



Market Update: Time to Re-Write the Models Again?

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Agenda

- 1. Gas market overview
- 2. LNG rationale
- 3. Competitive issues/challenges
- 4. Global paradigm
- 5. Changing basis differentials
- 6. Conclusions.



About BSA...

- Independent consultants on energy economics, supply, contracting, pricing, rate design, system costs, regulatory and lender risks worldwide
- Three major practice areas:
 - Market research, energy analysis and forecasting
 - *Due diligence* on fuel risks for 105 power projects, and gas storage and pipeline financings
 - *Expert witness* on gas markets, pricing, rates, market power, cost of capital, contract issues in 16 jurisdictions
- ♦ 400 assignments since founding in March 1984.



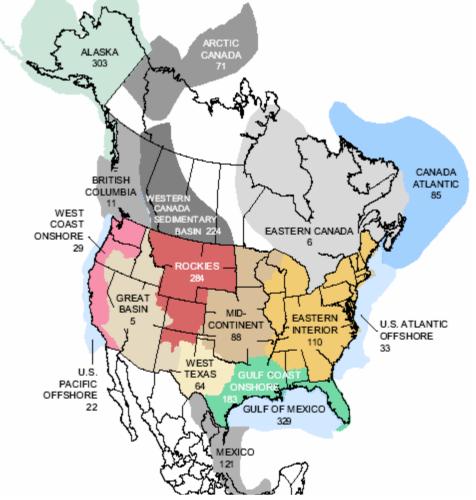
BSA North American Market Due Diligence for LNG Lenders

- RBS and rating agencies, for the Rasgas II/III project finance in 2005
- SocGen, for Egypt LNG phase II expansion in 2004
- BNP Paribas, for Atlantic LNG Train 4 in 2004
- HSBC and Shell, on behalf of lenders for Tangguh and Sakhalin LNG, respectively in 2004-2005
- SocGen, for Peru LNG project finance (in progress)

In 2004-2006, BSA also provided independent North American market analysis and forecasting to more than a dozen existing and prospective LNG importers.



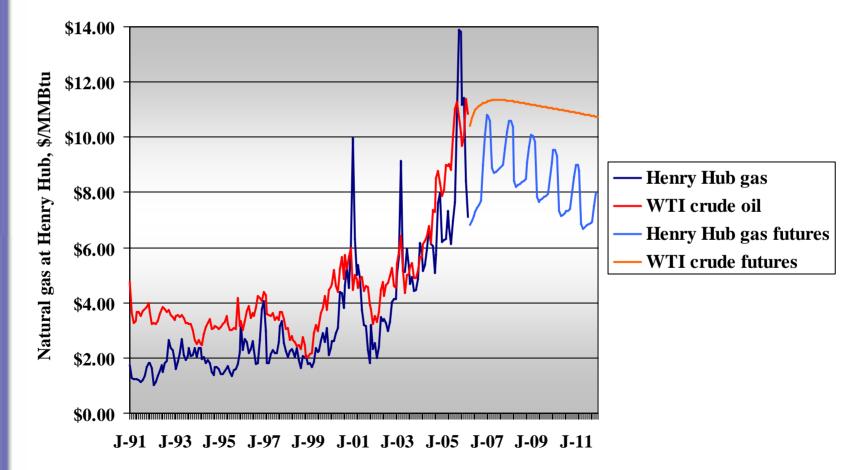
North American gas resources are prolific, but E&P costs are rising (Tcf).



Source: NPC 2003.



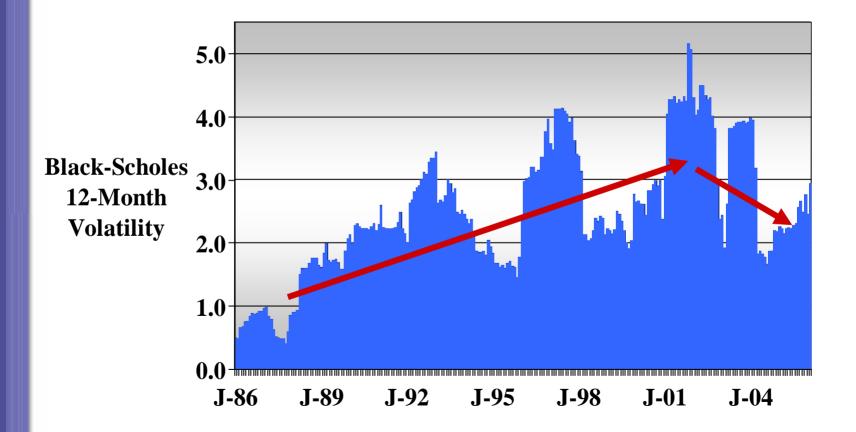
Short-term crude oil and gas prices have cooled a bit since last fall.



Source: BSA 20-March-2006, from Platt's, NYMEX.



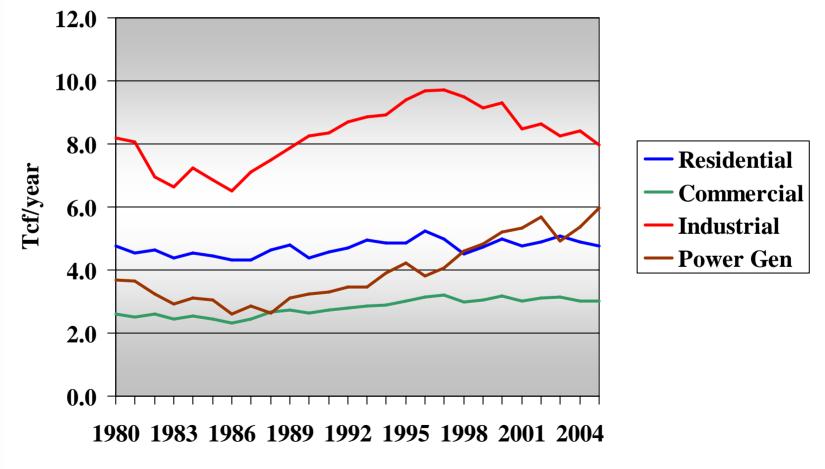
Henry Hub price volatility seems slightly off, even with hurricanes.



Source: BSA 2006, from Platts through 2/2006.



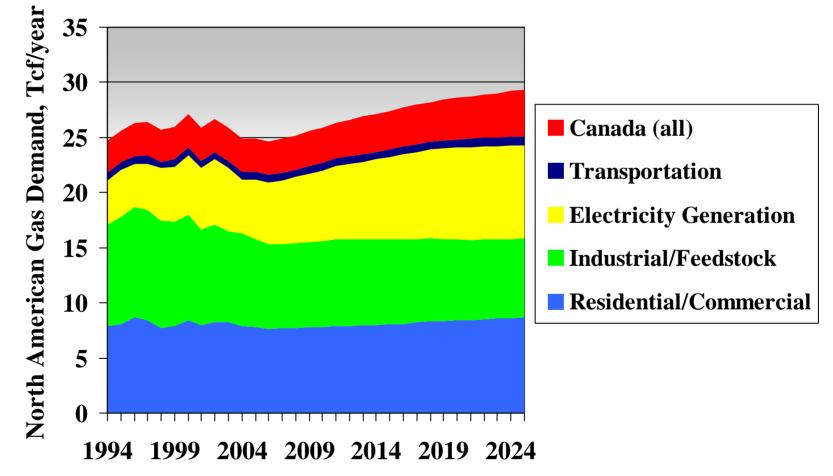
Industrial gas users have steadily shed demand since 1998.



Source: BSA 12/2005, from EIA.



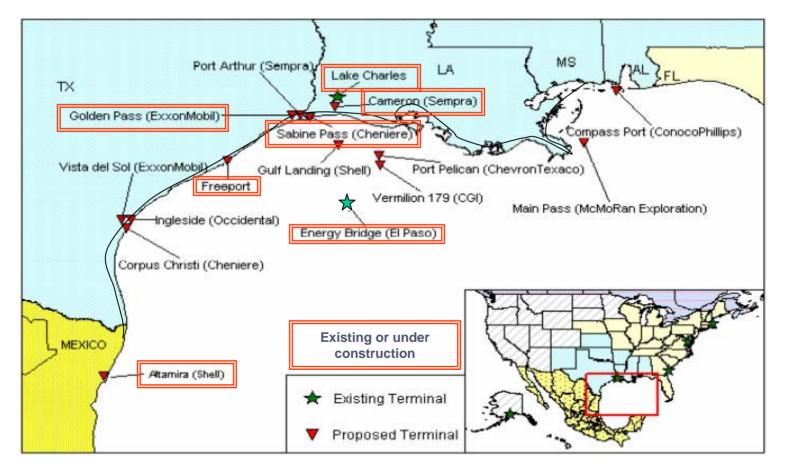
With few substitutes, gas for power will rise 2.9%/yr through 2020.



Source: 2005 BSA forecast, historical data from EIA.



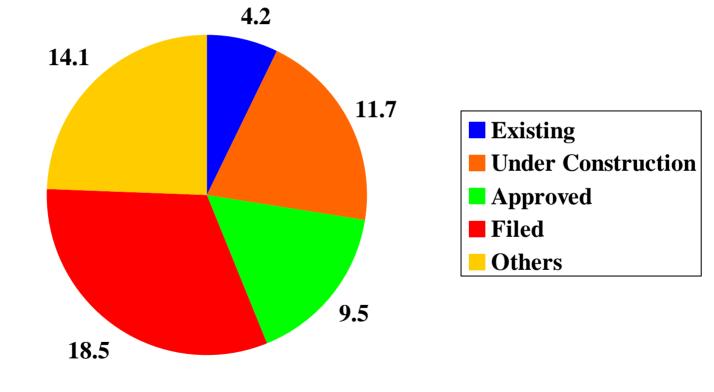
LNG construction-in-progress is focused along the Gulf Coast.



Source: BSA 2006, from EIA map and project updates.



Some over-build of LNG receiving capacity seems inevitable.

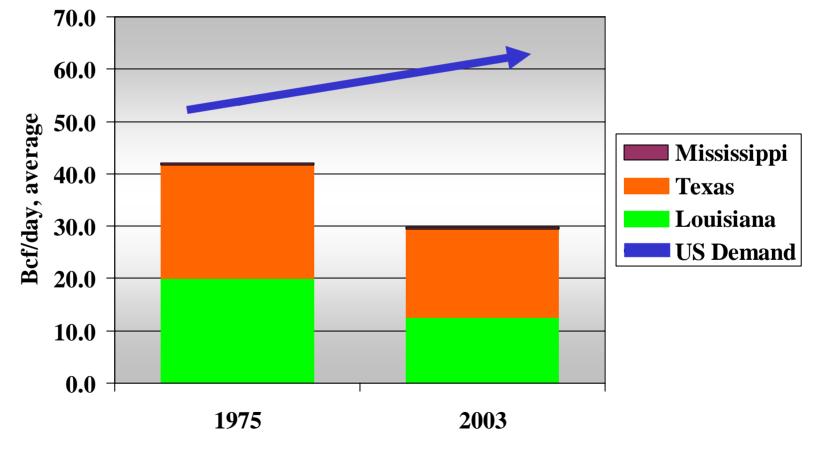


58 Bcf/day of capacity proposed for North America!

Source: BSA 2/2006 update, from FERC and project data.



Gulf depletion provides 12+ Bcf/d pipeline capacity for LNG.



Source: BSA 2005, from EIA, AGA data.



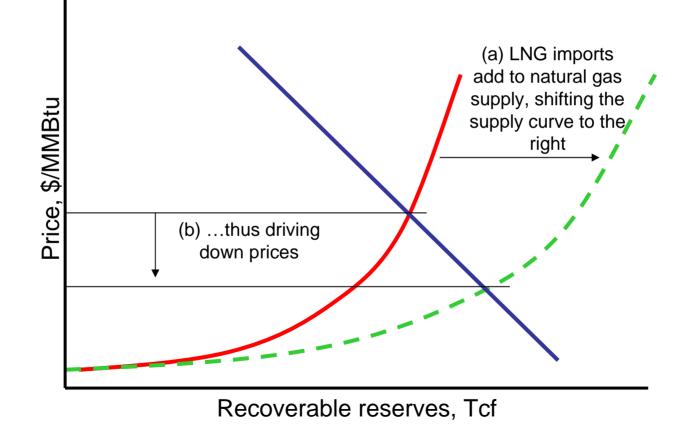
Congress codified the FERC's encouraging "Hackberry" Rule.

- In a 2002 decision approving Sempra's Cameron terminal, FERC adopted an extraordinarily pro-LNG policy.
 - Viewed LNG's role in future US gas supplies as imperative
 - Recognized need for international investment
 - Plainly conceded international commerce can't be regulated here
 - LNG terminals economically deregulated, much like gas wells.
- US Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Domenici-Barton) adopted the Hackberry rule, and extended it through 2015:
 - Placed LNG terminal siting under FERC's final purview
 - Governors can veto offshore but not onshore sites.

But wait, is LNG really the same as a gas well?



LNG will displace higher-cost gas, and reduce prices where it lands.



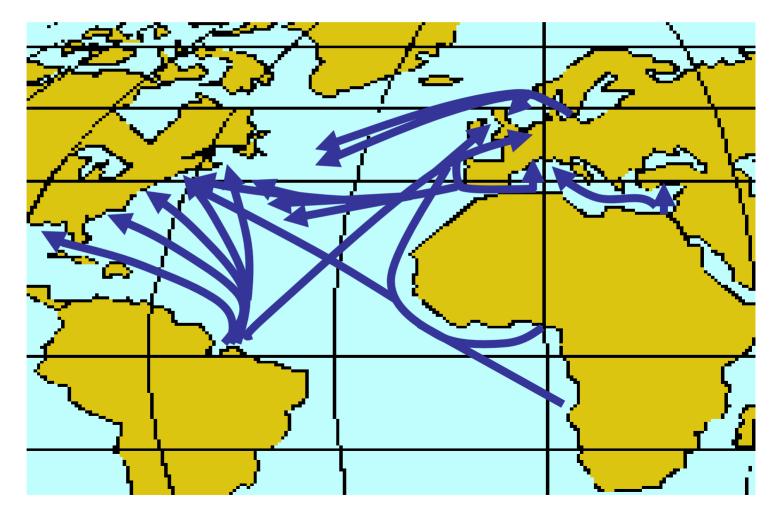
Source: BSA 2005, from Altos.



In practice, however, international buyer competition for LNG – US gas markets vs. petroleum-indexed European/Asian gas – may support and strengthen North American prices....



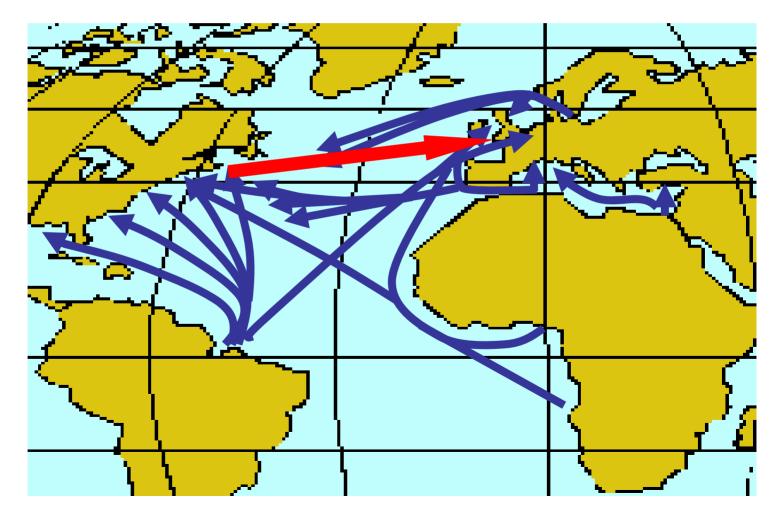
Major Atlantic LNG trading...



Source: BSA 2000-2006.



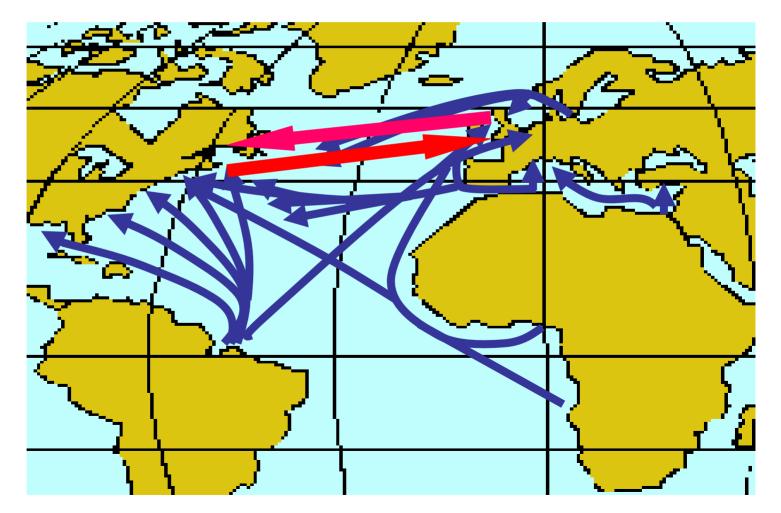
Will force price signals east...



Source: BSA 2000-2006.



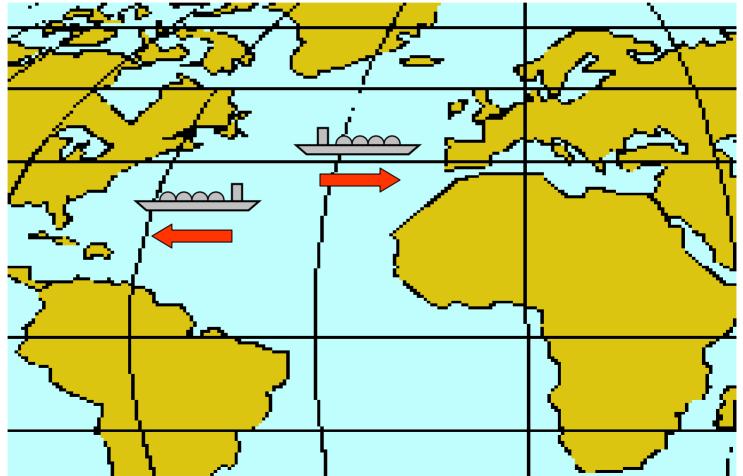
...But toward the west as well!



Source: BSA 2000-2006.



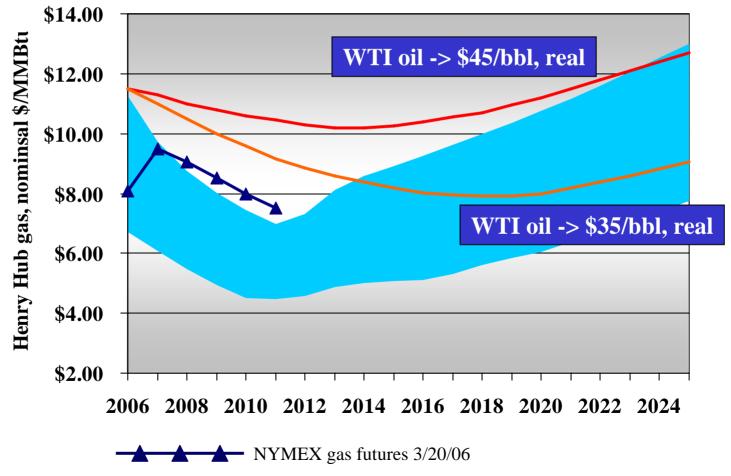
With spare terminal capacity, LNG cargoes will drive out arbitrage.



Source: BSA 2005.



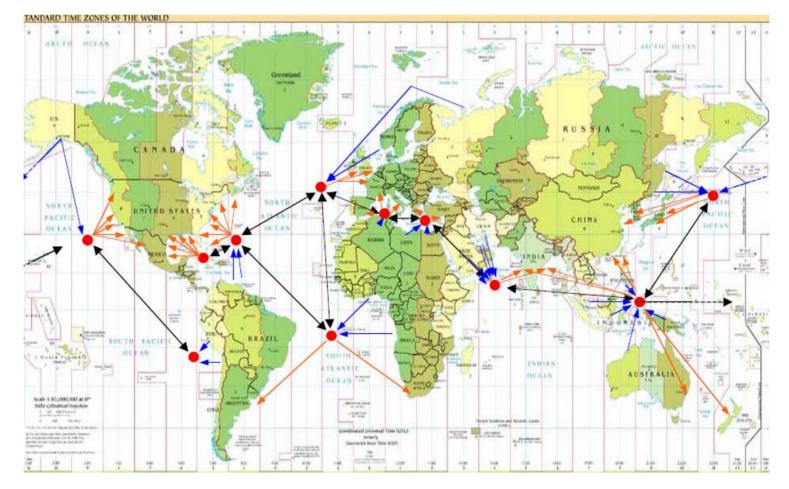
Gas forecasting models seem to be doing battle with market forwards.



Source: BSA, 2006.



One solution may be the World Gas Trade Model (WGTM).



Source: Altos 2005.



Buyers are competing in different kinds of markets.

- North America's commodity markets:
 - Optimization models (GPCM, etc.)
 - Market clearing models (NARG, etc.)
- Europe and Asian contract markets:
 - Long-term take-or-pay SPAs
 - Prices indexed to petroleum products, corrected quarterly, annually
 - Structurally fixed, much like pre-commodity U.S. contracts.

Commodity-based models not necessarily accurate for LNG trade; perhaps some kind of hybrid needed.



Models must be reviewed with respect to basis forecasts as well.

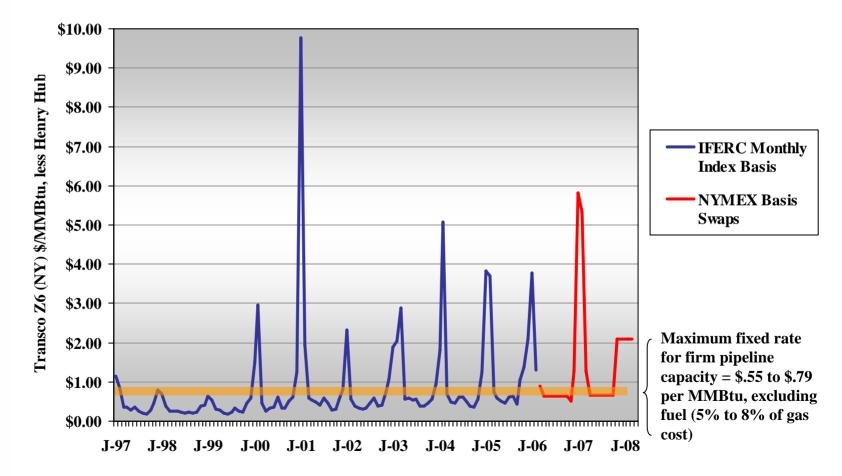


Extreme market conditions are excluded from annual models:

- Temperature-sensitive demands force 100% pipeline load factors to north/northeast, extraordinary basis spikes.
- Winter-mode utility operations:
 - Interruptible gas delivery arrangements to industrial and power plant customers (averaged only, treated as a demand reduction)
 - Underground storage withdrawals, delivered by pipeline
 - Peak-shaving LNG and propane-air (excluded from EIA weekly storage reports).
- Weather upsets Gulf summers, northern fuel oil and coal handling/supply issues, equipment outages, potential winter delays in LNG deliveries to local terminals.



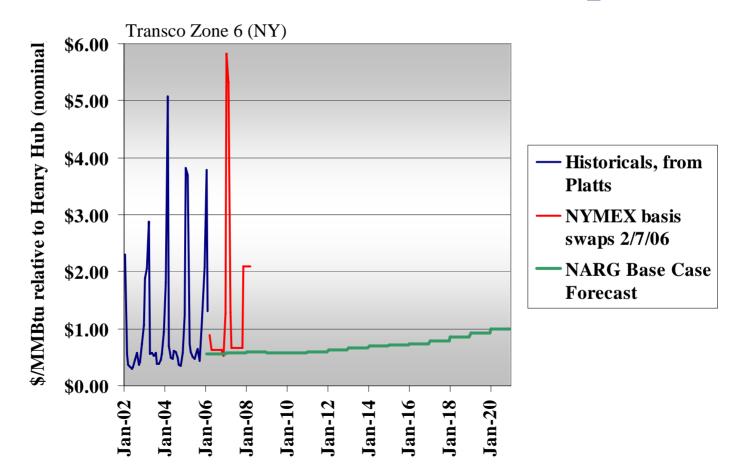
Northeast basis is highly seasonal, and has been rising for 10 years.



Source: BSA 8-Feb-2006, from Platt's, NYMEX.



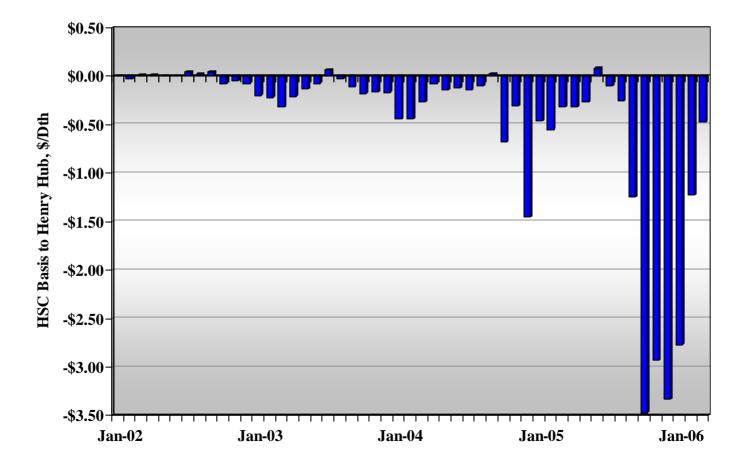
Annual models "average" Northeast basis at their peril.



Source: BSA 2006, from Platts, NYMEX, NARG/Altos..



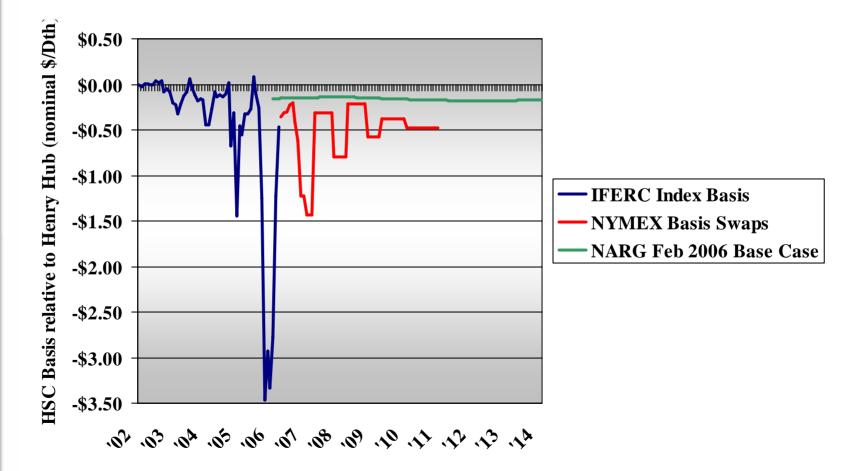
Significant basis differentials have developed along the Gulf Coast.



Source: BSA 2006, from Platts.



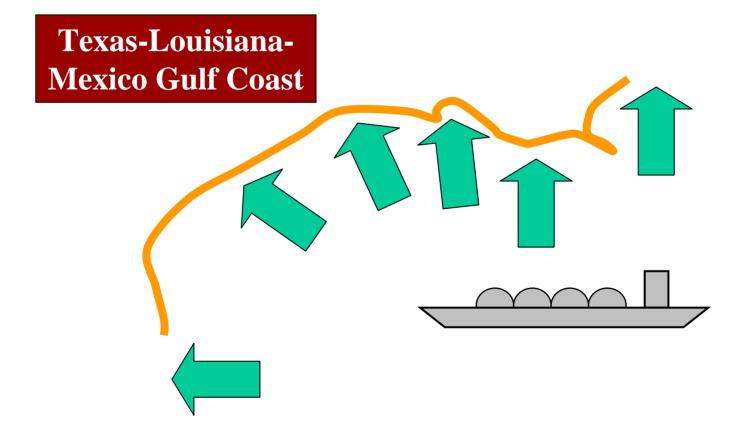
Thus, it's likewise important to interpret Gulf area basis forecasts.



Source: BSA 2006, from Platts, NYMEX 3//20/06 closing, NARG.



Enough Gulf terminals will reduce basis differentials (absent storms!).



Source: BSA 2005.







Major Conclusions

- LNG's share of North American gas supplies will vary between 10% and 20% within a decade.
- Most LNG will enter the pipeline grid in the Gulf region; other new receiving capacity will be constrained.
- Markets and models disagree sharply right now.
- LNG will bring international gas market pressures to North America, reinforcing the oil price correlation and changing internal basis relationships – most domestic price forecast models will have to be re-written!
- Basis forecasting will also change, as LNG overload might not influence pricing the way excess gas supplies would.





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