To: Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]
From: Morning Consult
Sent: Mon 1/9/2017 1:13:04 PM
Subject: Morning Consult Energy: Gazprom Sends Record Levels of Natural Gas to Europe During Cold Snap

By Jack Fitzpatrick

Washington Brief

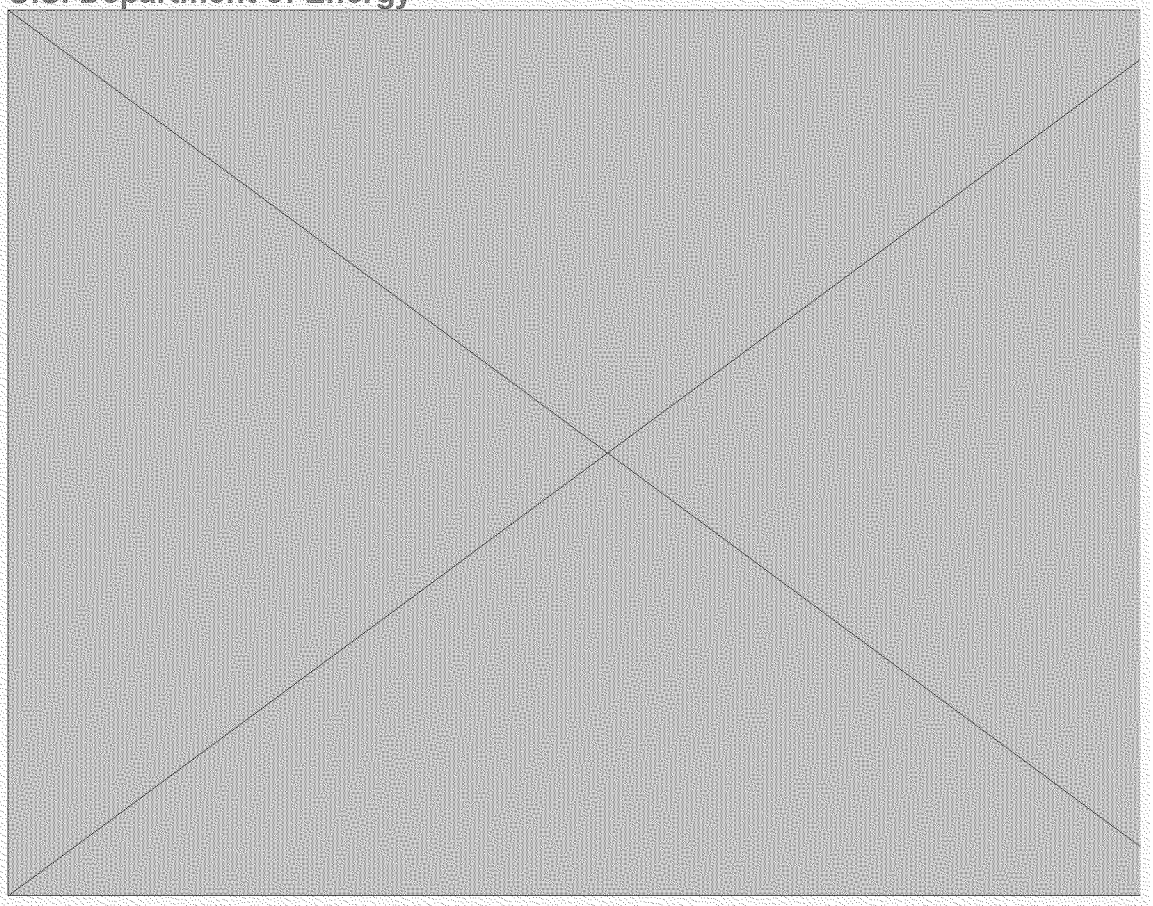
- The Obama administration denied six requests from oil and gas companies to use seismic cannons to search for offshore oil in the Atlantic. (The Washington Post)
- The U.S. intelligence report on Russia's interference in the presidential election found that Kremlin-funded Russia Today ran anti-fracking programming, likely out of concern that U.S. natural gas could infringe on Gazprom's profitability. (Daily Caller)
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Director Abigail Ross Hopper will be the next president and CEO of the the Solar Energy Industries Association, a trade group. (UPI)

Business Brief

- Gazprom sent record high levels of natural gas - 615.5 million cubic meters - to Europe on Saturday as temperatures plummeted. (Reuters)
- New York's Indian Point nuclear power plant will close by April 2021. (The New York Times)
- Wind turbines in Scotland generated 74,042 megawatt hours, the equivalent of all its electricity needs, between Dec. 23 and 26, according to an analysis from WWF Scotland. (CNBC)

Chart Review

Quadrennial Energy Review: Second Installment
U.S. Department of Energy

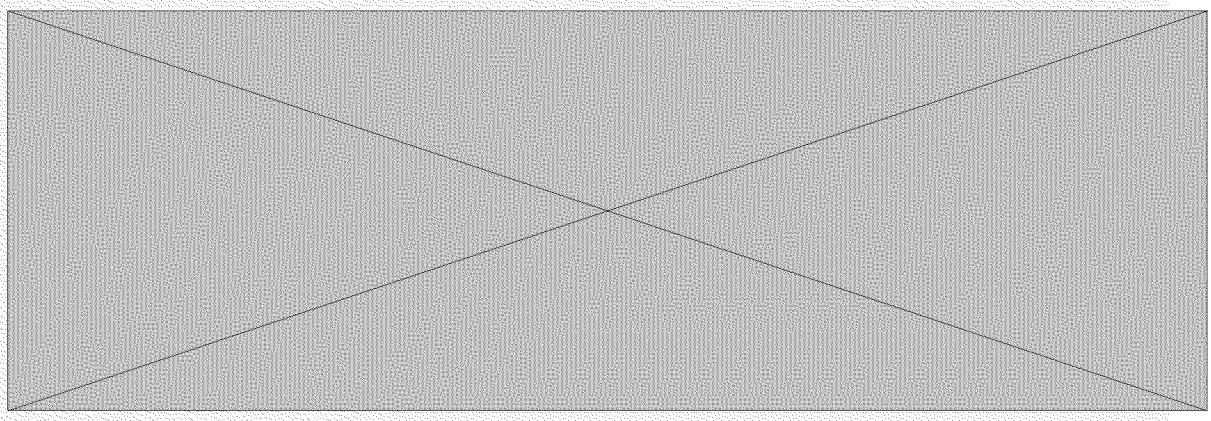


Events Calendar (All Times Local)

Monday	
IFC discussion on energy storage in emerging markets	9 a.m.
Tuesday	
No events scheduled	
Wednesday	
U.S. Chamber of Commerce State of American Business address	9:30 a.m.
Jewell speaks at Columbia University	10:30 a.m.
Moniz speaks at National Press Club	11 a.m.
Deese speaks at Stanford University	4:15 p.m.
Thursday	
Environmental Legal Institute discussion on Trump energy policy	11:30

Friday Charitable Trusts discussion on energy, national security 3:30 a.m. p.m.

No events scheduled



General

Critics Call Bishop's Land-Transfer Measure an Accounting 'Gimmick'
Jack Fitzpatrick, Morning Consult

Critics of a House measure that would encourage federal land transfers say Republicans took an unprecedented step to avoid congressional accounting requirements, while its author says the issue is a special circumstance. The House passed its rules package on Tuesday, including a measure that calls on Congress not to count lost revenue when considering legislation that would transfer federal lands to a state, local or tribal government.

Conway cancels trip to Canada oil sands due to Trump inauguration
John Siciliano, Washington Examiner

President-elect Trump's counselor Kellyanne Conway has cancelled a trip to Canada's oil fields that was scheduled for next week due to it being so close to the inauguration on Jan. 20. The conservative Alberta Prosperity Fund, which arranged the visit with Conway that it announced in November, said Saturday that the Jan. 12 visit had to be canceled.

Peña Nieto Faces Unrest in Mexico as Gas Prices Climb and Trump Ascends
Kirk Semple and Elisabeth Malkin, The New York Times

Amid nationwide marches, highway blockades and looting stemming from widespread outrage over an increase in gas prices, President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico went on national television to appeal for understanding. With international oil prices rising and Mexico dependent on gasoline imports, he argued in the speech on Thursday, the government had no alternative but to raise prices at the pump.

Currencies Gripped by Political [illegible]umps: Markets Wrap
Eddie Van Der Walt and Natasha [illegible]mberg News

Political risks rippled across foreign-exchange markets with the pound, Turkish lira and South Korean won leading declines, while stocks dropped with oil. Gold rose on haven demand.

Oil and Natural Gas

Obama denies permits for seism[illegible]o search for oil in the Atlantic
Darryl Fears, The Washington P[illegible]

For the second time in less than a month, the Obama administration on Friday took an action that all but shuts the door on drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, denying six permits to companies seeking to use seismic cannons to search for oil under the ocean floor. The president's decision stymies the oil industry's hopes to drill off the coast between Delaware and Florida.

Russia's Gazprom reports recor[illegible]rts as Europe shivers
Vladimir Soldatkin and Andrey [illegible]euters

Russia's Gazprom said on Saturday its daily supplies of natural gas to countries outside of the former Soviet Union have reached a record high due to cold weather in Europe. Gazprom pumped 615.5 million cubic meters of gas to countries outside the former USSR borders on Jan. 6, beating its previous record hit on Jan. 5 by nearly 1 million cubic meters.

US Intel Report Confirms Kreml[illegible]nti-Fracking Propaganda
Michael Bastach, Daily Caller

U.S. intelligence officials confirmed in a declassified report that a Kremlin-controlled media outlet ran programming critical of hydraulic fracturing to ward off challenges to Russia's energy empire. Officials reported that RT, which they call the "Kremlin's principal international propaganda outlet," ran "anti-fracking programming, highlighting environmental issues and the impacts on public health."

Utilities and Infrastructure

Energy Dept. report highlights r to electric grid
Timothy Cama, The Hill

A new Obama administration report on the country's energy system released Friday is looking to shine a spotlight on vulnerabilities and threats to the electricity grid. The nearly 500-page report from the Department of Energy (DOE) is the second piece of what the agency is dubbing the Quadrennial Energy Review, an opportunity for federal officials to take deep dives into energy policy issues and provide recommendations to lawmakers and regulators.

Mexico, US sign framework on e rid
The Associated Press

U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz was in Mexico Saturday to sign a framework agreement on principles aimed at building the kind of cross-border electricity market with Mexico that the United States already has with Canada. Moniz said the potential for a mutually beneficial relationship is there. Wind turbines in Mexico's Baja California peninsula have already sent some power to U.S. markets.

Renewables

Scotland smashed two wind po in December
Anmar Frangoul, CNBC

Wind turbines in Scotland generated power equivalent to all its electricity needs for four straight days, between December 23 and 26, new analysis from WWF Scotland has shown. Furthermore, on December 24, 74,042 megawatt hours of electricity generated from wind power was sent to the National Grid, a record.

U.S. offshore regulator joins so ade group
Daniel J. Graeber, UPI

A solar energy trade organization said Monday it named a top U.S. oil and gas administrator as its next president and chief executive officer. Abigail Ross Hopper joins the SEIA as of Jan. 17 after serving as the head of the

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the offshore regulator in the United States.

Trump May Not Like Alternative [redacted] t Investors Should
Paul Sullivan, The New York Tin[redacted]

Given what President-elect Donald J. Trump has said about his energy strategy - he favors coal and wants to end federal subsidies to the clean energy industry - does it still make sense to invest in wind, solar and other alternative sources of power? The answer is an emphatic yes, according to investment advisers, who say clean energy companies will continue to thrive during a Trump administration, regardless of what the president says or does.

Scott Wiener models state solar [redacted] law
Melody Gutierrez, San Francisc[redacted]

Newly sworn-in state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, plans to introduce legislation Monday requiring all new construction in the state to include solar panels. The bill expands on a San Francisco city ordinance Wiener wrote while on the Board of Supervisors that requires solar panels to be put on new construction within the city, including residential and some commercial buildings.

All Dutch Trains Now Run 100% [redacted] ower
Rogier van Rooij, CleanTechnic[redacted]

Electric trains have always been a relatively sustainable mode of transport, with much lower emissions than cars, but as of the 1st of January, 2017, all electric train rides in the Netherlands have become even greener. They are now entirely powered by clean, renewable, wind energy.

Coal

Greens Hollow coal tract draws [redacted] of nearly $23 million
Amy Joi O'Donoghue, KSL

A huge coal tract in central Utah that survived a federal three-year moratorium on any new coal leasing drew a sealed bid of nearly $23 million in a lease sale Wednesday. The Greens Hollow tract in Sevier and Sanpete counties is nearly 6,200 acres of national forest land with estimated coal reserves of about 56 million tons.

Even in Illinois coal communitie[redacted] anticipated impact on industry

is a source of debate
Bryce Gray, St. Louis Post-Disp

"Coal has been this county," says Tom Vaughn, a lifelong resident of Southern Illinois and a Franklin County board member, before rattling off a brief history of the industry's local prominence. Decades ago, he says, the county supported seven mines, then just one and then zero, before one eventually reopened.

Nuclear

Indian Point Nuclear Power Plar by 2021
Vivian Yee and Patrick McGeeha York Times

The Indian Point nuclear plant will shut down by April 2021 under an agreement New York State reached this week with Entergy, the utility company that owns the facility in Westchester County, according to a person with direct knowledge of the deal. Under the terms of the agreement, one of the two nuclear reactors at Indian Point will permanently cease operations by April 2020, while the other must be closed by April 2021.

Construction of UAE nuclear po nits 75% complete
Aarti Nagraj, Gulf Business

The construction of UAE's nuclear power plant is progressing on schedule with work on the four units now 75 per cent complete. The Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC) has announced that construction of units 3 and 4 at the Barakah Nuclear Energy plant is now more than 50 per cent complete.

Climate

The crack in this Antarctic ice s w by 11 miles. A dramatic break could be imminent.
Chris Mooney, The Washington

An enormous rift in one of Antarctica's largest ice shelves grew dramatically over the past month, and a chunk nearly the size of Delaware could break away as soon as later this winter, British scientists reported this week. If this happens, it could accelerate a further breakup of the ice shelf, essentially removing a massive cork of ice that keeps some of Antarctica's glaciers from

flowing into the ocean.

Climate change one issue to do[redacted]rson hearings
John Siciliano, Washington Exa[redacted]

Climate change will be front and center at the two days of hearings on the confirmation of President-elect Trump's pick to lead the State Department, former Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson. But as one top Democrat put it after a recent meeting with Tillerson, climate change is but one concern, given that it is not clear what Trump's foreign policy positions are outside of bashing efforts to combat global warming.

Beijing creates anti-smog police[redacted]ir polluters
Benjamin Haas, The Guardian

Beijing will create an environmental police force aimed at tackling deadly smog, after the Chinese capital spent the first week of 2017 mostly shrouded in a thick haze of pollution. The new law enforcement outfit will patrol the streets, eyes peeled for open-air barbecues, trash burning and dusty roads that violate regulations, the city's acting mayor Cai Qi said at the weekend.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Zinke, the Interior Department, a[redacted]nic Growth
Nancy Pfund and Tom Baruch, [redacted]nsult

Over the past few years, several national parks, monuments, and wilderness areas have been conserved by the president or Congress, including: Boulder-White Clouds in Idaho; Basin and Range in Nevada; the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks in New Mexico; Browns Canyon in Colorado; and the Castle Mountains, Mojave Trails, and Sand-to-Snow national monuments in the California desert. During that same period, there were significant bipartisan efforts to fund and authorize the Land & Water Conservation Fund permanently, which uses oil and gas fees instead of taxpayer dollars to protect parks and public lands.

Research Reports

Quadrennial Energy Review: Se[redacted]ment

U.S. Department of Energy

The initial focus for the Quadrennial Energy Review will be our nation's infrastructure for transporting, transmitting, and delivering energy. Our current infrastructure is increasingly challenged by transformations in energy supply, markets, and patterns of end use; issues of aging and capacity; impacts of climate change; and cyber and physical threats.

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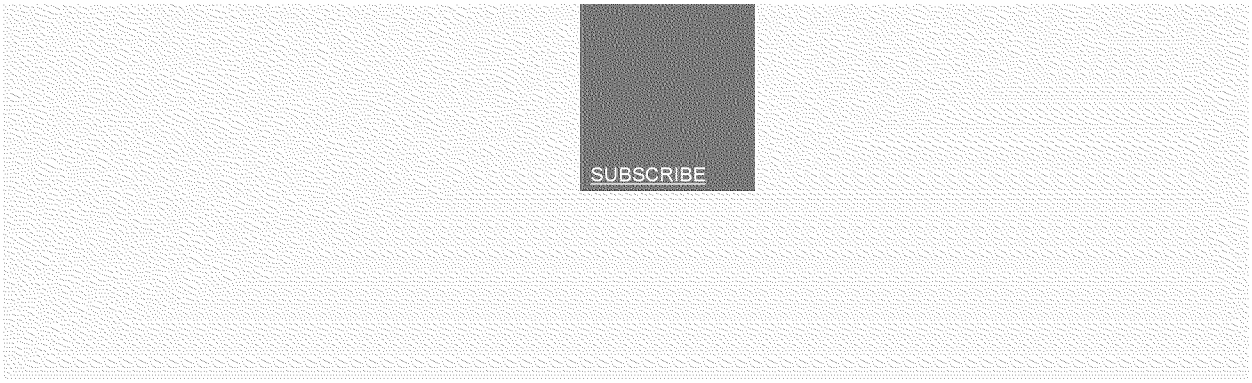
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