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# The SAVINGS Spark

Cost Control  
Associates, Inc.

Cost Control Associates helps your organization reduce and better manage your energy, waste removal and telecom expenses. This monthly newsletter shares industry-related news, tips and updates.

January 2020



## BLOG

### What is Utility Bill Management?

Utility bill management is a service that helps a company or organization process, track and review its utility costs. An effective utility bill management program can save time and money for companies with a significant number of invoices.

[Learn how it works.](#)

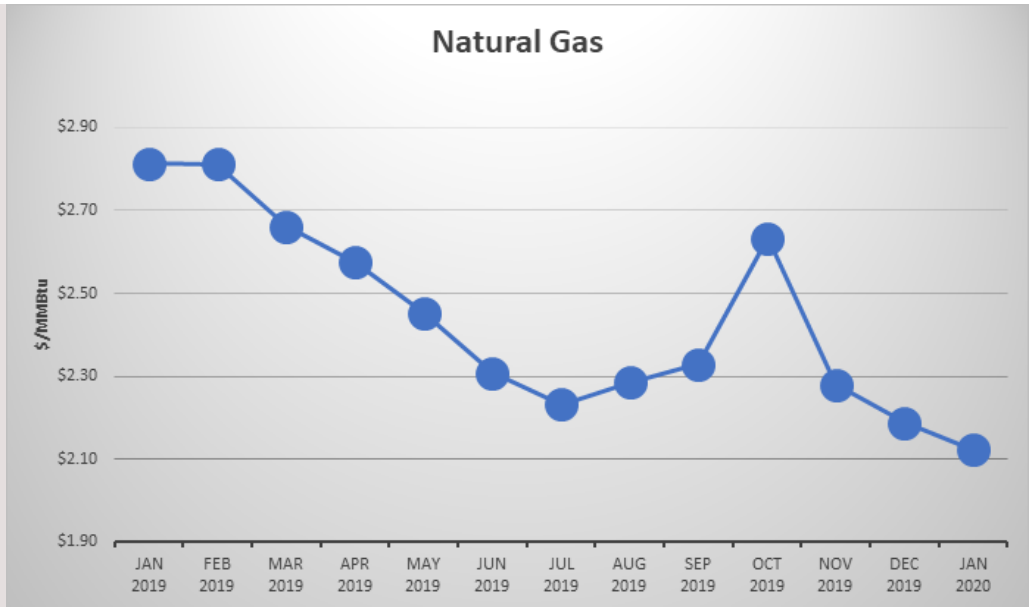
## NEW FEATURE!

Happy new year! As we enter the new decade, it is no surprise that U.S. energy demand continues to grow as do the technologies supporting that demand. The cost of procuring energy supply is more important than ever. In response to your interest in the cost of electricity, natural gas and related market trends, Cost Control Associates introduces our new **Energy Procurement Report**, an energy pricing overview that will be part of our monthly e-newsletter starting today!

## Energy Procurement Report

January 2020

Unseasonably mild weather in the U.S. has caused a decline in the price of natural gas. A severe cold snap could stoke demand and raise prices, but otherwise we expect gas prices to remain low for the remainder of the winter. The Henry Hub spot price is expected to average \$2.45/MMBtu in 2020, down 14 cents from 2019. The following graph shows pricing over the past year.



### Energy Highlights

- **Natural gas storage levels:** Gas inventories were estimated at 3,616 billion cubic feet at the end of November. This is equal to the five-year average but 19% higher than a year ago.
- **U.S. onshore wind capacity:** The U.S. wind capacity now exceeds 100 GW in the U.S. The [EIA](#) expects another 14.3 GW of wind capacity to come online in 2020. Wind power has more than tripled over the past decade, making it the largest source of renewable electricity in the country.
- **Electricity generation from renewables:** U.S. monthly electricity generation from renewable sources exceeded coal generation for the first time in 2019, providing 23% of total electricity generation.

### TELECOM

#### 5G is Here

##### How to Find & Use It

After a period of what seems like nearly endless hype, 5G communications are available nationwide. It promises to provide multi-gigabit speeds, near zero latency and ubiquitous connectivity everywhere. Anyone can use it, but there are caveats. [What you need to know.](#)



### ENERGY

#### Offshore Wind

##### Gearing Up for Lift-off

Offshore wind is growing faster than any other form of electricity except solar power. From 2010 to 2018, the global offshore wind market grew at nearly 30% per year. It's good for climate, jobs and economics. [What's planned for 2020?](#)

### What's Next?

#### Two-sided Solar Panels

Most of today's solar panels capture sunlight and convert it to electricity generated by the sunny side of the panel. Now two Purdue University physicists have developed a thermodynamic formula that makes it possible to generate additional electricity from the dark underside of a solar panel. [Read about the possibilities.](#)



**WASTE**

**Philly's Recycling Costs  
Going Up, Up, Up**

Philadelphia taxpayers will cough up millions more to handle the recycling waste that few haulers want to deal with anymore. In the past year, the cost for the city to remove such waste went from \$70/ton to \$106/ton. In contrast, the city was paid \$67/ton for recyclables in 2012.

[What's the solution?](#)

**Get the Industry Expertise You Need**

Cost Control Associates is an independent consultant who helps businesses and organizations pay less and understand more about their utility expenses. We've been doing it almost 30 years, and our experience shows. Your interests are our top priority!

[CostControlAssociates.com](http://CostControlAssociates.com)

[\(518\) 798-4437](tel:(518)798-4437)