

## S&P Global Platts

- 23 Jan 2019 | 21:39 UTC
- Houston

# EIA's New England power grid interactive webpage links supply to demand

○

Houston — The US Energy Information Administration on Wednesday announced the launch of a [New England Dashboard](#), an interactive webpage featuring fundamental supply and demand factors, such as fuel flows and weather, but industry observers said market participants likely already have this information.

The new webpage "provides an integrated view of the energy commodities -- natural gas/liquefied natural gas, electricity, and petroleum products -- and market-influencing fundamentals -- such as weather -- that can influence energy consumption, prices, flows, and security in the region," the EIA said in a statement.

"Market participants likely have this information or better already available to them," said Michael Giberson, an economist in the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University, but he added that does not mean the EIA's efforts are wasted.

## MORE USEFUL FOR PUBLIC

"Most members of the public ... likely have little idea of the complexities involved in delivering gas and electric power into the region," Giberson said in an email Wednesday. "The tool offers a bit of insight into some of the challenges. The public includes both people who complain about price spikes and people who object to adding pipeline infrastructure. The EIA's dashboard may help people in the region understand the possible relationship between prices and pipelines."

NED's information includes the following:

- Status of the electric grid such as "Normal" or "Energy Emergency Alert"
- Generation fuel mix
- Generation outages and available capacity
- Electricity consumption (current and projected load)
- Locational marginal prices
- Inter-regional natural gas flows

- LNG imports
- Fuel prices, including Henry Hub, Tetco M3, Transco Zone 6 NY and Algonquin city-gate
- Petroleum product stocks
- Daily average temperature variances from the previous day by state and region, recent and forecast

Sources of this information from outside the EIA include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, ISO New England, OPIS PointLogic, S&P Global Market Intelligence and Thomson Reuters.

"Market participants, traders, ISO New England and large consultancies should have access to this data, some of which is publicly available and some [through] subscription services such as OPIS and S&P," said Gurcan Gulen, a former senior energy economist at the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology's Center for Energy Economics who now consults in the Boston area.

## **HYDRO, WIND FORECASTS MISSING**

Although the EIA webpage includes demand-related forecasts, it does not include certain key supply-related forecasts, such as hydro-flows and wind output, which collectively supplied more than 11% of New England's net generation around noon Wednesday.

"ISOs balance demand and supply in real time," said Gulen in an email. "Best forecast of how much hydro et al. will be used in the next few hours is what they used in the last hour. Longer term, a lot factors can change in terms of demand (weather), generators tripping, grid getting congested, etc., that might change what gets dispatched how much."

-- Mark Watson, [markham.watson@spglobal.com](mailto:markham.watson@spglobal.com)

-- Edited by Richard Rubin, [newsdesk@spglobal.com](mailto:newsdesk@spglobal.com)