

Natural gas accounts for biggest share of U.S. power generation next two years

U.S. electricity generation from natural gas-fired power plants is expected to account for the biggest share of electricity supplies this year and in 2018.

In its new monthly forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said coal-fired generation will come in a close second over the next two years followed by a declining amount of nuclear power and a growing share for renewables including hydropower, wind, biomass, and solar generation.

Coal use by the electric power sector is expected to increase this year because of rising natural gas prices but then see slower growth in 2018 as power generation increases more from natural gas, wind, and solar.

The average price U.S households will pay for electricity is forecast to increase 3% this year and then rise by 2.4% next year.

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