



# 2026 NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL NATURAL GAS READINESS FORUM

PROVIDENCE, RI - MAY 28, 2026

# WELCOME



KIMBERLY DENBOW  
VICE PRESIDENT, SECURITY & OPERATIONS  
AGA

# PROGRAM AGENDA

## Working Lunch (12:30 – 1:05)

- **Welcome & Antitrust Compliance Guidelines** (Kimberly Denbow & Matthew Agen, AGA)
- **Opening Remarks** (Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski, Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission)
- **Northeast Weather Forecast** (Matthew Doody, NOAA)

## General Session (1:05 to 1:50)

- **Northeastern Electric Outlook** (Mike Knowland, ISO New England)
- **Northeastern Natural Gas Outlook** (Andrew MacBride, National Grid)
- **Natural Gas/Electric Coordination Case Study** (Christopher Stutz, Iroquois, Michele Leone, Rhode Island Energy, and Alana Daly, Northeast Gas Association)
- **General Session Closing Remarks** (Adam Pollock, Technical Advisor to FERC Commissioner Chang)

## Break (1:50 – 2:00)

## Regional Tabletop Emergency Exercise (Invitation Only, No Media) – (2:00 to 5:00)

- **Welcome** (Amanda Sramek, AGA)
- **Exercise** (Facilitated by Jonathon Monken, Converge Strategies)

# AGA ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES & SAFETY CULTURE STATEMENT

## Antitrust Compliance Guidelines

AGA and its members are committed to full compliance with all laws and regulations and to maintaining the highest ethical standards in the way we do business. This commitment includes strict compliance with federal and state antitrust laws. In the materials distributed with the agenda for this meeting, you will find guidelines outlining AGA's antitrust compliance policy and procedures. If you have any questions or concerns regarding antitrust issues, please feel free to raise them at any time during the meeting.

## Safety Culture Statement

AGA and its member companies are committed to promoting positive safety cultures among their employees throughout the natural gas distribution industry. All employees, as well as contractors and suppliers providing services to AGA members, are expected to place the highest priority on employee, customer, public and pipeline safety.



Matthew Agen  
Chief Regulatory Counsel, Energy  
AGA

# Safety Moment

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## Tick Bite Data Tracker

Use this dashboard to explore the syndromic tick bite surveillance data shared with the National Syndromic Surveillance Program over the years.



Data Explained

Charts and Tables

### Tips for using this dashboard:

**1. Filters:** Use the drop down list to filter all data on the dashboard to a specific category

Region: All

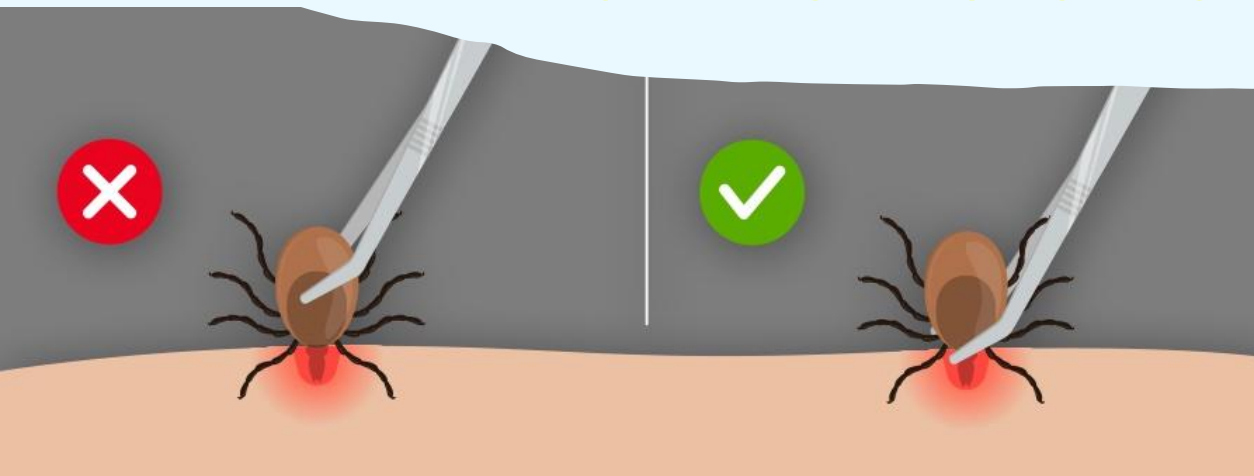
**2. Year sliders:** Use the sliders to filter all data on the dashboard to specific year(s)

2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

**3. Show as Table:** You can view data reflected in visuals as tables by right clicking on visual and selecting "table"

Show as a table

## Tick Bite Prevention



In hair and hairline

Back of neck

Elbows

Back of knees

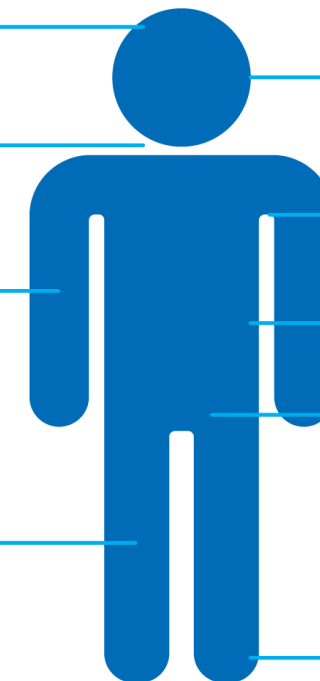
Behind ears

Armpits

Waist

Groin

Between toes



# OPENING REMARKS



RONALD GERWATOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN  
RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC SERVICE  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

# NORTHEAST WEATHER FORECAST



MATTHEW DOODY  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE SPECIALIST /  
INCIDENT METEOROLOGIST  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATION



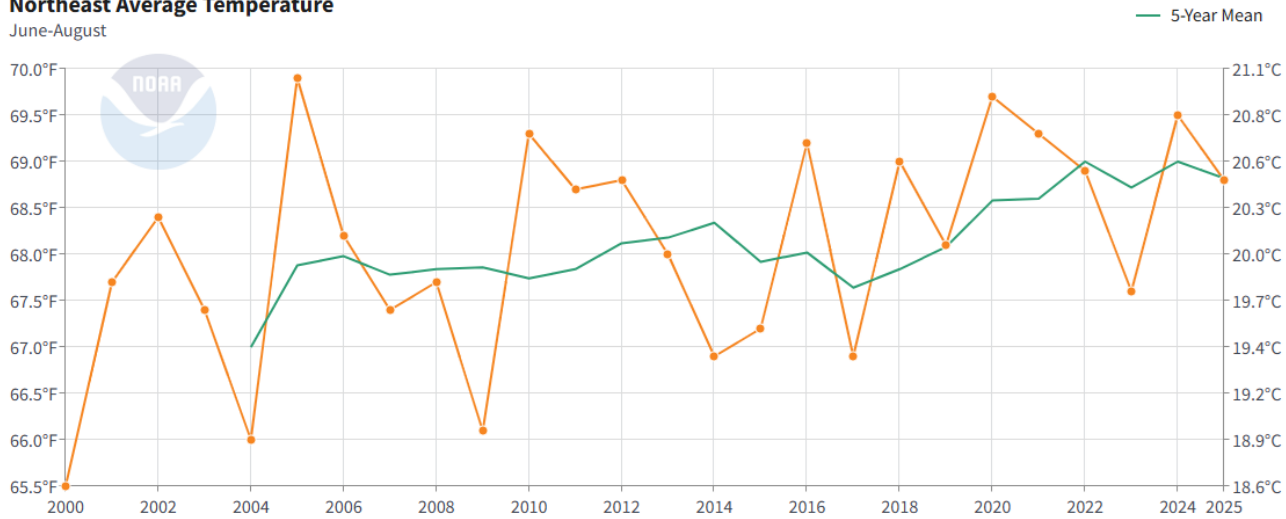
# 2026 Weather Outlook

Matt Doody - National Weather Service  
Meteorologist/Emergency Response Specialist

National Weather Service/Eastern Region Operations Center  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

# 2000s-In-Review

Northeast Average Temperature  
June-August

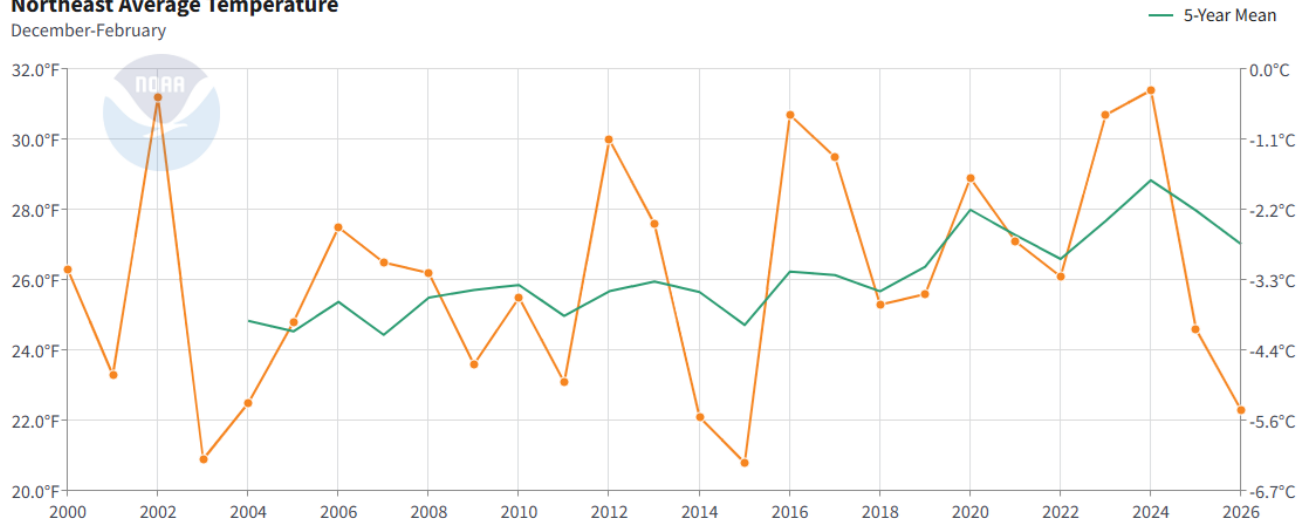


Since 2000, the general temperature trend has been upward in both the cold and warm seasons.

The running 5-year average temperature has risen around 2°F (1°C) during the warm season, but roughly 4°F (2°C) during the cold season.

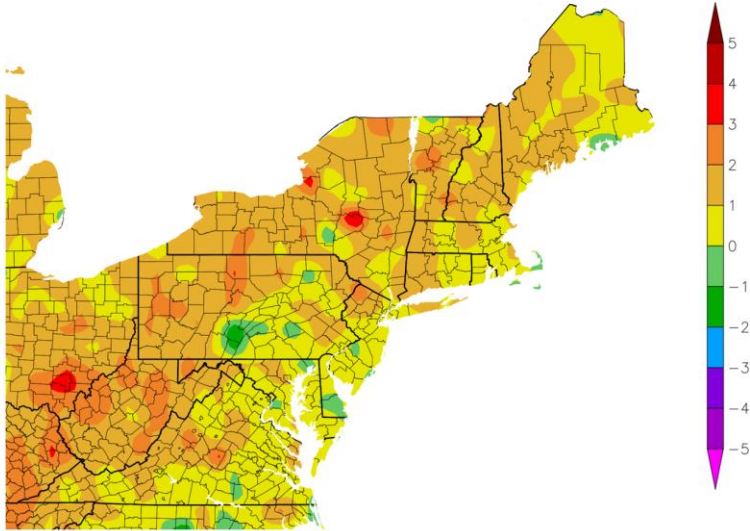
2025/2026 were anomalies in the cold season.

Northeast Average Temperature  
December-February



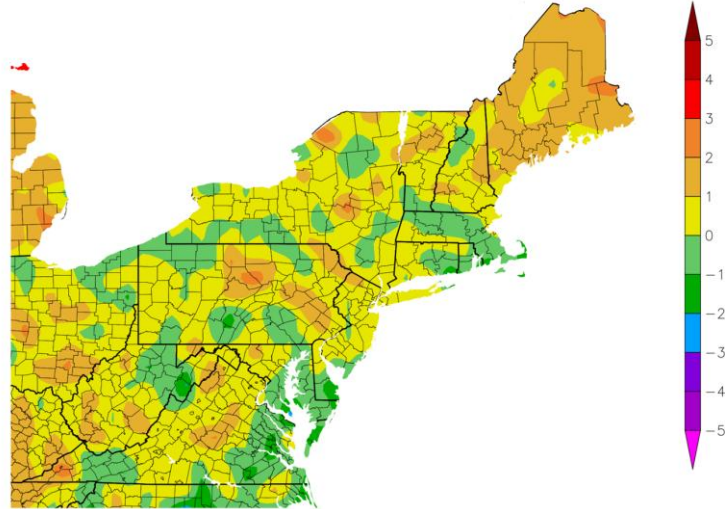
# 2025 Year-In-Review

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
6/1/2025 – 8/31/2025



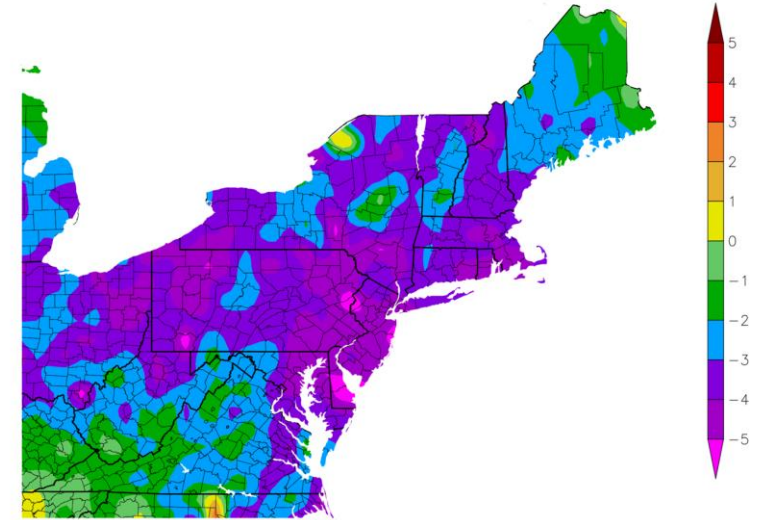
ated 9/20/2025 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
9/1/2025 – 11/30/2025



ACIS Web Services Generated 12/20/2025 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
12/1/2025 – 2/28/2026



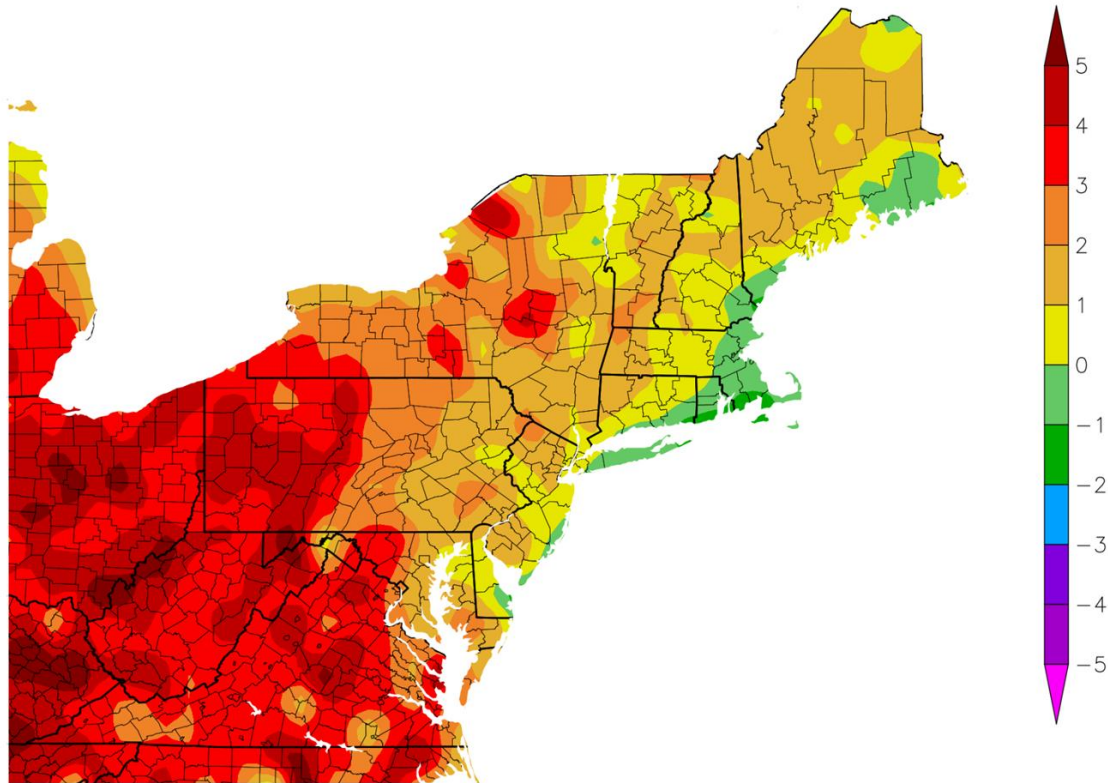
ACIS Web Services ited 3/20/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

The northeast saw its eight hottest June, and fourth hottest July in 2025. The warmer than normal trend continued through the fall of 2025, with both September and October being above normal. November was slightly above normal. The winter, December - February this flipped, with each month ranging from roughly 2-3°F on average. This led to roughly 200-300 more heating degree days the normal for the period.

# Spring 2026

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
2/1/2026 – 4/30/2026

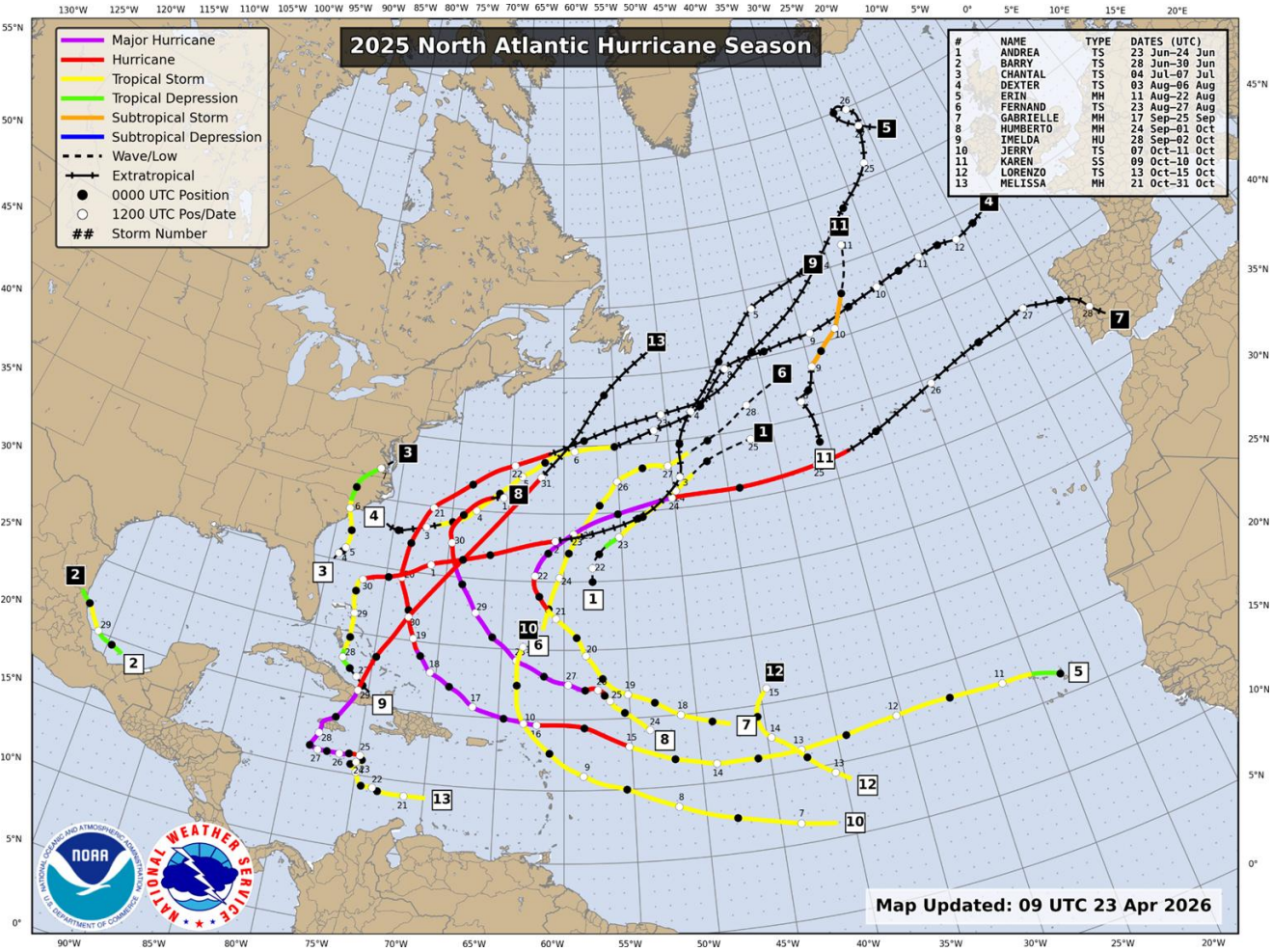


While this includes February, which was cooler than normal, temperatures through April were near to slightly above normal except near the coast.

Generated 5/20/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

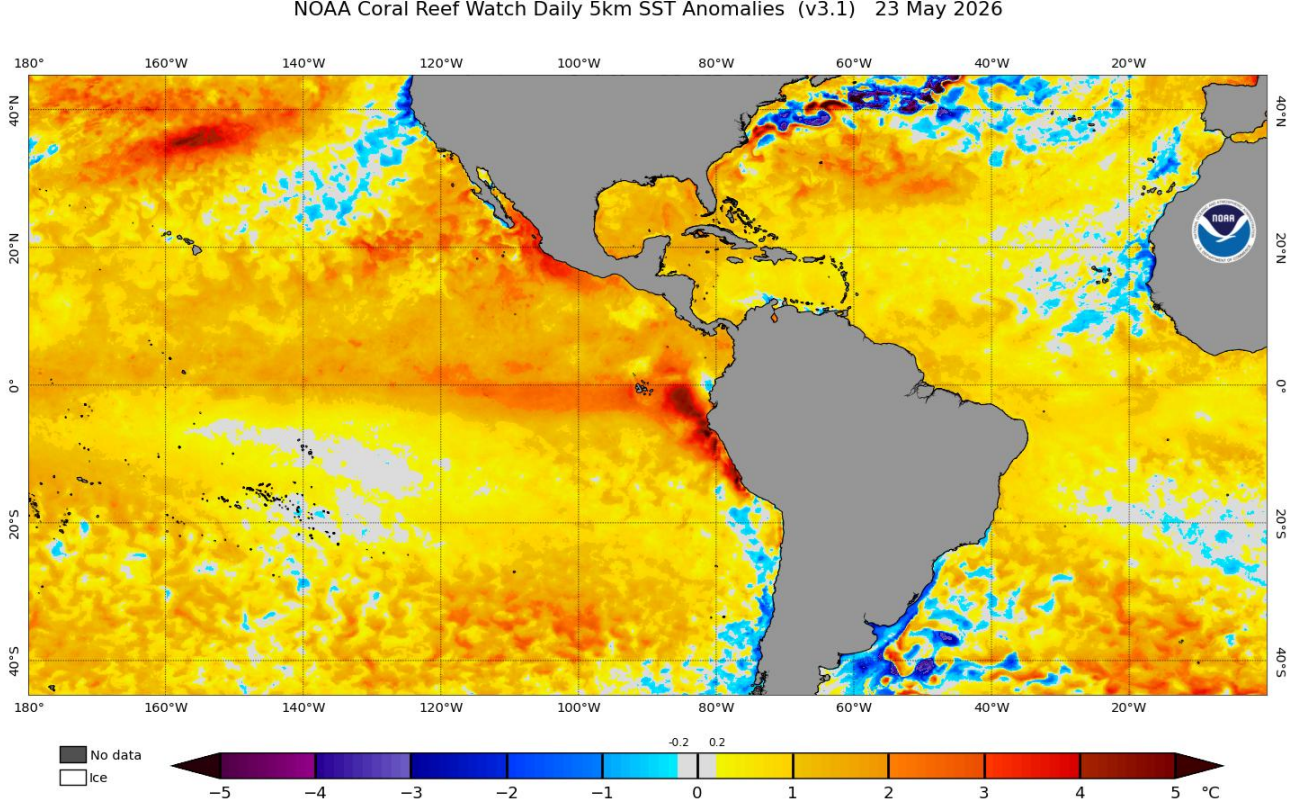
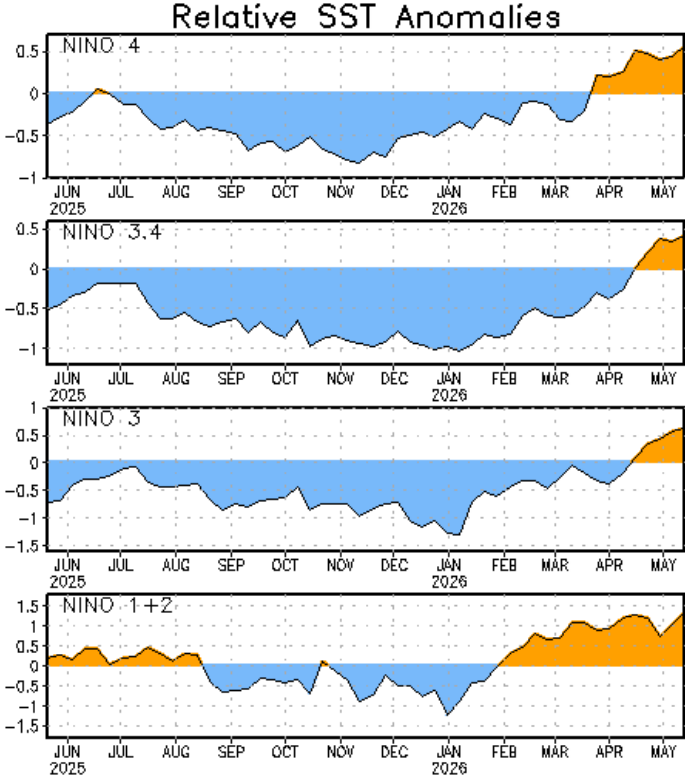
# 2025 Tropical Season



The 2025 Atlantic Tropical Season was one with periods of calm followed by periods with several storms at once.

Only Tropical Storm Chantal actually made landfall in the Carolinas early in the season, around July 4th.

# 2026 El Niño/Southern Oscillation Forecast

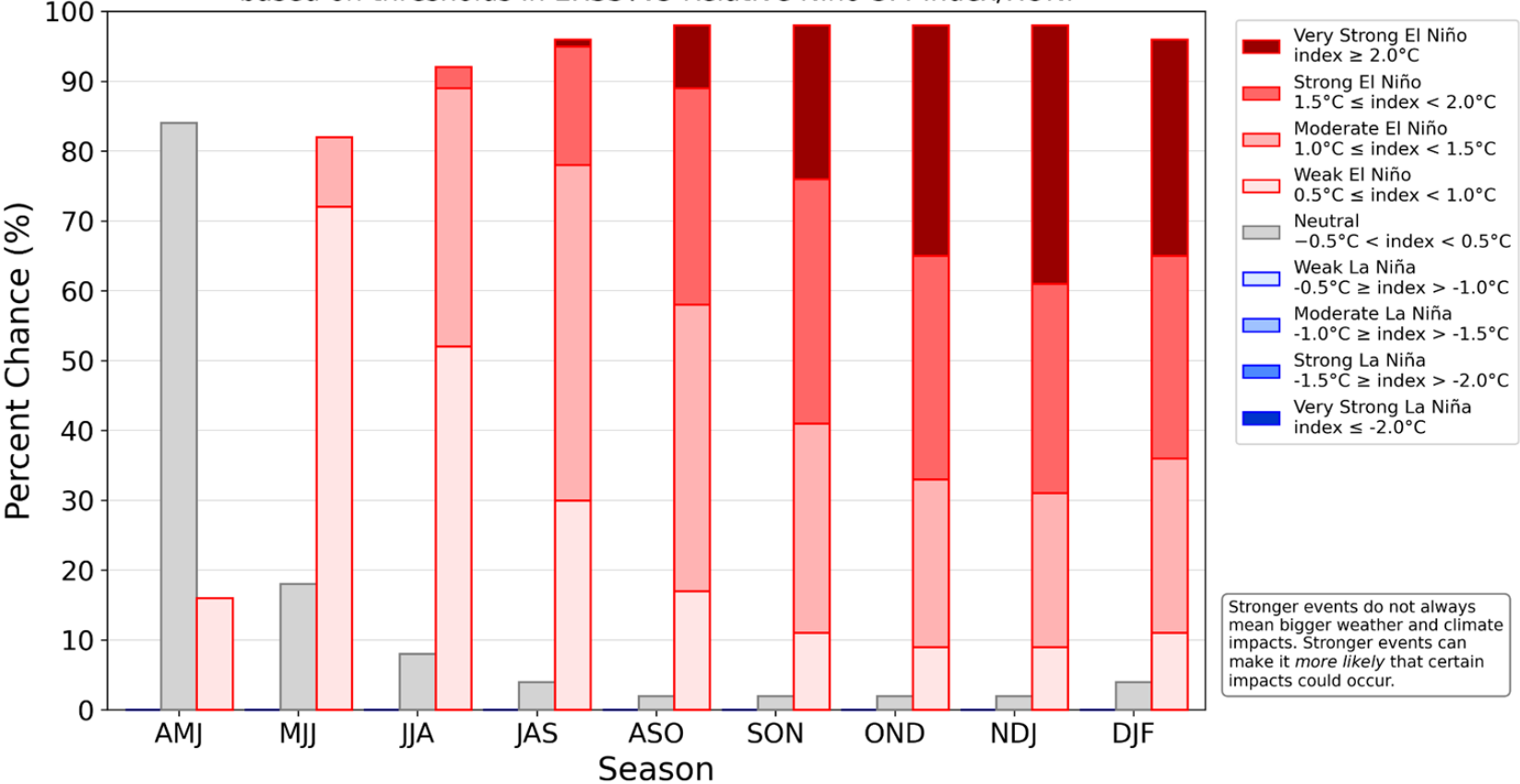


Sea Surface Temperatures running above normal in the tropical Atlantic and in the ENSO regions of the southern Pacific.

# 2026 El Niño/Southern Oscillation Forecast

## NOAA CPC ENSO Strength Probabilities (issued May 2026)

based on thresholds in ERSSTv5 Relative Niño-3.4 index/RONI



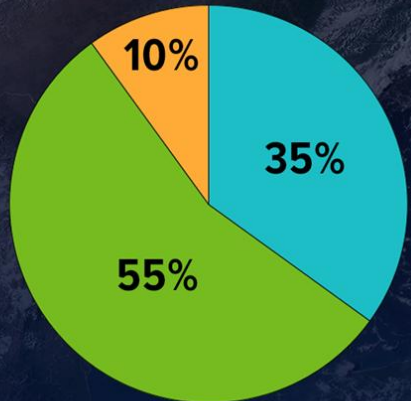
Current projections by the Climate Prediction Center suggest a very high likelihood of El Niño Development for the latter half of 2026.

This includes high chances for a “Very Strong” El Niño.

# 2026 Tropical Season

## NOAA 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

### Season Probability



Above Normal    Near Normal    Below Normal

Named Storms  
8 - 14

Hurricanes  
3 - 6

Major Hurricanes  
1 - 3

Be prepared: visit [hurricanes.gov](https://hurricanes.gov) and follow NOAA's @NWS and @NHC\_Atlantic on X.


May 2026

The 2026 Atlantic Tropical Season is forecast to be:

**Below Normal**

The strong El Nino signal is driving the low numbers in spite of the higher than normal available sea surface energy.

# 2026 Tropical Season



## 2026 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Arthur	Hanna	Omar
Bertha	Isaias	Paulette
Cristobal	Josephine	Rene
Dolly	Kyle	Sally
Edouard	Leah	Teddy
Fay	Marco	Vicky
Gonzalo	Nana	Wilfred

Be prepared: visit [hurricanes.gov](https://hurricanes.gov) and follow NOAA's @NWS and @NHC\_Atlantic on X. May 2026

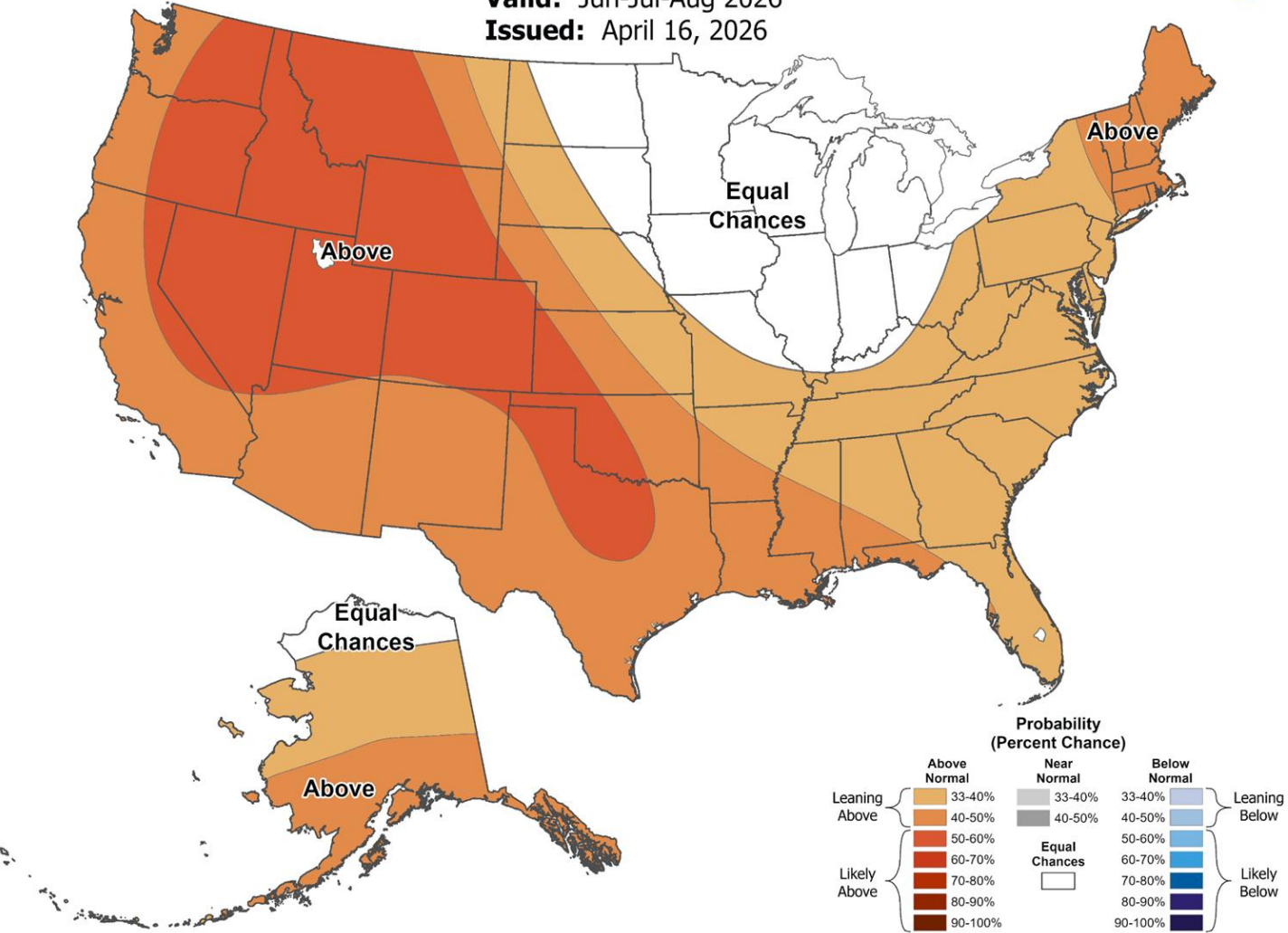
# 2026 June-July-August Outlook



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



**Valid:** Jun-Jul-Aug 2026  
**Issued:** April 16, 2026



Current projections suggest a generally warmer than normal “meteorological” summer.

June-July-August

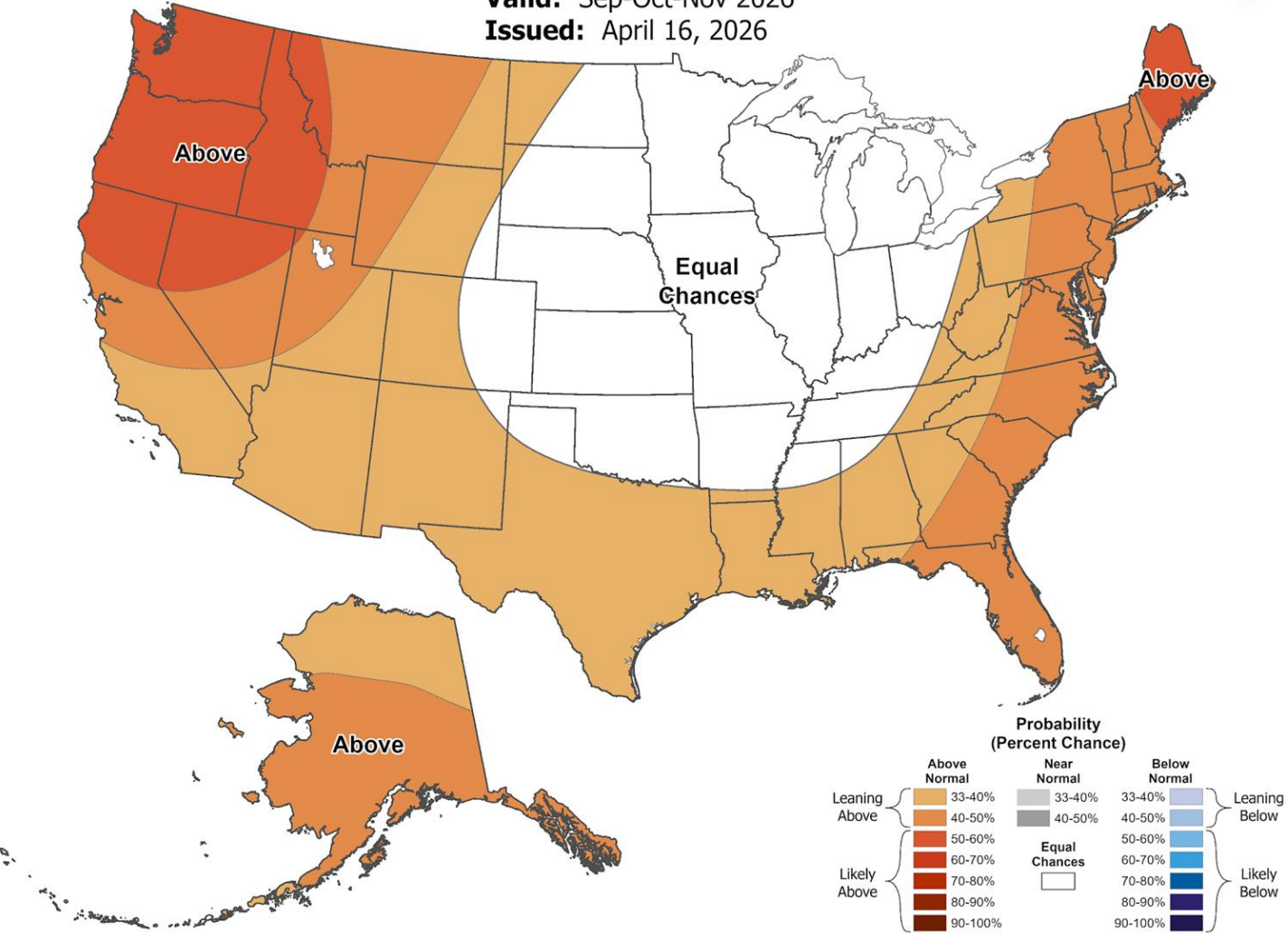
# 2026 September-October- Outlook



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



**Valid:** Sep-Oct-Nov 2026  
**Issued:** April 16, 2026



Current projections suggest a generally warmer than normal “meteorological” fall.

September-October-  
November

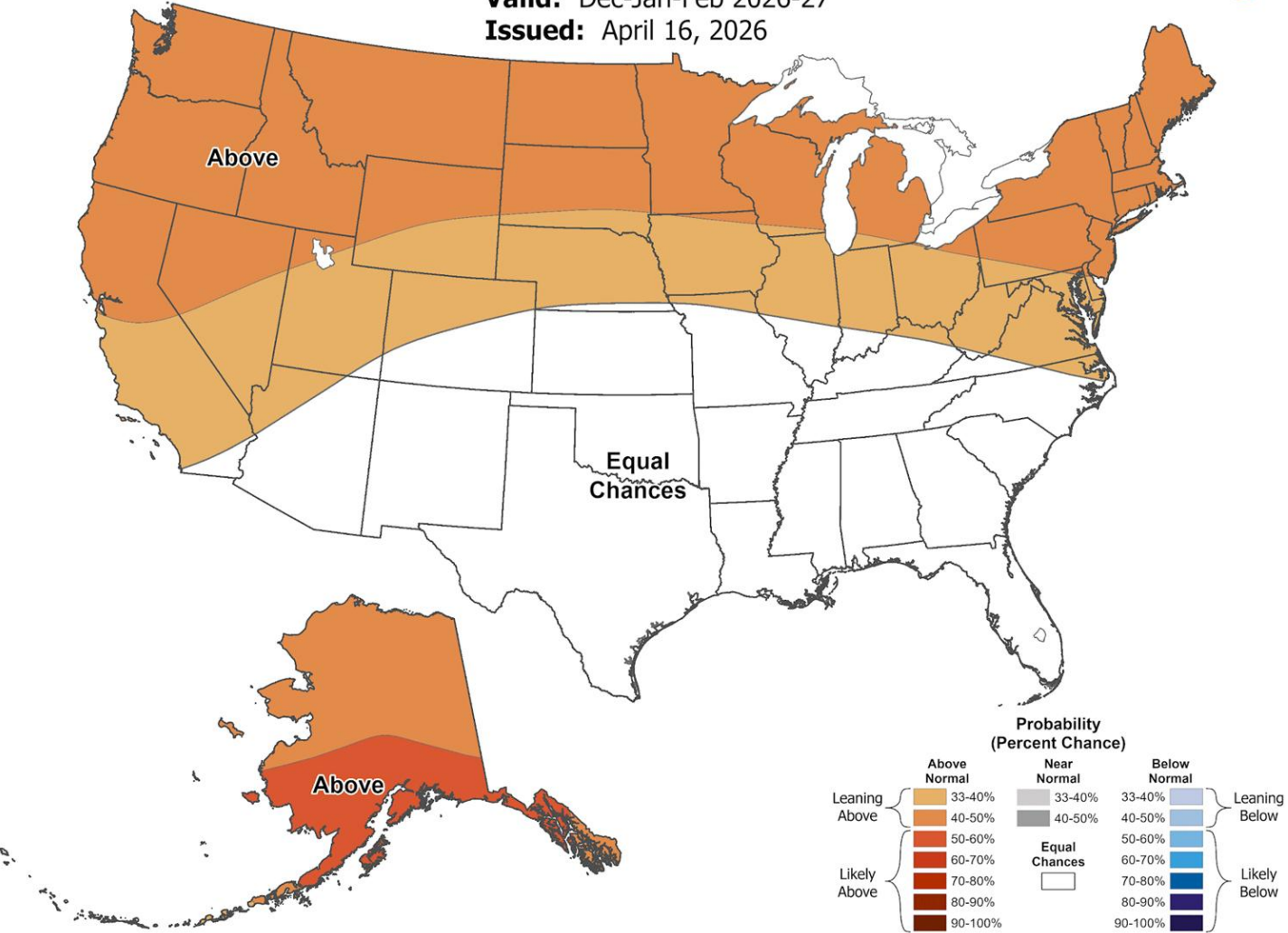
# 2026-2027 December-January-February Outlook



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



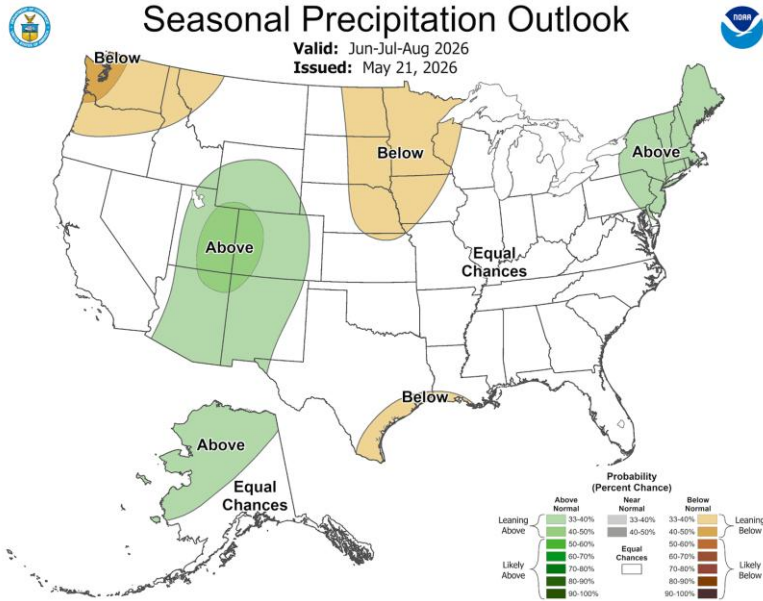
**Valid:** Dec-Jan-Feb 2026-27  
**Issued:** April 16, 2026



Current projections suggest a generally warmer than normal “meteorological” winter.

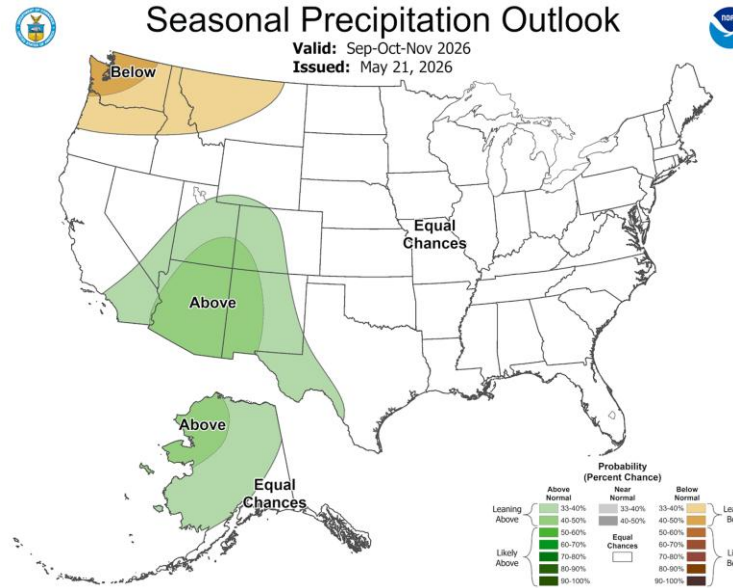
December-January-February

# Precipitation Outlooks



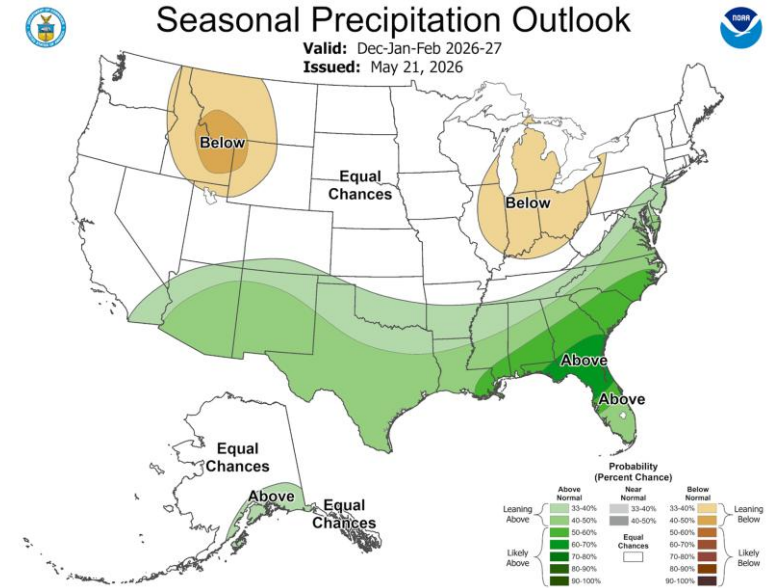
## June-July-August

Higher chance for above normal precipitation for New England/Northeast through summer.



## September-October-November

Equal chances of above/below normal for fall.



## December-January-February

Equal chances for winter, except slightly high probabilities above normal.



# Questions?

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# Find us at:



@NWSEastern



@NWSEastern



@YouTube

[weather.gov/erh](https://www.weather.gov/erh)

# ELECTRIC OUTLOOK



MIKE KNOWLAND  
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS, FORECAST, AND  
SCHEDULING  
ISO NEW ENGLAND

# Northeastern Electric Outlook

*Northeastern Regional NGRF*



Mike Knowland

MANAGER, FORECAST & SCHEDULING  
SYSTEM OPERATIONS AND MARKET ADMINISTRATION



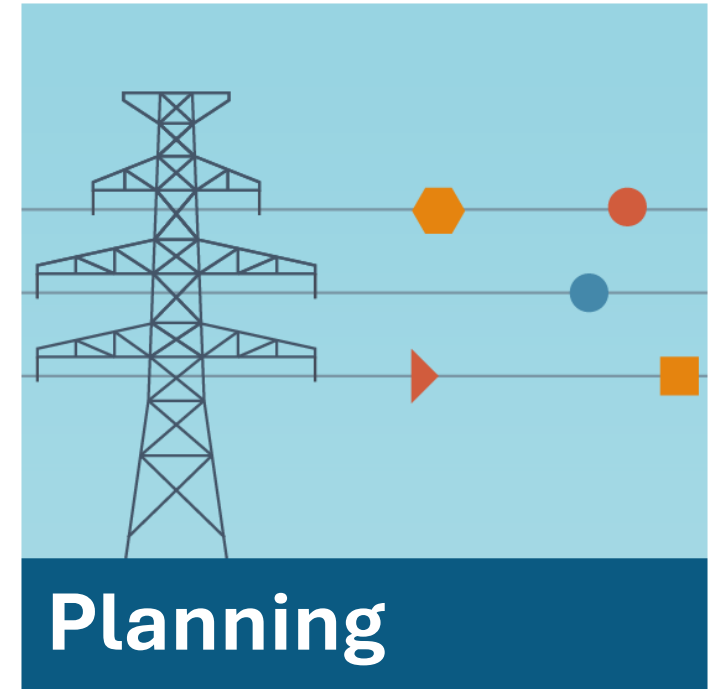
# ISO New England Performs **Three Critical Roles** to Ensure Reliable Electricity at Competitive Prices



Coordinate and direct the flow of electricity over the region's high-voltage transmission system



Design, run, and administer the billion-dollar markets where wholesale electricity is bought and sold

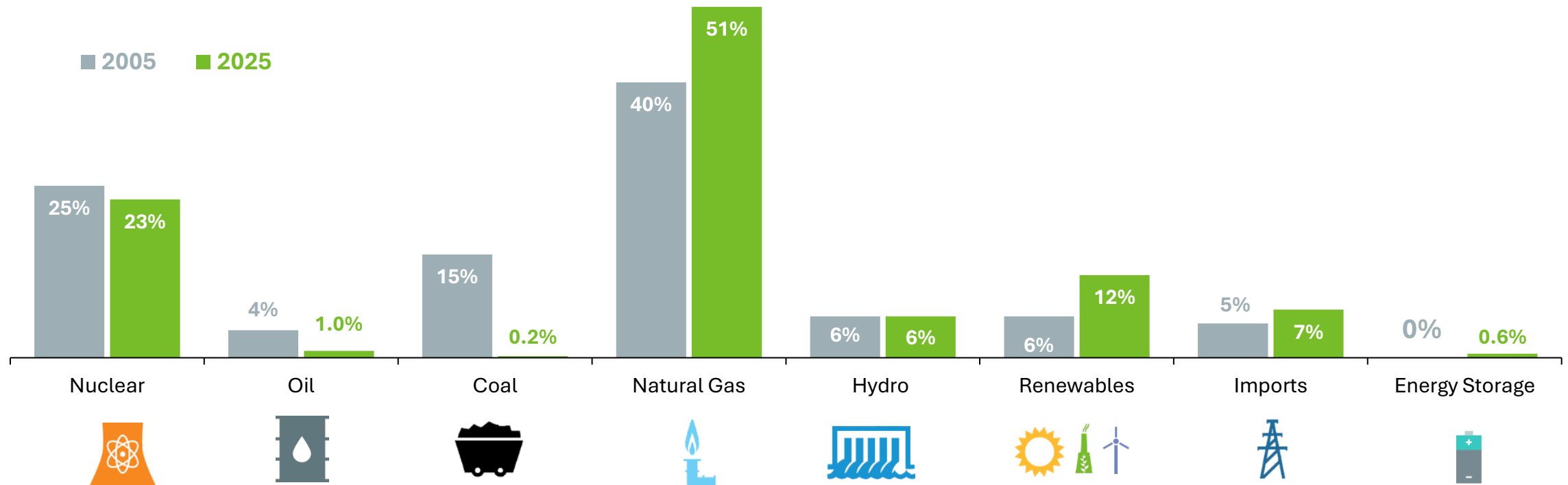


Study, analyze, and plan to make sure New England's electricity needs will be met over the next 10 years

# Changes in the Energy Mix Over Time

*The fuels used to produce the region's electric energy have shifted as a result of economic and environmental factors*

Percent of Total **Electric Energy** Production by Fuel Type (2005 vs. 2025)



Source: ISO New England [Net Energy and Peak Load by Source](#); data for 2025 is preliminary and subject to resettlement

Renewables include landfill gas, biomass, other biomass gas, wind, grid-scale solar, municipal solid waste, and miscellaneous fuels.

This data represents electric generation within New England; it does not include imports or behind-the-meter (BTM) resources, such as BTM solar.

# Weather Drives Regional Demand

- New England is a **summer-peaking system**; heat and humidity drive demand
  - Summer peaks average ~25,600 MW
- Region anticipates shift to **winter-peaking system** with the electrification of heating demand
  - Winter peaks average ~21,000 MW

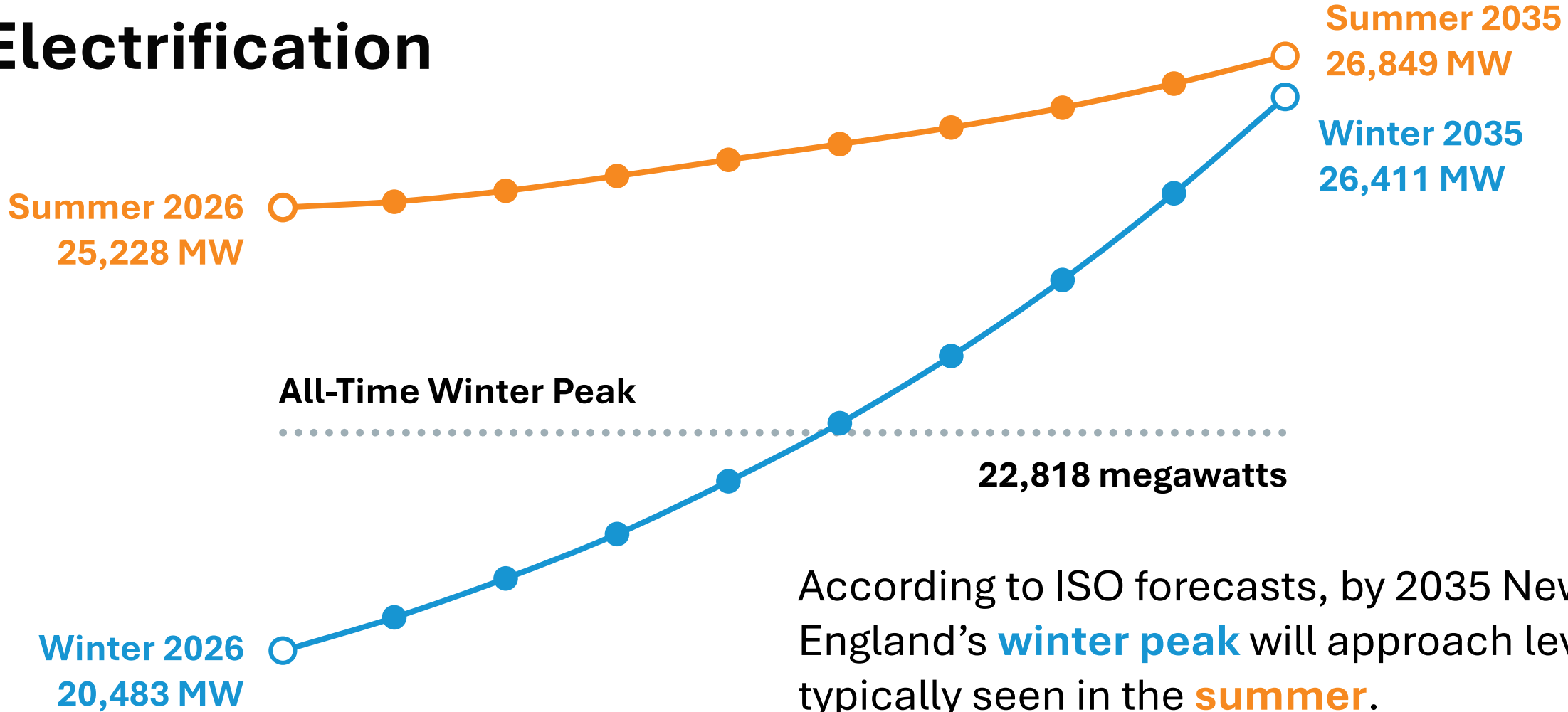
## ISO New England Top Demand Days

**Summer**  
28,130 MW  
Aug. 2, 2006

**Winter**  
22,818 MW  
Jan. 15, 2004



# Peak Demand is Growing, Driven by Electrification



According to ISO forecasts, by 2035 New England's **winter peak** will approach levels typically seen in the **summer**.

Source: ISO New England 2026-2035 Forecast Report of Capacity, Energy, Loads, and Transmission (2026 CELT Report) (May 2026)



# Winter 2025/2026

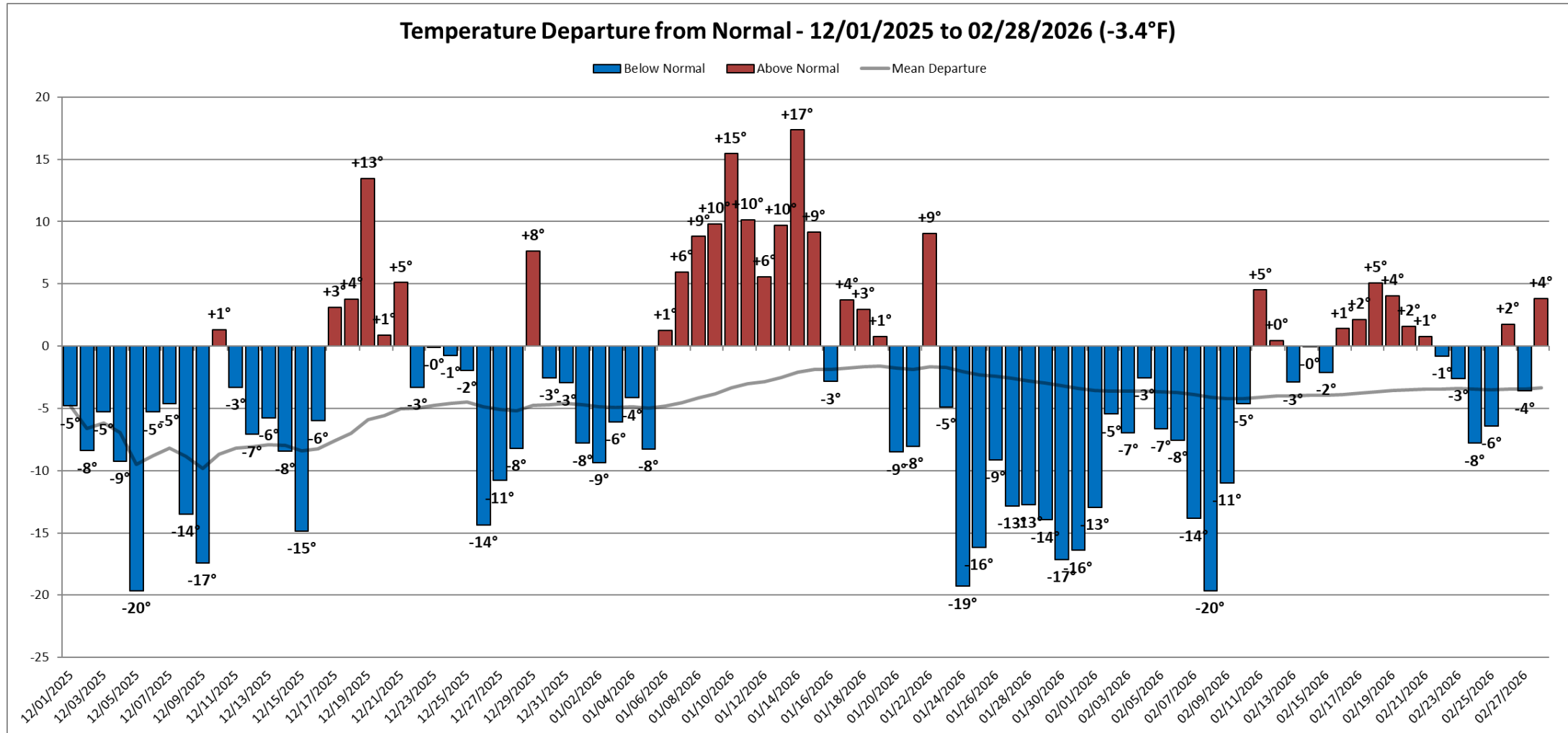
## A record-setting season

**Coldest** winter in 20 years

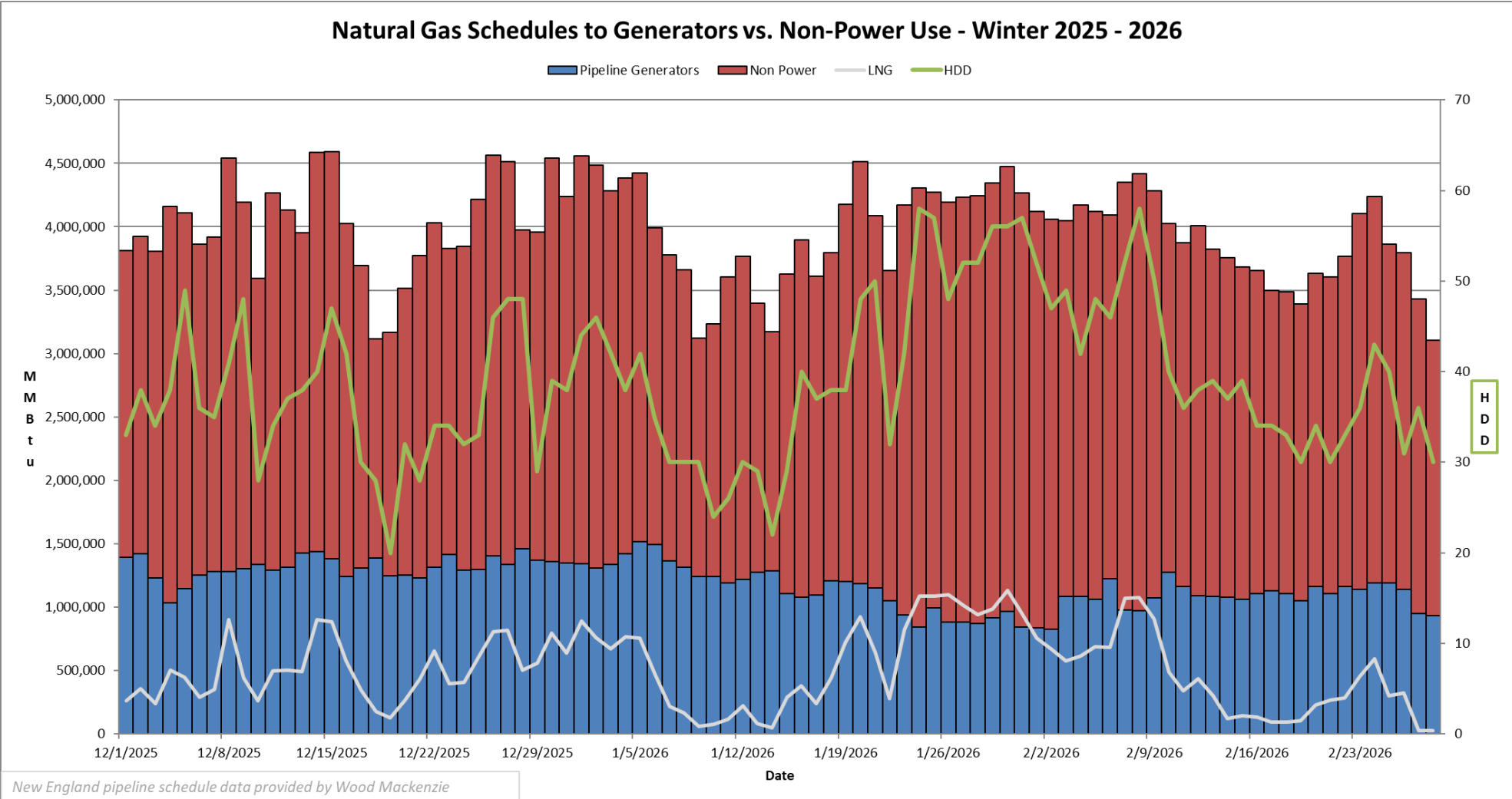
**Highest** energy demand since 2014

**Record** energy market values

# Winter Average Temperature Was 3.4°F Below Normal Resulting in the Coldest Winter in 20 Years



# Natural Gas Demand – Winter 2025/2026



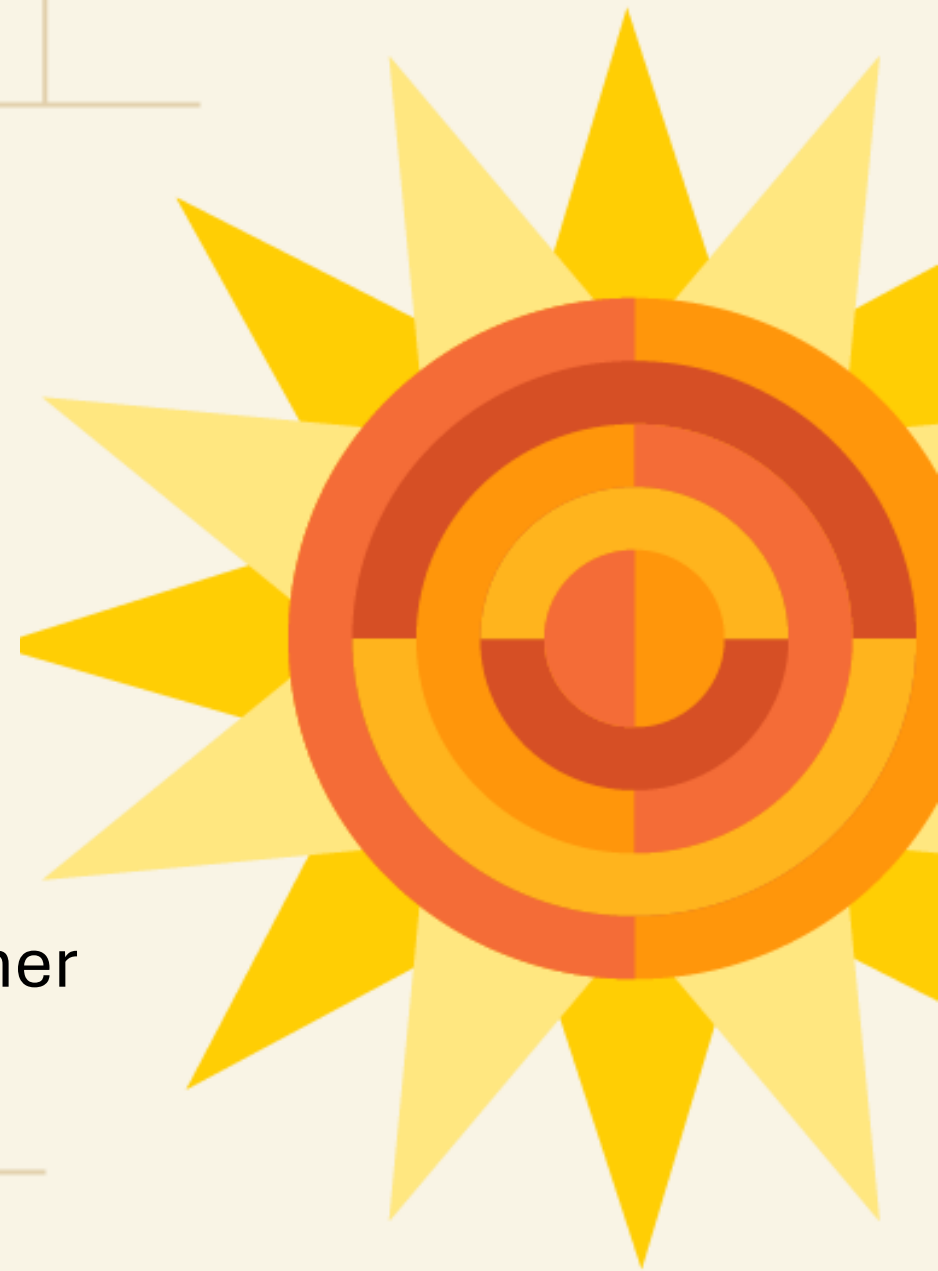


# Summer 2026 Outlook

New England is expected to have sufficient resources to meet peak summer demand

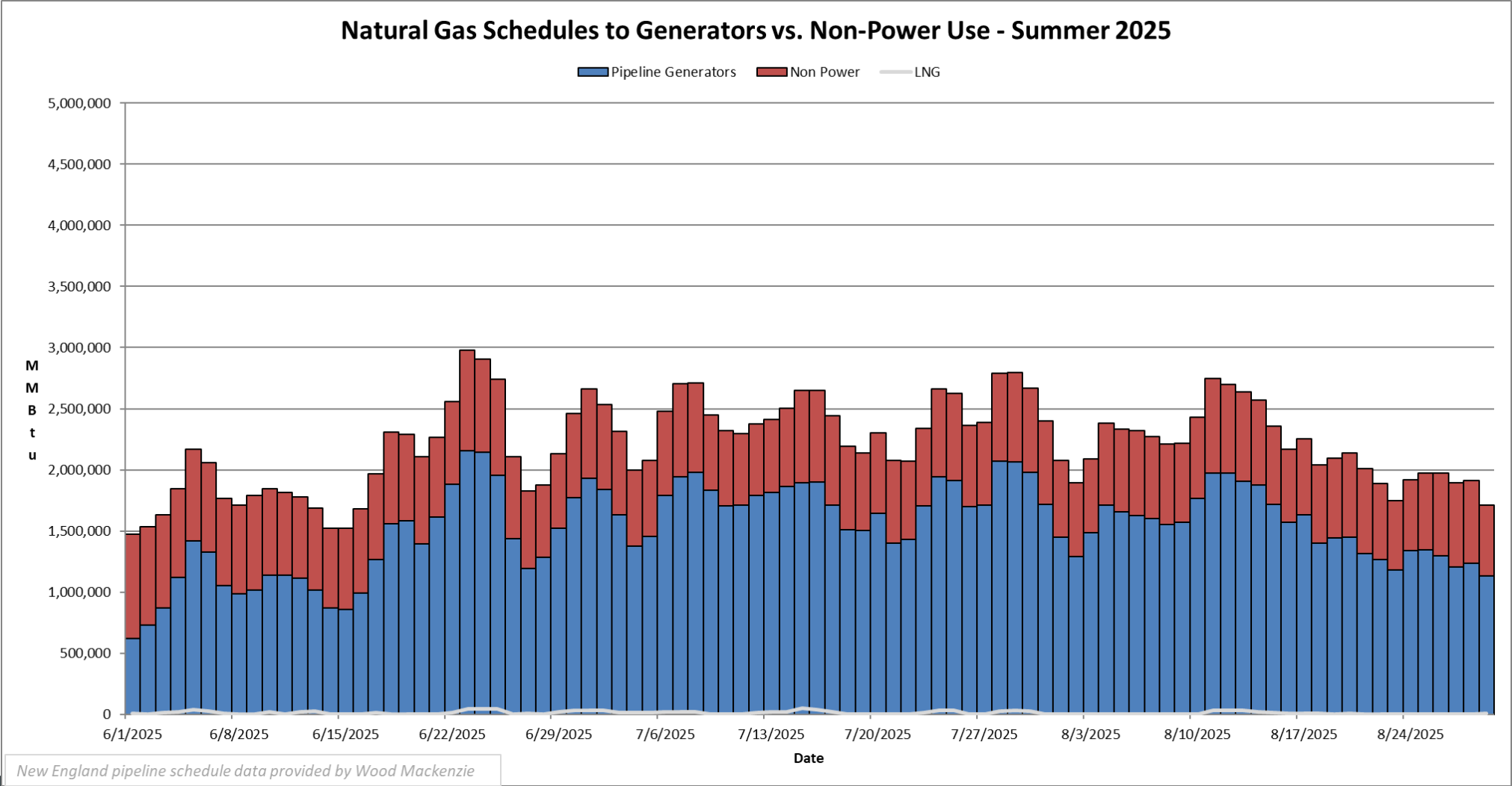
Peak Demand:

- **25,228 MW** typical summer weather
- **26,473 MW** above-average summer weather



# Natural Gas Demand – Summer 2025

## Lower Than Winter Heating Season



New England pipeline schedule data provided by Wood Mackenzie

# ISO-NE Has Extensive Engagement with Industry and Government Entities on Gas-Electric Coordination



## Direct Communication

Between the ISO and the gas control of each interstate natural gas pipeline and operators of each system

## Situational Awareness

ISO uses pipeline bulletin board data and generator schedules to enhance situational awareness and to identify potential concerns

## Outage Coordination

ISO actively works to coordinate pipeline and generator outages on a real-time and forward-looking basis (up to 6 months out)

# Key Takeaways



New England is an energy-constrained region and has significant operational experience with gas-electric interdependencies and coordination; ISO New England is a leader in gas-electric coordination



Analyses of gas-electric systems and extreme weather events across the country often point to the need to strengthen gas-electric coordination



The electric and gas systems are operated separately and fall under different regulatory structures, but they make up a larger energy system



ISO New England has built strong relationships with operators of the interstate gas pipeline system and has developed tools to enhance our situational awareness of the gas system



# Questions?

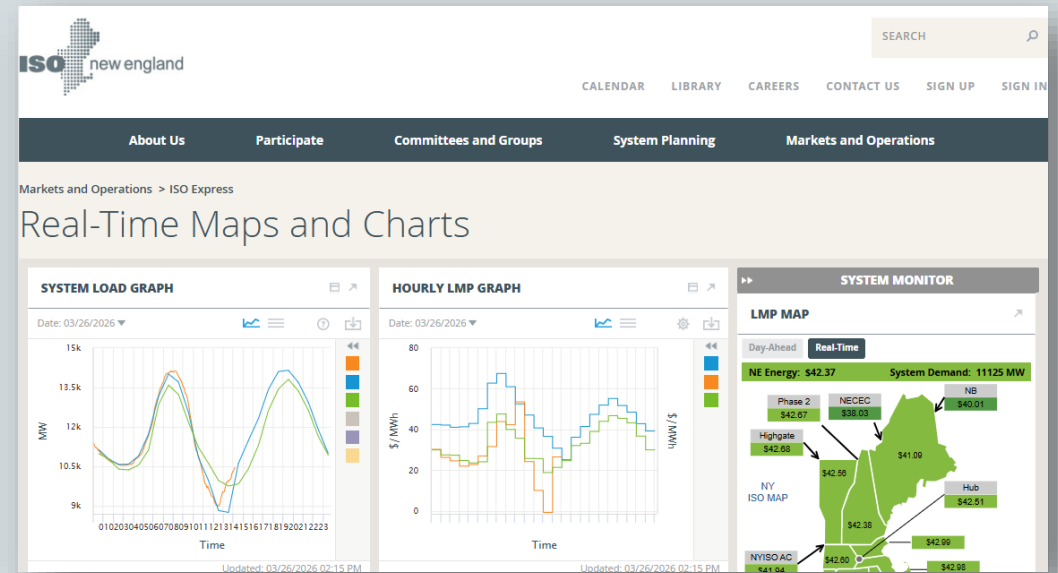
## Download the ISO to Go App

[ISO to Go](#) is a free mobile application that puts real-time wholesale electricity pricing and power grid information in the palm of your hand



## Log on to ISO Express

[ISO Express](#) provides real-time data on New England's wholesale electricity markets and power system operations



# NATURAL GAS OUTLOOK



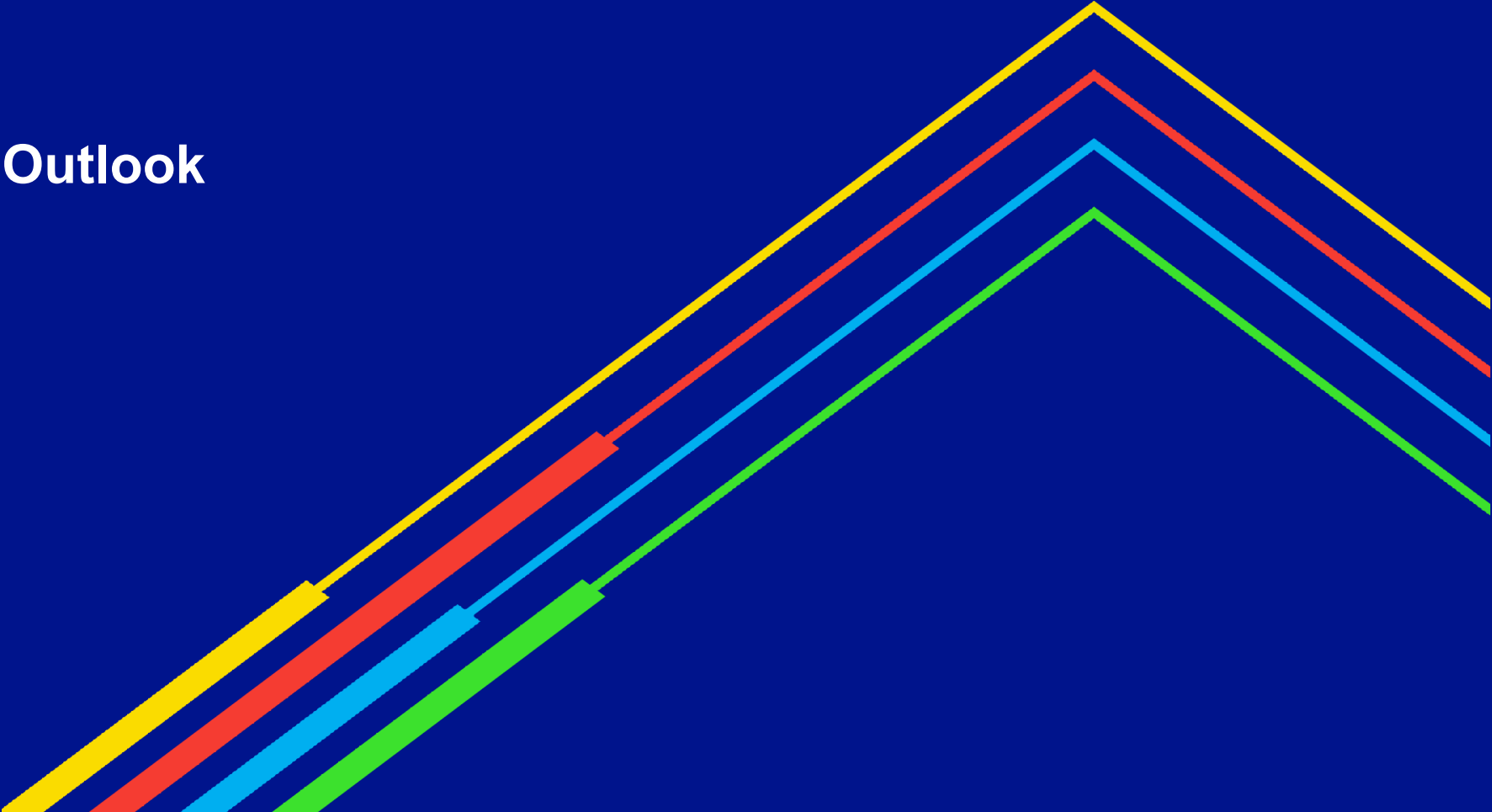
ANDREW MACBRIDE  
DIRECTOR, WHOLESALE MARKET STRATEGY  
NATIONAL GRID

# Natural Gas Readiness Forum: Northeast

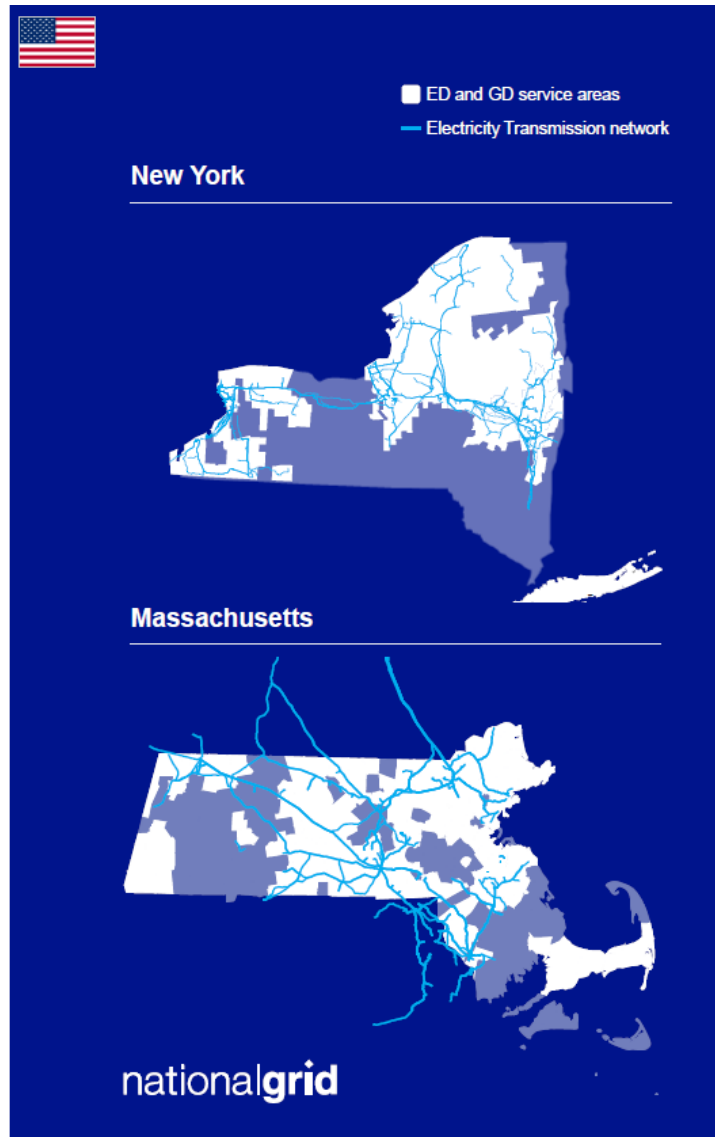
Natural Gas Outlook

May 28, 2026

nationalgrid



# National Grid - Company Background



## Customers

- Gas Distribution
  - NY: 2.4 million
  - MA: 900,000
- Electric Distribution
  - NY: 1.6 million
  - MA: 2.1 million

## Infrastructure

- Transmission
  - NY: 6,000 circuit miles
  - MA: 3,000 circuit miles
- National Grid Ventures
  - 4,000 MW of generation
  - Providence LNG

# Policy Environment



## MA – CECP (2022)

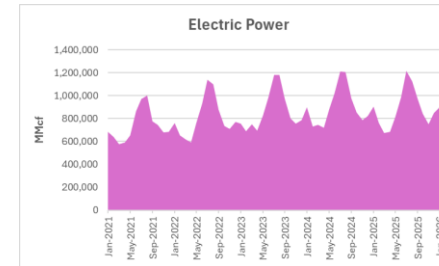
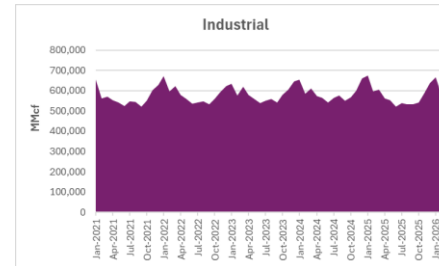
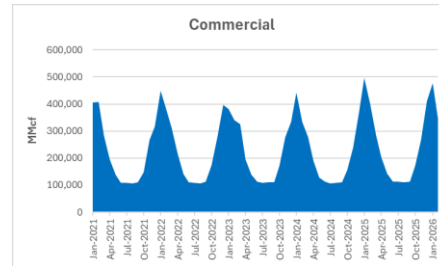
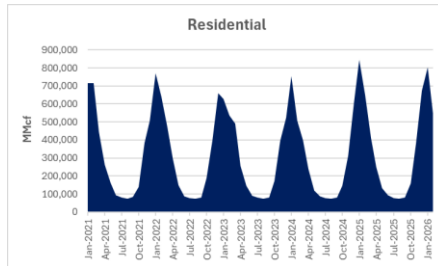
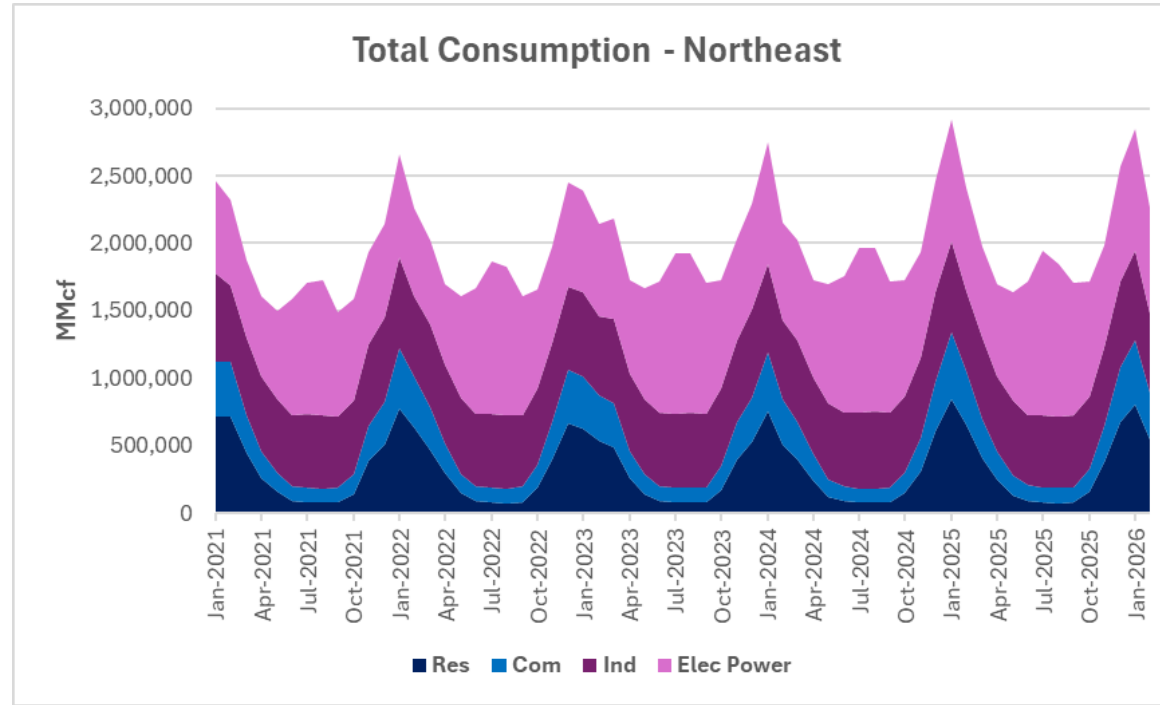
- Roadmap to achieving economy-wide and sector specific emission limits for 2025 and 2030 (relative to 1990 levels)
  - Economy-wide - 2025: 33% reduction; 2030: 50% reduction
  - Building Heat - 2025: 28% reduction; 2030: 47% reduction
  - Electricity - 2025: 53% reduction; 2030: 70% reduction
- LDCs file Climate Compliance Plan (CCP) every 5 years (2025)

## NY – CLCPA (2019)

- Reduce economy-wide GHG emissions 40% by 2030 and 85% by 2050 (relative to 1990 levels)
- 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040
- No specific sector target for building heat emissions
- LDCs file Long-Term Plans for supply every 3 years (2025)

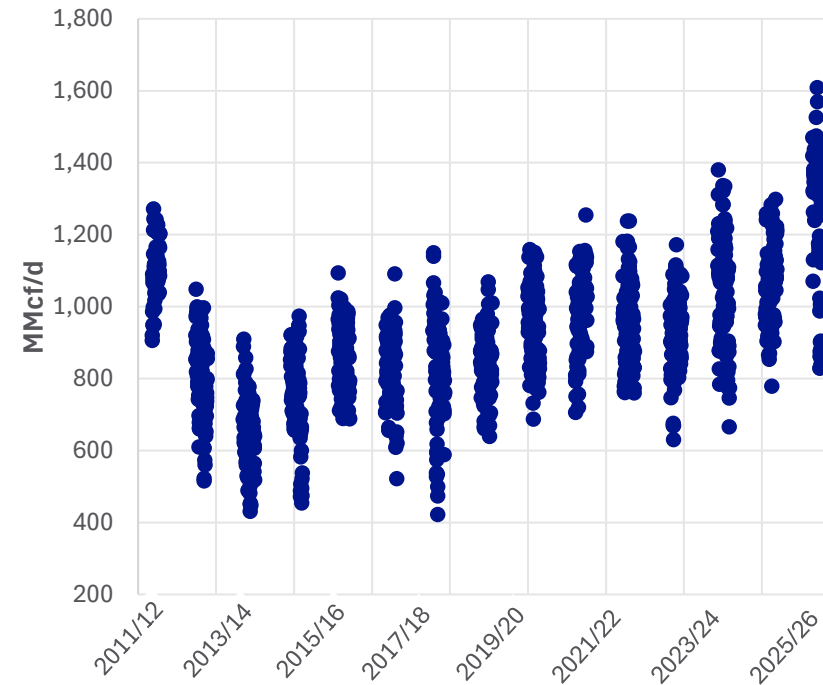


# Gas Demand



# Gas Demand

## Electric Power Consumption during Winter (New England)



### National Grid

DNY: ~1% avg. annual growth (thru 2035)

UNY: ~0.5% avg. annual growth (thru 2035)

MA: ~0.5% avg. Annual growth (thru 2029)

# Gas Supply

## LDC Supply Planning

- Plan for design day/hour
- No reserve margin
- Portfolio approach

New York	Massachusetts
<b>Gas System Long-Term Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10-year planning horizon</li><li>• Greater reliance on CNG</li></ul>	<b>Long Range Forecast &amp; Supply Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5-year planning horizon</li><li>• Greater reliance on LNG</li></ul>

## Role of LNG in New England

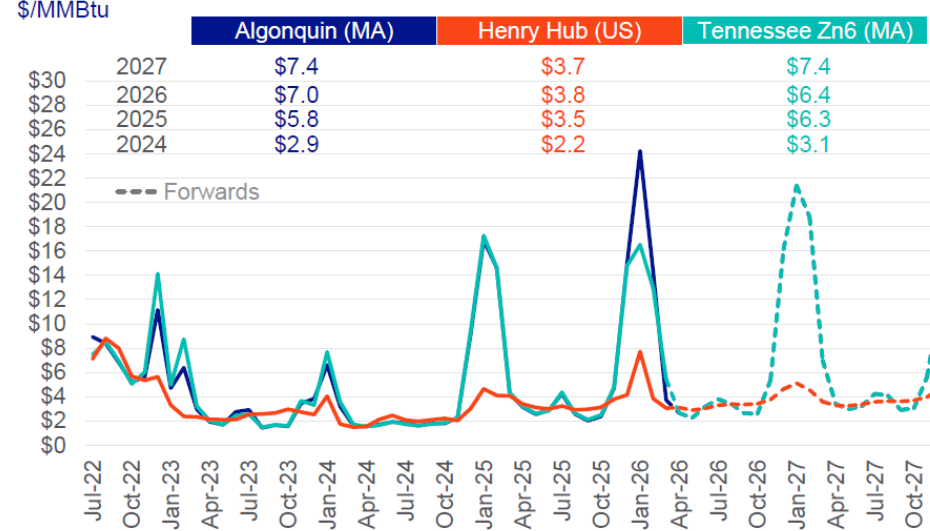
- Reliance on Constellation/Everett Marine Terminal (EMT)
- Limited dual-fuel electric generation makes Electric Power demand inelastic
- Imported (EMT, Canaport, Northeast Gateway) LNG exposed to global prices and supply disruptions

# Wholesale Gas Prices

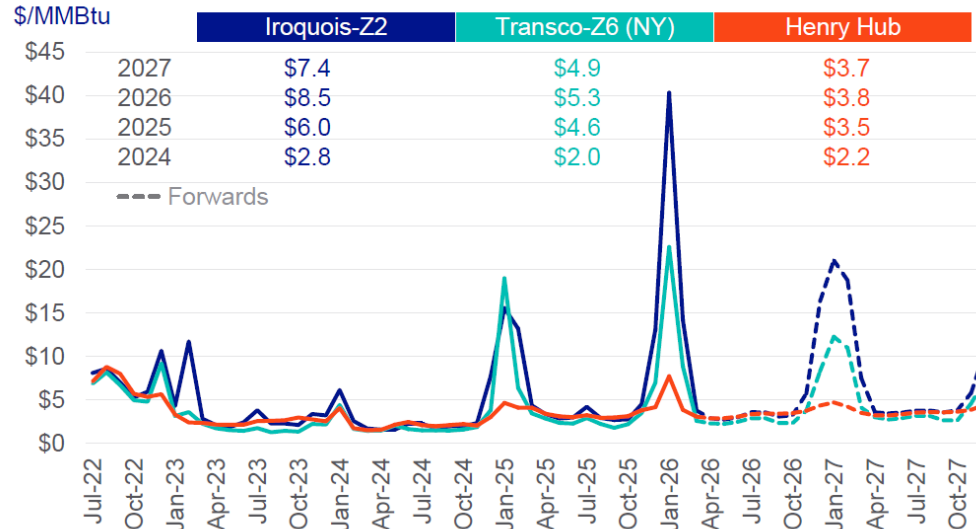
## Winter Storm Fern & Feb Cold Snap

- Cold, but not DD cold
- Highest January gas consumption ever (NY)
- Interstate pipelines performed well
- LNG facilities relied on
- Non-firm customers interrupted

Natural gas historical and future prices, 2021-2026



Natural gas historical and future prices, 2022-2026



# Gas Infrastructure Projects

Several projects are in varying stages of development in the Northeast, but none provide relief in Winter 2026/27

Project	Sponsor	Capacity (Mcf)	In-Service	Status
Enhancement by Compression (ExC)	Iroquois	125,000	2028	FERC Certificate
Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE)	Transco	400,000	Q4 2027	FERC Certificate
Reliable Affordable Resilient Enhancement (RARE)	Algonquin	75,000	2028	FERC Pre-Filing
Project Beacon	Algonquin	289,000	2030	Open Season
Constitution	Williams	650,000	Q2 2028	Pending FERC 7(c)

# nationalgrid

**Andrew MacBride**

Director, Wholesale Market Strategy

[andrew.macbride@nationalgrid.com](mailto:andrew.macbride@nationalgrid.com)

# NORTHEASTERN COORDINATION INITIATIVE



CHRISTOPHER STUTZ  
DIRECTOR -  
COMMERCIAL  
IROQUOIS



MICHELE LEONE  
VICE PRESIDENT, GAS  
RHODE ISLAND  
ENERGY



ALANA DALY  
VICE PRESIDENT,  
CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
AND POLICY  
NORTHEAST GAS  
ASSOCIATION



Rhode Island Energy™  
a PPL company

# 2026 Natural Gas Readiness Regional Forum

Michele Leone, VP Gas Operations

May 28, 2026

# Winter Preparations



**Rhode Island Energy™**  
a PPL company

## System Planning

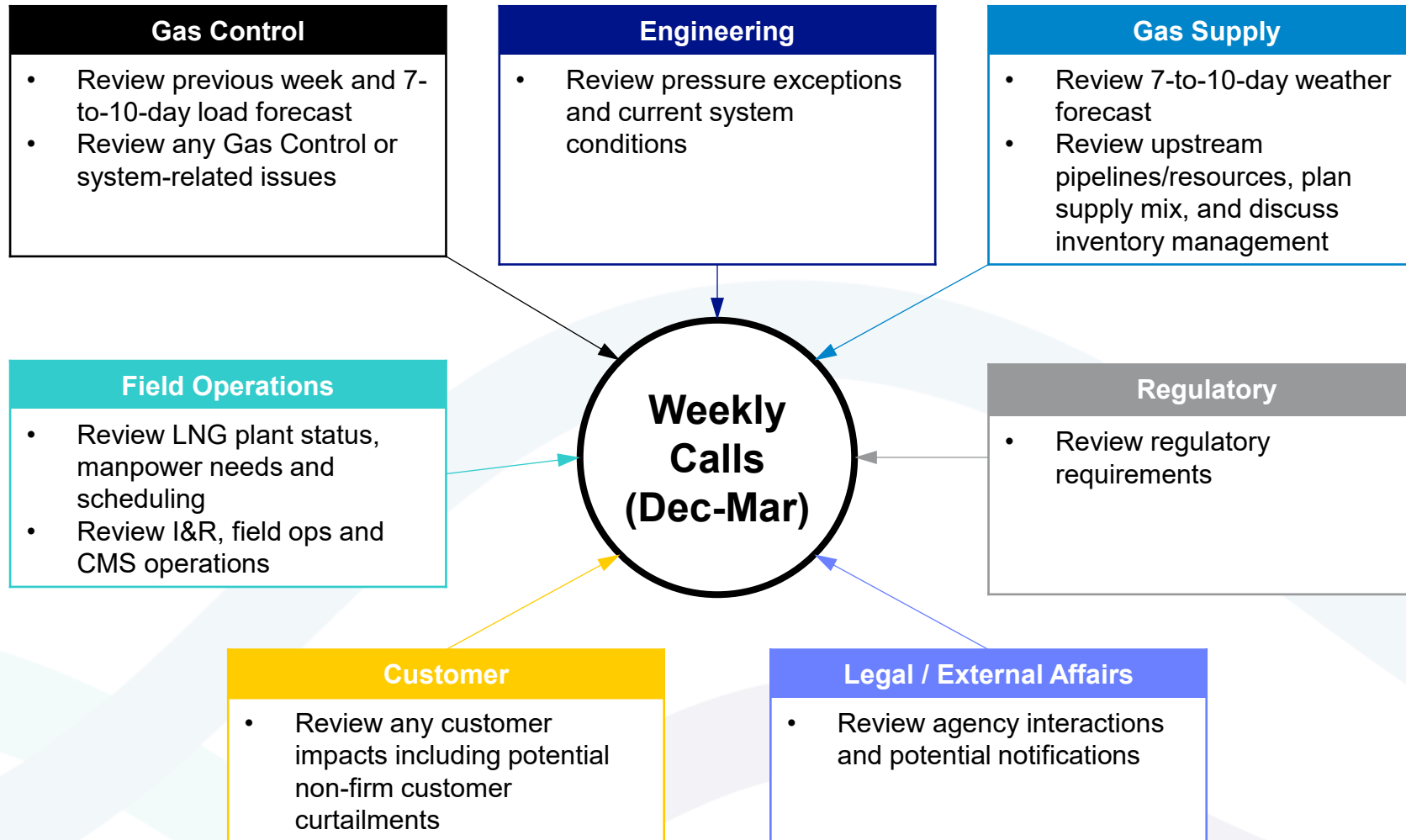
- Design Day system conditions, including low points and special operations
- Gas supply portfolio, demand forecast, LNG requirements and storage inventory
- Electric & Gas Coordination, including critical feeders; electric feeders on low-pressure gas systems
- Contingency plans for storms and extreme weather preparedness
- Emergency planning & Incident Command Structure

## System Operations

- Increasing regulator settings and monitoring system pressures with temperature fluctuations
- SCADA alarm settings and telemetry calibration
- Capital construction project review, including checking SOP status and temperature restrictions
- Returning equipment (regulator stations and critical facilities) from out-of-service to operational status
- Weather data tracking for cast iron patrol and enhanced surveillance



# Winter Operations – Weekly Calls





**NGA**  
NORTHEAST GAS ASSOCIATION

# Natural Gas Readiness Forum

May 28, 2026

Alana Daly , Vice President, Corporate Affairs & Policy

# Northeast Gas Association (NGA)

*The NGA is the Northeast gas industry's voice in supporting the safe, reliable, efficient and affordable delivery of gas energy to customers as a continuing part of an environmentally responsible energy future*

- Serves New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, & Maryland
- Parent to NYSEARCH RD&D Affiliate
- 36 Local Energy Distribution Companies
- Pipeline Companies
- LNG Importers, Storage, CNG Suppliers and Transporters
- 300+ Associate Members (Vendors/Contractors)

# Annual Pre-Winter Briefing

- Provides an overview of the regional natural gas system, and winter readiness for regional regulators and ISOs
- Agenda:
  - NGA Overview & Winter Outlook
  - Interstate Pipelines Update
  - Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Update
- Presentations are posted on NGA web site.



# Gas Supply Task Force

The Task Force is responsible for:

- Monitoring regional gas system deliverability during the winter.
- Facilitating assistance to companies in need of gas supply, if necessary.
- Providing updates to state government agencies and Northeast electric grid operators.
- Coordinating public information on regional gas supply contingencies and conservation appeals during peak demand or supply curtailment.
- Gathering and distributing aggregated member company gas supply information for our Gas Supply Manual for confidential distribution to key stakeholders.

GSTF Participants:  
Interstate pipelines, LNG Importers, Storage Companies, CNG & LNG transporters, LDCs, & production sector representatives.



# Electric - Gas Interdependence

*Given the increasing interdependence between gas and electric systems, NGA is working with member companies to encourage coordination between the gas and electric industry.*

- NGA co-chairs the joint Electric-Gas Operating Committee with the NE-ISO; all regional ISOs participate in the committee.
- Launched a Gas/Electric Cross-Grid Management Committee to develop solutions to cross-commodity impacts during emergency operations (e.g., potential impacts to gas systems from re-energizing large segments of electric systems). Issued White Paper in 2025.
- Engaged in regional study modeling the impact of gas supply on electric grid reliability.

# Gas Control Committee

*The NGA Gas Control Committee collaborates on gas control strategies and preparedness initiatives designed to enhance operational readiness and improve member company's interaction and communication.*

- Plan and execute drills and tabletop exercises that simulate real-life gas supply/control scenarios (e.g., 20% curtailment on a critical pipeline).
  - Scenarios test communication and coordination processes both within and amongst member companies.
- Share leading practices related to gas control to enhance system reliability and resiliency.
- Identify gas control personnel needs and develop/enhance training materials.

# NGA Mutual Assistance Program

- Facilitates assistance to companies in need of mutual aid during emergencies (e.g., outage restoration).
- Support host company with their assessment of responding working competency and eligibility.
- Host collaboration platform for sharing of operator qualification plans and relight procedures for planning in advance of an event.
- Facilitates real-time communication amongst members during a mutual aid event.
- Ability to leverage national mutual aid program, via AGA and SGA, if needed.
- Conduct drills and exercises for NGA staff and members.

# CLOSING REMARKS



ADAM POLLOCK  
TECHNICAL ADVISOR  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY  
COMMISSION