



## MONTHLY UNDERGROUND GAS STORAGE REPORT FORM EIA-191M INSTRUCTIONS

### PURPOSE

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) Form EIA-191M, "Monthly Underground Gas Storage Report," provides data on the operations of all active underground storage facilities. Data are collected pursuant to the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) Act of 1974, Public Law 93-275. This report is mandatory under the FEA Act. The data appear in the EIA publications *Monthly Energy Review*, *Natural Gas Annual*, and *Natural Gas Monthly*.

### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All companies that operate underground natural gas storage fields in the United States must provide the information requested.

### WHEN TO REPORT

Information requested must be provided within 20 days after the end of the report month. Twelve reports are required per calendar year.

If additional fields are acquired, or storage activities begin in a new facility during the year, you are required to file the Annual Underground Gas Storage Report (Form EIA-191A) when initial activity begins.

### COPIES OF THE SURVEY FORM AND INSTRUCTIONS

Copies in portable document format (PDF) and spreadsheet format (XLS) are available on EIA's website at:

[www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/natural\\_gas/survey\\_forms/nat\\_survey\\_forms.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/natural_gas/survey_forms/nat_survey_forms.html)

You can also access the materials by following these steps:

- Go to EIA's website at [www.eia.doe.gov](http://www.eia.doe.gov)
- Click on the *Natural Gas* category (this takes you to EIA's natural gas information page).
- Click on the *Survey Forms* link located in the reference box in the lower right corner.
- Select the materials you want.

Files must be saved to your personal computer. Data cannot be entered interactively on the website.

### HOW TO REPORT

Instructions on where to report via mail, fax, secure file transfer, or email are printed on Part 2 of Form EIA-191M.

### SECURE FILE TRANSFER

Forms may be submitted through the Secure File Transfer System. The secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS) is an industry standard method to send information over the web using a secure, encrypted process. All information is protected by 128-bit encryption to maintain the privacy and confidentiality of transmitted data. The Secure File Transfer System may be accessed through the following web address: <https://idc.eia.doe.gov/upload/noticeoog.jsp>.

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

All volumes should be reported in thousand cubic feet (Mcf). Negative values should not be filed on any part of the Form EIA-191M.

Provide data for all fields your company operates. You may copy additional forms or download additional electronic files when submitting data for more than 2 fields.

Reporting of preliminary or estimated data is encouraged if necessary to meet the due date. Indicate when revised reports are submitted by checking the box. A revised report is required if actual or corrected data vary more than plus or minus 4 percent from the data previously reported as estimated data.

### SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

#### PART 1: RESPONDENT IDENTIFICATION DATA

Please provide up-to-date company information.

**EIA ID Number:** Complete the 10-digit identification number assigned by EIA. Companies operating in more than one State should note that a unique number has been assigned for operations in each State. In the event an identification number has not been assigned, leave the space blank and contact the EIA at (877) 800-5261, a number will then be assigned by the EIA.

**Resubmission:** Check the box if report is a revised report. If the report is an original, leave this space blank.

**Company Name:** Enter the company name.

**Contact Information:** Enter the current contact information.

#### PART 2: SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Provides information for the four options available for submitting your completed Form EIA-191M: (1) mail; (2) fax; (3) email; and (4) Secure File Transfer.

#### PART 3: MONTHLY GAS STORAGE DATA

All information requested in this part of the form must be reported each time the form is submitted.

Information should be provided for your field/s as defined below in the definitions. Report all volumes in Thousand Cubic Feet (Mcf), 14.73 psia-60° F.

In most cases, net injections or withdrawals should correspond to the difference between total gas volume for the current and prior report period.

**Comments:** Use the space provided to describe any unusual or substantially different aspects of your monthly operations that affect the data reported.

## DEFINITIONS

**Base (Cushion) Gas:** The volume of gas needed as a permanent inventory to maintain adequate storage reservoir pressures and deliverability rates.

**Injections:** The volume of gas injected into storage reservoirs during the report month.

**Total Gas in Storage:** The sum of base gas plus working gas.

**Total Storage Field Capacity:** The maximum volume of base and working gas that can be stored in an underground storage facility in accordance with its design, which comprises the physical characteristics of the reservoir, installed equipment, and operating procedures particular to the site.

**Withdrawals:** The volume of gas withdrawn from storage reservoirs during the report month.

**Working (Top Storage) Gas:** The volume of gas in the storage reservoir that is in addition to the base or cushion gas.

## SANCTIONS

The timely submission of Form EIA-191M by those required to report is mandatory under Section 13(b) of the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) Act of 1974, (Public Law 93-275), as amended. Failure to respond may result in a civil penalty of not more than \$2,750 a day for each violation, or a fine of not more than \$5,000 for each willful violation. The government may bring a civil action to prohibit reporting violations which may result in a temporary restraining order or a preliminary or permanent injunction without bond. In such civil action, the court may also issue mandatory injunctions commanding any person to comply with these reporting requirements.

## PROVISIONS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Unlike Form EIA-191A, information reported on Form EIA-191M will be protected and not disclosed to the public to the extent that

it satisfies the criteria for exemption under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. §552, the DOE regulations, 10 C.F.R. §1004.11, implementing the FOIA, and the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. §1905. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) will protect your information in accordance with its confidentiality and security policies and procedures.

The Federal Energy Administration Act requires the EIA to provide company-specific data to other Federal agencies when requested for official use. The information reported on this form may also be made available, upon request, to another component of the Department of Energy (DOE); to any Committee of Congress, the General Accounting Office, or other Federal agencies authorized by law to receive such information. A court of competent jurisdiction may obtain this information in response to an order. The information may be used for any nonstatistical purposes such as administrative, regulatory, law enforcement, or adjudicatory purposes.

Disclosure limitation procedures are not applied to the statistical data published from EIA-191M survey information. Thus, there may be some statistics that are based on data from fewer than three respondents, or that are dominated by data from one or two large respondents. In these cases, it may be possible for a knowledgeable person to estimate the information reported by a specific respondent.

## FILING FORMS WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ESTIMATED REPORTING BURDEN

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Energy Information Administration, Statistics and Methods Group EI-70, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.