

Volume 591 December 31, 2015

Market- January natural gas futures expired Wednesday at \$.2372 per therm; February is now the front month. Prices traded sharply higher during the week. Short term colder weather is increasing demand for natural gas. Rig counts for both traditional and horizontal have dropped significantly over the last 15 months indicating continued ample supply of natural gas. Natural gas storage inventories are higher than last year and slightly higher than the five-year average as seen on the graph to the right. The US gas traditional rotary rig count decreased 6 rigs and horizontal drilling decreased 5 rigs. Natural gas is very attractive to fix at this time.

The Crude oil price for February is higher this week at \$36.40 per barrel. Heating oil is lower at \$1.08 per gal. Unleaded gasoline futures are lower this week at \$1.22 and gasoline at the pump is around \$1.89...in Indiana. The natural gas storage report this week was a withdrawal of **58BCF**; storage is **532BCF** higher than last year and **448BCF** higher than the 5 year average.



Above Graph—Feb 2016 NYMEX gas futures

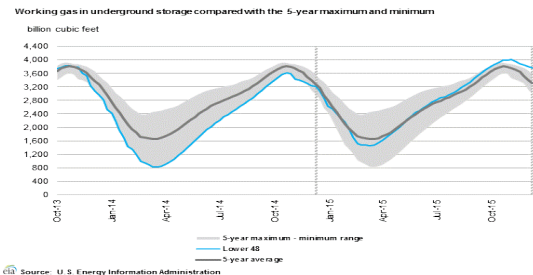
Extended Temperature Forecast: Chicago Area

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
High	28	22	33	32	31
Low	17	14	21	23	22

Storage Statistics: (BCF) Billion Cubic Ft

This Week	Last Year	5 Year Ave.
3,756	3,224	3,308

The total is a decrease of 58 BCF from last week.



Above Graph - Storage levels as of 12-31-15

Comparative Fuels: Futures Prices for Feb

	Price	Compared to Nat Gas
Natural Gas (therm)	\$2.330	\$2.330
Propane (gal)	\$3.80	\$4.14
Crude Oil (barrel)	\$36.40	
Heating Oil (gal)	\$1.08	\$0.776
Unleaded Gas (gal)	\$1.22	

North American Traditional Nat. Gas Rig Count:

This week	162
Last week	168
Year Ago this week	340

US Horizontal Rig Count:

This week	554
Last week	559
Year Ago this week	1,350

NGI Chicago for Dec 2015 \$2.380

