

**From:** SmartBrief <audience@smartbrief.com>  
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The API SmartBrief team

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June 12, 2018

News for the oil and natural gas industry

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## TOP STORY

### Growing US energy production boosts global LNG trade

Global liquefied natural gas trade volumes climbed 10% from 2016 to 38.2 billion cubic feet per day last year, driven by booming natural gas production from the US as well as Australia, according to the Energy Department. The two countries collectively added 2.7 billion cubic feet per day in LNG exports.

[Houston Chronicle \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (6/11)

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

### In Northeast, gas pipeline capacity outpaces production gains

Infrastructure expansions and growing liquefied natural gas exports have so far failed to encourage drillers in the Northeast US to considerably boost natural gas output, giving rise to a gap between pipeline capacity and production that could widen to 10 billion cubic feet per day by late next year, according to S&P Global Platts Analytics. Total Northeast gas production averaged 27.2 billion cubic feet per day in May, slightly below the daily average of 27.3 billion cubic feet at the end of December.

[S&P Global Platts](#) (6/11)

### Dakota Access environmental study nears completion

The US Army Corps of Engineers will finalize an environmental study of the Dakota Access Pipeline by

Aug. 10, Justice Department attorney Matthew Marinelli told US District Judge James Boasberg.  
[The Associated Press](#) (6/11)

### **Hedge funds' net-long position in WTI hits lowest point since Oct.**

Commodity Futures Trading Commission data show the net-long position that hedge funds held in West Texas Intermediate declined 3.3% for the week ended June 5, reaching the lowest level since October. Bullishness on Brent crude, gasoline and diesel also was down amid signs of heightened oil output from Saudi Arabia.

[Bloomberg \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (6/11)

### **Minn. regulator's staff weighs in on Line 3 replacement**

In comments submitted Friday, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission staff members advised state regulators to authorize Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline replacement, arguing that building a new pipeline would be safer for the environment than relying on the existing one.

[Star Tribune \(Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (6/11)

### **W.Va. pipeline builders cited a second time**

Sediment-laden water that ran off a work site in West Virginia's Wetzel County marks the second time builders of the disputed Mountain Valley Pipeline have violated rules protecting the environment, states a notice from the state's Department of Environmental Protection. The previous notice was issued in April, confirming critics' prediction that construction of the line along mountain slopes would lead to problems.

[The Roanoke Times \(Va.\)](#) (6/7)

## **POLICY WATCH**

### **Energy Dept. should handle pipeline security, FERC commissioners say**

The Trump administration should put the Energy Department in charge of regulating the security of US pipelines because the Transportation Security Administration lacks the necessary resources, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission members Neil Chatterjee and Richard Glick write. As of May 2017, the TSA had only six full-time employees overseeing the more than 2.7 million miles of US pipelines, the commissioners point out, adding that the agency relies on voluntary cybersecurity standards.

[Axios](#) (6/11)

### **API lauds BLM move to streamline oil, gas permitting on federal lands**

The Bureau of Land Management unveiled a new policy instructing its field offices to accelerate permitting processes for oil and natural gas development on federal lands, a move that drew praise from the oil and gas industry. "Removing unnecessary obstacles to safe and responsible energy development will effectively promote US job growth, domestic oil and natural gas production, revenues for federal, state and tribal governments, and strengthen our national security," said American Petroleum Institute Director of Upstream and Industry Operations Erik Milito.

[World Oil online](#) (6/8)

## API 578 Positive Material Identification (PMI)

Presented by Analytical Training Consultants, this two-day course covers API Recommended Practice 578 Positive Material Identification (PMI) using XRF/OES/LIBS technologies. Participants will gain an understanding of API RP 578 guidelines and application procedures, as well as a technical understanding of XRF/OES/LIBS. Presented by Analytical Training Consultants (ATC), June 20-21, Aug. 22-23. To learn more about this course and to register, visit the [API-U Calendar](#).

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Steve Jobs,  
entrepreneur

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