



Natural gas production on the rise

After a brief slowdown in early 2016, U.S. natural gas production is expected to increase during the second half of this year and continue rising through 2017.

In its new monthly forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said domestic natural gas output during the fourth quarter of this year is expected to top 80 billion cubic feet per day and then climb to a new record of 82 billion cubic feet per day by end of 2017.

With record production and increasing gas shipments to foreign markets, the United States is on track to become a natural gas net exporter in the second quarter of next year.

In the short term, while Hurricane Hermine led to the evacuation of several oil and natural gas production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico and caused some shut-in production, total U.S. natural gas output in August was up slightly from July's level.

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