment Show. Information about the show may be found at [OGA Scholarship Registration](#).

Questions about the event may be directed to Jeff Kaufmann at jeffk@meso.org.

OGA to Host "Intent Based Leadership™" Conference

All members are encouraged to attend the OGA's "Intent Based Leadership™" Conference. The event will be held May 17 in Norman, Oklahoma.

The one-day conference is based on the book "Turn the Ship Around" and will be presented by nationally-recognized speaker, Jeff Leap.

"'Turn the Ship Around' is one of the most powerful books on leadership I've read," said MESO General Manager Tom Rider who also serves as OGA Executive Director. "I would highly recommend this conference to anyone interested in improving their leadership skills."

Leap imagines a workplace where everyone engages and contributes their full intellectual capacity, a place where people are healthier and happier because they have more control over their work, and their work is more fulfilling — a place where everyone is a leader.

(see LEADERSHIP, page 3)

OGA Kicks Off the Year with the OGA Legislative Forum

A wide range of speakers presented a range of public policy topics at the annual OGA Legislative Forum earlier this year.

“The 2018 Legislative Forum provided attendees a wide variety of topics or issues with the potential to impact how members conduct their business,” said Tom Rider, OGA Executive Director. “I was pleased with the comments from attendees.”

Oklahoma Secretary of Energy & Environment, Michael Teague, began the day discussing on-going work by the task force reviewing operations at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

Continuing the conversation around the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, Brandy Wreath, Director of Public Utility Division, discussed current operations, the regulatory environment and other “hot” topics at the commission.

Glenn Coffee, former Oklahoma Speaker of the House, discussed the Step Up

Oklahoma plan. The plan ultimately was not passed by the Oklahoma Legislature.

In looking forward to Oklahoma’s 2018 Legislative Session, State Representative Weldon Watson offered “A look at what is happening at the State Capitol.”

Craig Perry, Manager of Government Affairs for Oklahoma Natural Gas & Bill Phelps, Lobbyist/Consultant, Bill Phelps & Associates, in addition to their annual review of filed and expected legislation, briefed the group on the overall political landscape and a look forward to the 2018 elections.

The issues to watch at the capitol are familiar and include: Ad Valorem taxes, CNG, Eminent Domain / Right of Way, Real ID, Tax Policy, Corporation Commission, Pipeline Safety, Unmanned Aircraft, and Human Resources.



*State Representative
Weldon Watson*



*Oklahoma Secretary of Energy
& Environment,
Michael Teague*

Save the Date

**2018 OGA
Annual Conference**

**August 26 – 28, 2018
Norman, Oklahoma**

America's Natural Gas Utilities Add One New Customer Every Minute

2018 AGA Playbook Debuts Fresh Data and New Digital Features

Natural gas utilities add an average of one new customer every minute nationwide, according to the 2018 American Gas Association (AGA) Playbook.

In addition to fresh data and graphics which make the AGA Playbook an indispensable guide to natural gas industry in the United States, the 2018 edition has new digital features including:

- By The Numbers which track activities by natural gas utilities in real time, including consumption across all sectors in the United States.
- A multi-layer, interactive map which contains information on natural gas supply, state-based infrastructure modernization programs and more.

"America's natural gas utilities seek energy policies that reflect reality," said Dave McCurdy, AGA's President and CEO. "The AGA Playbook sets forth a common set of facts about our energy use and its implications. It chronicles the customer growth we are seeing as more Americans seek the comfort and affordability of natural gas and provides context for the necessary, fact-based conversations that are

taking place throughout the nation about how we can expand our natural gas infrastructure to deliver these benefits to more customers that want them. It also provides valuable information about the exceptional work being done to enhance the safety and reliability of our nation's 2.5 million miles of natural gas pipelines. The AGA Playbook belongs on the desk of every policymaker and every industry leader that is looking to understand the decisions we must make as a nation to secure our energy future."

In the 2018 AGA Playbook you will learn that America's natural gas utilities:

- Invest \$700 to help enhance the safety of natural gas distribution and transmission systems every second
- Install two miles of pipeline every hour
- Devote \$4 million to energy efficiency programs every day

The 2018 Playbook can be accessed online. If you are interested in hard copies, please contact Sherri Hamm at shamm@aga.org or 202-824-7201.

Encourage High School Seniors to Apply for an OGA Scholarship

Dependent children or grandchildren of an OGA member or retiree who will graduate from high school this spring can apply now for an OGA Scholarship. Scholarship packets are due by May 1.

Those interested in learning more about the scholarship and the application process should go to the OGA website — www.okgas.org — and download both the scholarship policy and application form from the Member Information Menu.

"We are able to fund these scholarships due to the support and generosity of our members," Tom Rider, OGA Executive Director stated. "When you participate in events such as our annual Scholarship Classic or activities at our annual conference, those funds go directly to scholarships."

For more information about the OGA Scholarship, go to www.okgas.org. Questions should be directed to Tom Rider at tom@meso.org.

Leadership

(continued from page 1)

Before joining the Turn the Ship Around team, he was a Lean/Agile Coach and Trainer at Adobe. In this role, he helped teams in every part of the company find ways to deliver more customer value with less effort through applying Lean and Agile principles to their work.

Cost: \$150 per person (\$125 per person when registering five people or more). Registration deadline is May 9. Seating is limited. Register online today at www.okgas.org.

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Association Report Confirms Natural Gas Dominance in U.S. Capacity Mix

By Scott Sowers
From the American Public Power Association

A recently released update to a report issued by the American Public Power Association on America's generation capacity confirms the dominance of natural gas, accounting for over 43 percent of all generation capacity, with coal contributing just over 23 percent of capacity.

Nuclear, hydro, and wind together account for nearly one-quarter of capacity, the report said, while solar currently constitutes 2.6 percent of all capacity.

The report, "America's Electricity Generation Capacity 2018 Update," which was prepared by Paul Zummo, Director, Policy Research and Analysis, at the Association, analyzes prospective generation capacity in four categories — under construction, permitted, application pending, and proposed.

Over 348,000 MW of new generation capacity is under development in the United States with 97,575 MW under construction or permitted, and 250,746 MW proposed or pending application, the report said.

Most of the capacity currently under construction or permitted will be fueled by natural gas. Solar and wind together account for nearly one-third of near-term potential capacity additions. Natural gas, solar, and wind projects account for 92 percent of all capacity under construction, and would bring 44,844 MW online.

Regionally, the Southeast currently has the most generation, with 25 percent of the nation's total capacity. However, the Western region is slated to add the most generation in the long-term, projecting nearly 94,000 megawatts of new capacity.

The report also provides information on retirements and planned retirements, cancellations, and capacity that has been added over the past eight years.

The overall capacity mix continues to change at a gradual pace. Few coal plants are scheduled to come online in future years, with a total of 2,559 MW

permitted or under construction, yet the past year saw 11,417 MW of coal-fired capacity proposed. Wind, solar, and other forms of renewable generation continue to be developed. Natural gas continues to be the most popular fuel choice due to costs and efficiency considerations.

Capacity figures cited in the report represent utility-scale capacity only, and do not include distributed and other small-scale generating capacity.

The report demonstrates the continued trend of natural gas being chosen as the predominant fuel for new utility-scale capacity developed in the U.S. Though wind and solar have climbed steadily in recent years, they both continue to trail natural gas in the amount of capacity additions, as well as for plants under construction or nearing construction.

"Despite the halting or cancellations of several proposed nuclear projects, several other nuclear projects remain online, and other permitted projects will add to nuclear capacity in the future," the report noted. "There continues to be a dearth of new coal capacity, though there is a significant increase in the amount of 'proposed' new coal capacity compared to last year's report," the report said.

While almost no coal capacity was listed in the proposed capacity a year ago, over 11,000 MW of new coal capacity was proposed in 2017. Since proposed plants are the least likely to be built, "it will be worth keeping an eye on this capacity to see if there has been a sudden shift in the view of coal as a resource for electric generation in the future," the report said.

"Though there may be unexpected shifts in legislative and regulatory attitudes, not to mention fuel prices, the outlook for electric generating capacity remains remarkably consistent," the report went on to say. A supply mix dominated by natural gas, paired with an increasing share of solar and wind, should be expected for some time to come, the report said.

U.S. Proved Reserves of Natural Gas Increase 5%, Oil Reserves Remain Level at Year-end 2016

From the U.S. Energy Information Administration

- U.S. proved reserves of natural gas increased 5% in 2016, compared with a 17% decline in 2015
- U.S. proved reserves of crude oil and lease condensate remained at 35.2 billion barrels in 2016

The United States had 341.1 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas proved reserves as of December 31, 2016, an increase of 5% from 2015, according to U.S. Crude Oil and Natural Gas Proved Reserves, Year-end 2016, released today by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). U.S. crude oil and lease condensate proved reserves remained at 35.2 billion barrels at year-end 2016 (a slight net decline of 17 million barrels).

	Crude oil and lease condensate billion barrels	Natural gas trillion cubic feet
2015 U.S. proved reserves	35.23	324.30
Net change to U.S. proved reserves	-0.02	+16.83
2016 U.S. proved reserves	35.21	341.11
Percentage change	0.0%	+5.2%

Pennsylvania had the largest net increase in natural gas proved reserves of all states in 2016, adding 6.1 Tcf of natural gas proved reserves in the Marcellus Shale play in the Appalachian Basin. The share of natural gas proved reserves from shale compared with total natural gas increased from 54% in 2015 to 62% in 2016.

Texas had the largest net increase in proved reserves of crude oil and lease condensate of all states in 2016, adding 941 million barrels of proved crude oil and lease condensate reserves, mostly from development in the Permian Basin. Operators drilled and completed long, horizontal wells into the stacked oil-bearing formations of the Spraberry Trend and the Wolfcamp Shale.

In 2016, U.S. production of crude oil and lease condensate decreased by 6% from 2015, and U.S. production of total natural gas decreased by 1%.

Proved reserves are those volumes of oil and natural gas that geological and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions. U.S. Crude Oil and Natural Gas Proved Reserves, Year-end 2016 is available at: <http://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/crudeoilnaturalgasreserves>.

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