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**April 19, 2016**

**News for the oil and natural gas industry**

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**TOP STORY**

**EIA: Oil, gas production rise offsets coal's drop**

Falling coal use over the past six years has been more than offset by increased production of natural gas and crude oil, according to the Energy Information Administration. Coal production fell 10% in 2015, even as overall energy production rose for the sixth year in a row, the EIA reported. That increase included an 8% rise in crude oil production and a 9% rise in liquid fuels derived from natural gas.

### How EAM Fuels Tomorrow's Oil and Gas Industry

Today's market turbulence could be a bellwether for emerging changes to how oil and gas companies produce, which could, in turn, alter asset management strategies moving forward. Looking ahead, what are the trends pushing businesses to adopt proactive maintenance as a means of enhancing enterprise asset management? Read the [Insights](#) article.

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

### Cox strikes deal for Chevron's Gulf shallow-water assets

Cox Oil will purchase a large part of Chevron's shallow-water Gulf of Mexico assets, including 19 fields primarily in Louisiana state waters and the Gulf's Outer Continental Shelf. Cox declined to reveal the purchase price for the assets, which include 170 active wells, 70 platforms and 70 caissons.

[UpstreamOnline.com \(free content\)](#) (4/16)

### Study: Susquehanna River Basin can handle gas drilling demands

Natural gas drillers in the Marcellus Shale haven't hurt the supply of water from the Susquehanna River Basin, according to a state agency that oversees the basin's water withdrawals. The Susquehanna River Basin Commission said the natural gas industry consumed 9.76 billion gallons between July 2008 and December 2013, compared with 1.97 billion gallons for public drinking water systems. Generally, the report said, "the basin's water resources are sufficient in magnitude to accommodate the water demands of the industry concurrently with other water users."

[StateImpact](#) (4/18)

### WPX Energy cuts back workforce as focus shifts to oil

WPX Energy has eliminated 7% of its workforce at its headquarters in Tulsa, Okla., along with some jobs in North Dakota and New Mexico, as it shifts its focus from natural gas to oil. The company dropped 42 positions, mainly at its headquarters. "We're a much different company than we were even a year ago," spokesman Kelly Swan said. "In many respects, we're building a brand new company very quickly."

[Tulsa World \(Okla.\)](#) (4/19)

## EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION

### Naysayers wrong on hydraulic fracturing

Hydraulic fracturing has become a hot issue on the presidential campaign trail, but those who oppose it are giving short shrift to an important part of the nation's energy picture, USA Today's editorial board writes. "Aggressive regulation and research of drilling practices and quality-of-life issues can ensure that fracking's benefits outweigh the costs," the editorial board writes.

[USA Today](#) (4/18)

## REFINING & MARKETING

### Consol Energy plans 2 ethane crackers in Marcellus, Utica Shales

Consol Energy plans to build two ethane crackers in the Marcellus and Utica Shale regions despite falling oil prices and capital cutbacks because of the demand for ethylene and plastic in the area, said CEO Nick Deluliis. "We will see one to two ... I believe two cracker plants built in this region," Deluliis said.

[Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#) (4/17)

## POLICY WATCH

### Scalise is oil industry's congressional "rock star"

The oil industry's biggest booster in Congress is on a mission to educate fellow lawmakers about the benefits of offshore drilling. House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, R-La., has brought fellow lawmakers on tours of rigs in the Gulf of Mexico eight times to urge support for drilling. "He's a rock star on our stuff, there's no question about it," said Stephen Brown, Tesoro's vice president of federal government affairs. "He's probably your go-to person for the oil and gas industry. If he can't be for it, it's not going to happen."

Scalise (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

[Bloomberg](#) (4/18)

### Calif. regulators eye cause, impact of new Aliso Canyon leak

State authorities in California are looking into a leak of oil and natural gas at the Aliso Canyon storage facility in Los Angeles. Crimson Resource Management, which operates the well involved, called the leak on Saturday a "very small event" that was stopped after two hours. The storage facility was the site of a months-long leak of natural gas that began in October.

[Los Angeles Daily News](#) (4/18)

## API NEWS

### Upstream Oil and Gas Fundamentals

Join EMI for an introduction to the upstream petroleum industry. This course will introduce you to the formation of oil and gas, then move on to how exploration and reservoir engineering activities bring the oil and gas to the surface and finally end up with how the surface facilities operate just ahead of the sales transaction point. You will learn about risks, technologies, investment decisions and operations in one of the world's most important industries. Attendees will learn fundamental petroleum geology and exploration principles that provide the foundation for drilling, reservoir development and production concepts. To learn more about this course and to register, visit the [API-U Calendar](#).

### 2017 API Inspection Summit

What topics are you hoping to hear about at the 2017 Inspection Summit? We'll be covering a lot during the four days of sessions, but share some hot topics or recommendations with us. Even better, submit an abstract or paper and speak as an expert. [Learn more](#).

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