

# EIA adapts to changing market dynamics for propane and other hydrocarbon gas liquids (HGL)



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*Prepared for: Congressional Propane Caucus*  
*Oct. 19, 2015*

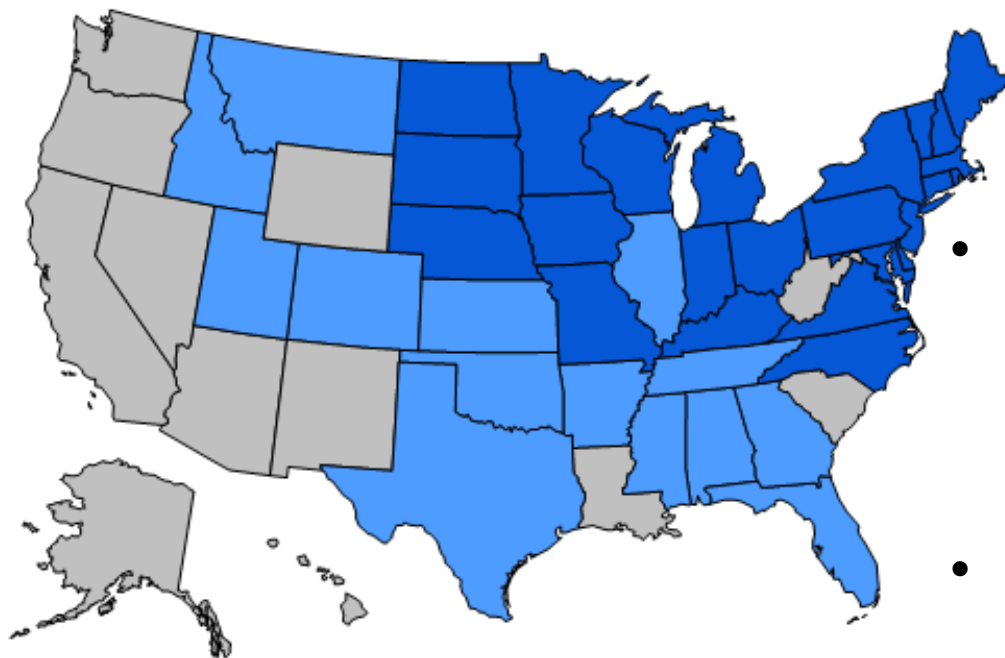
# Key takeaways

- EIA is responding to rapidly changing markets with expanded data, tools, and analysis
- Healthy propane inventories coming into winter 2015-16
- Buildout of transportation and storage is continuing to meet growing demand
- Stronger international market linkages reduce volatility in prices

## EIA has implemented a number of changes and improvements that complement activity in the industry

- Continuously improving forecasting tools, including
  - Short Term Energy Outlook (STEO) and annual Winter Fuels Outlook
  - Annual Energy Outlook and International Energy Outlook
- Widening data offerings while limiting the amount of new data collected through surveys
  - Inventory surveys in 2016 proposed to split out consumer-grade propane
  - Crude by Rail – soon to be Energy by Rail
  - Gradual roll-out of separate data series for alkanes (propane) and olefins (propylene), including historical revisions
  - International data, including commodity flows
- Improving data access through the EIA Application Programming Interface (API) and interactive web pages

# State Heating Oil and Propane Program (SHOPP) updates

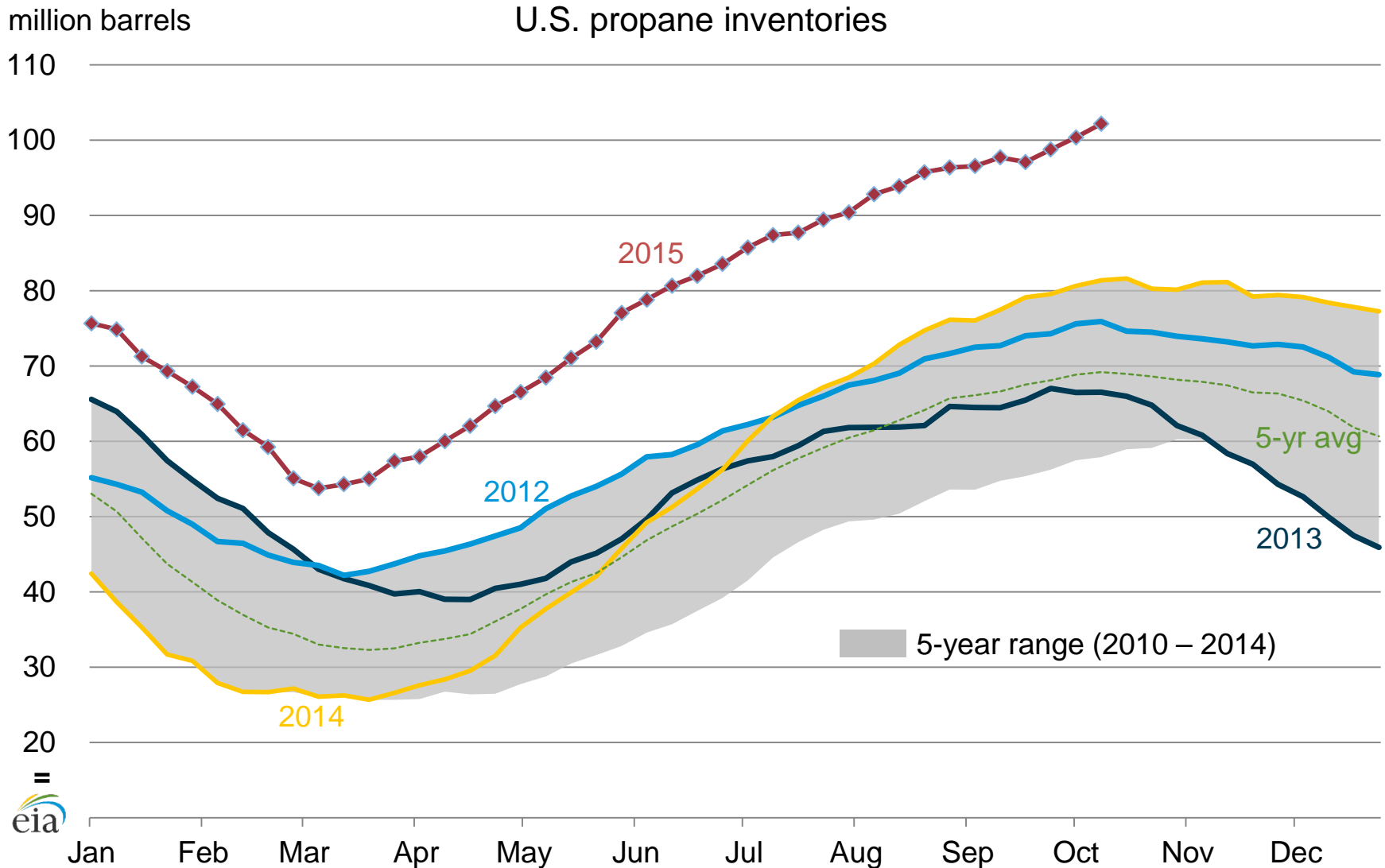


- SHOPP is a collaborative program between states and EIA that provides weekly wholesale and retail prices for heating oil and propane at the state level
- EIA extended SHOPP in October 2014 to 14 additional states
- EIA will continue providing granular data to states on a weekly basis during the upcoming winter
- New winter fuels page provides easier access to state information: [www.eia.gov/special/heatingfuels](http://www.eia.gov/special/heatingfuels)

## SHOPP status

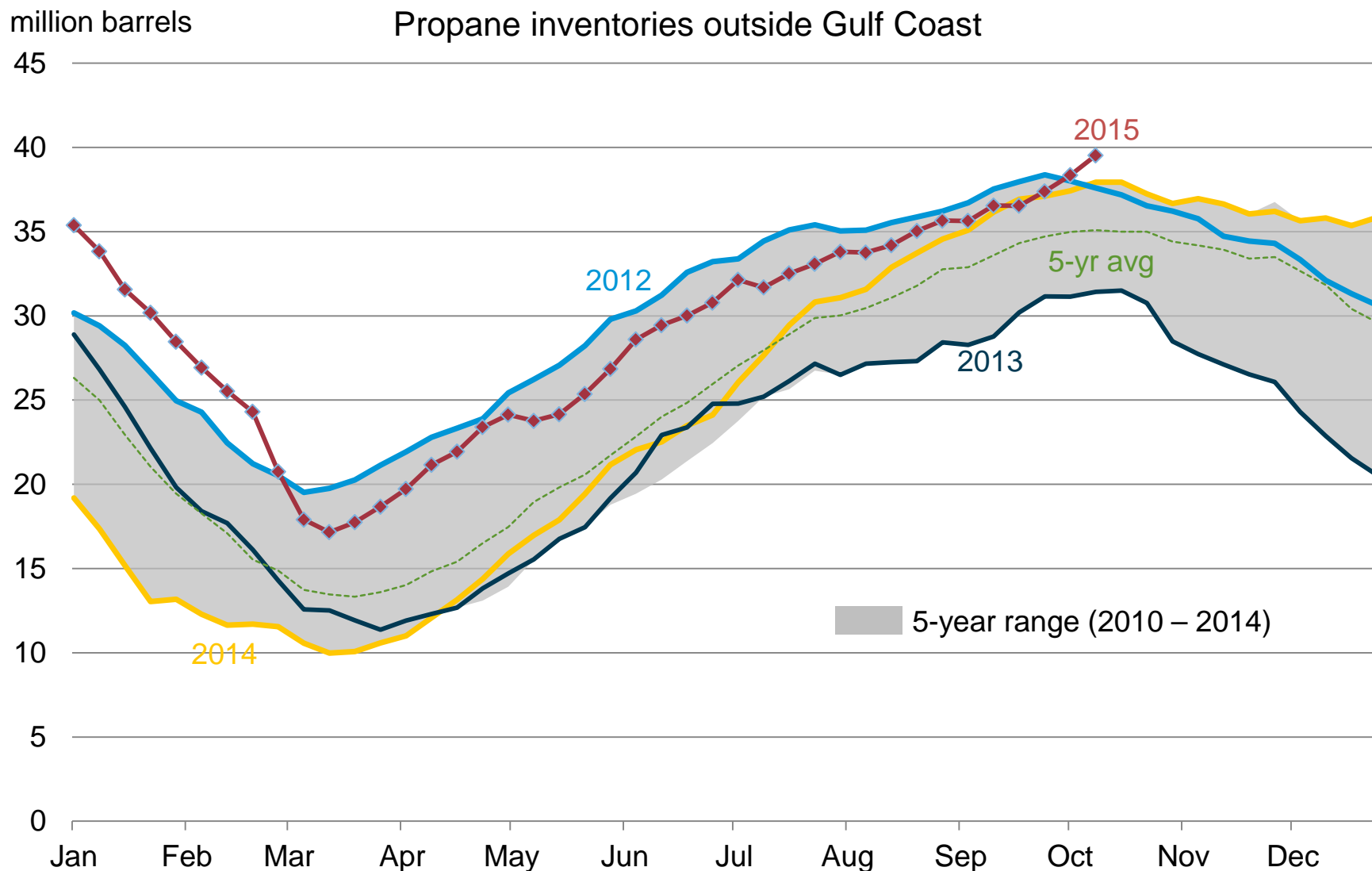
- States participating pre-2014
- 2014 new states
- Not participating

# U.S. total inventories currently above 5-year range



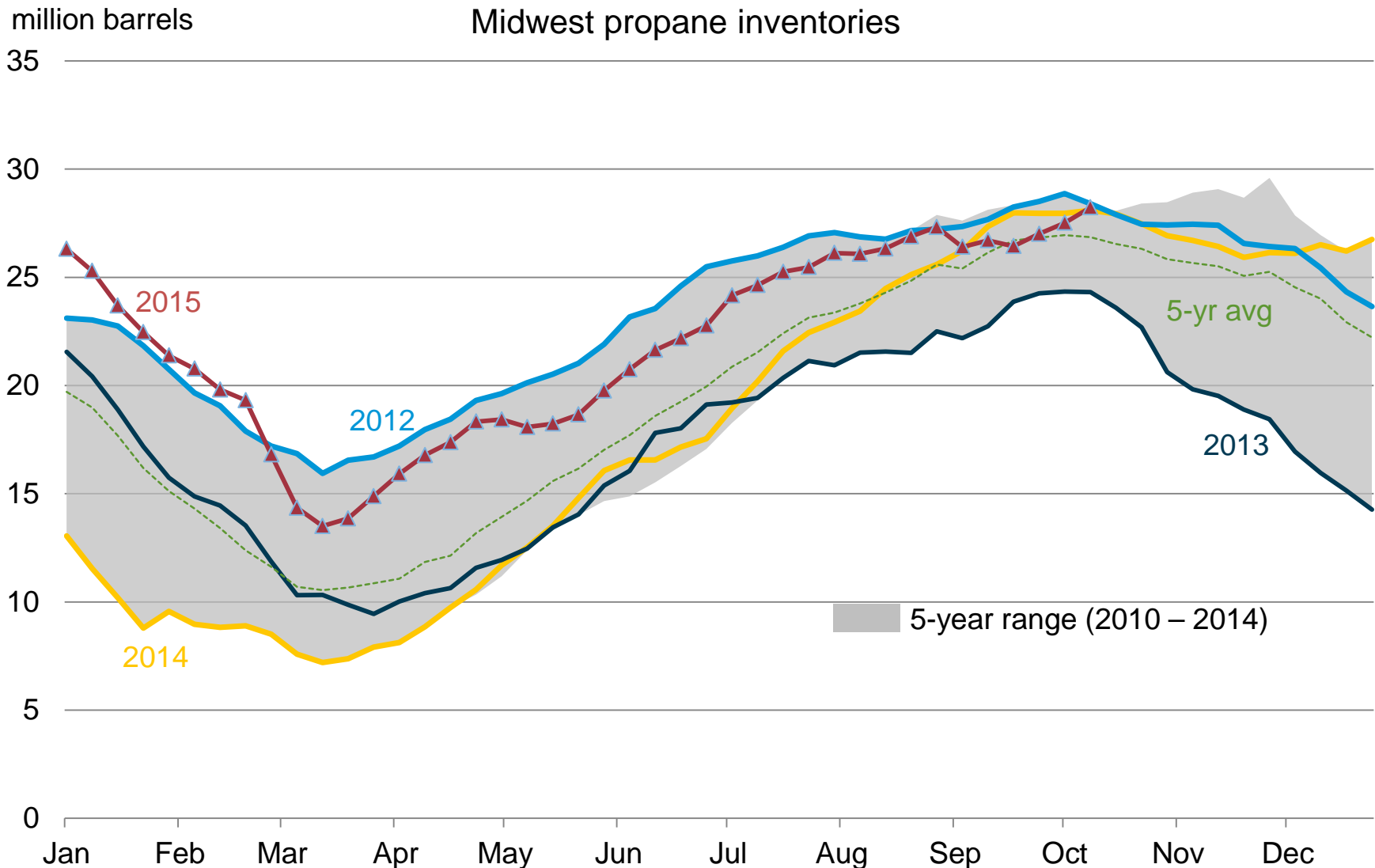
Source: EIA, U.S. propane and propylene stocks at refineries, bulk terminals, and natural gas plants

# U.S. excluding PADD 3 inventories follow seasonal path



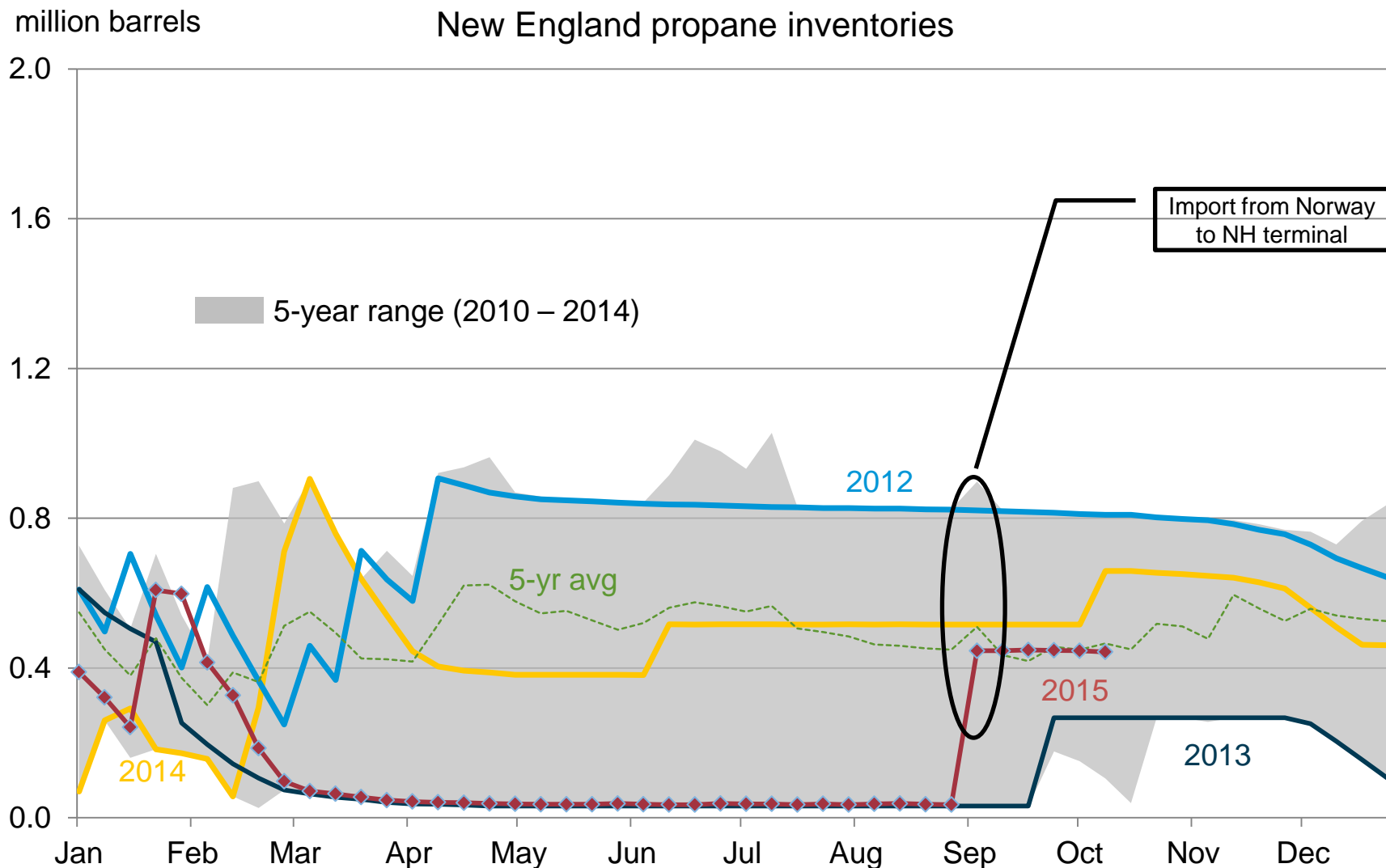
Source: EIA, U.S. propane and propylene stocks at refineries, bulk terminals, and natural gas plants

# PADD 2 inventory build within 5-year range



Source: EIA, U.S. propane and propylene stocks at refineries, bulk terminals, and natural gas plants

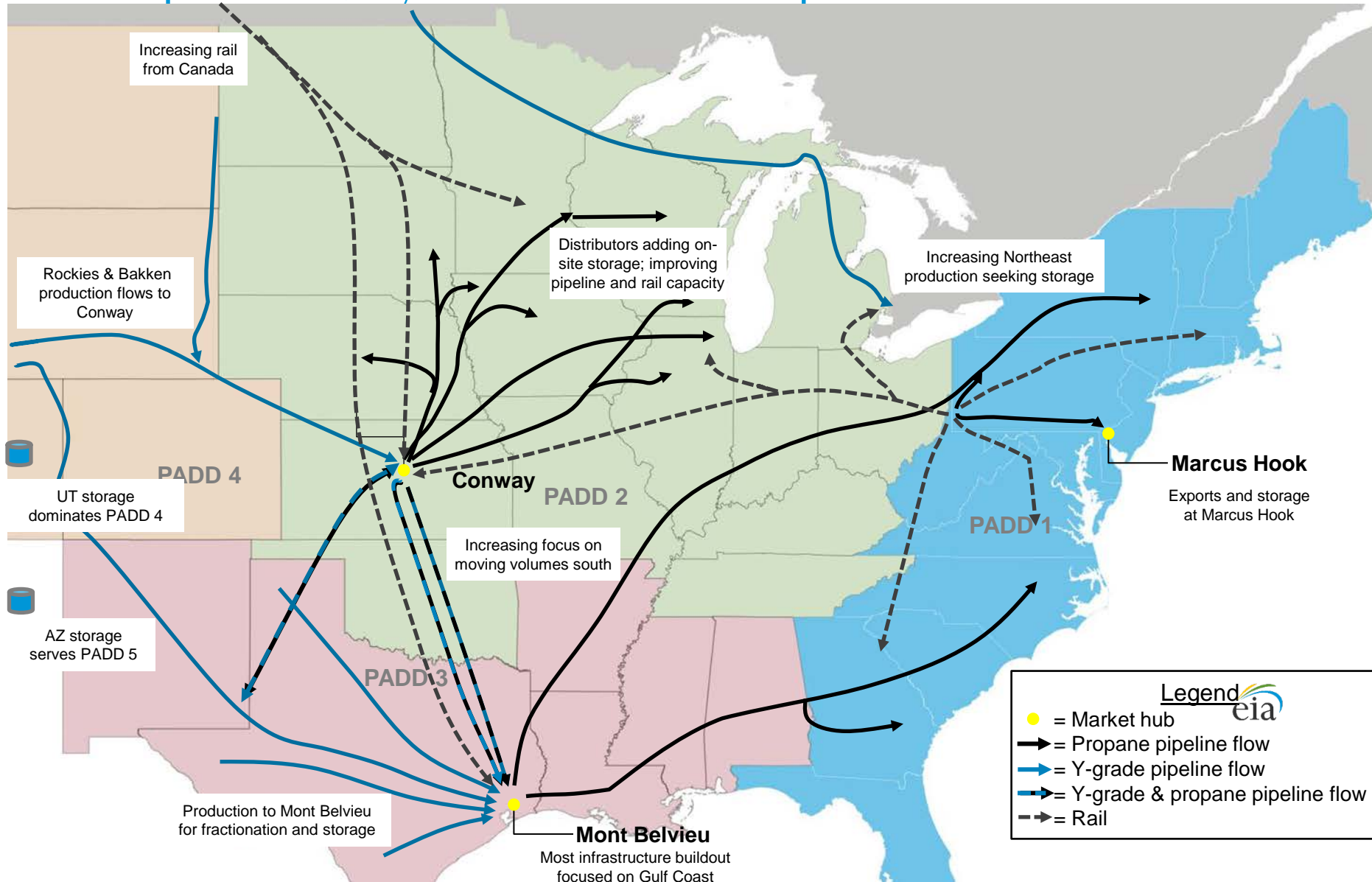
# New England storage at marine terminals builds with overseas imports



Source: EIA, U.S. propane and propylene stocks at refineries, bulk terminals, and natural gas plants

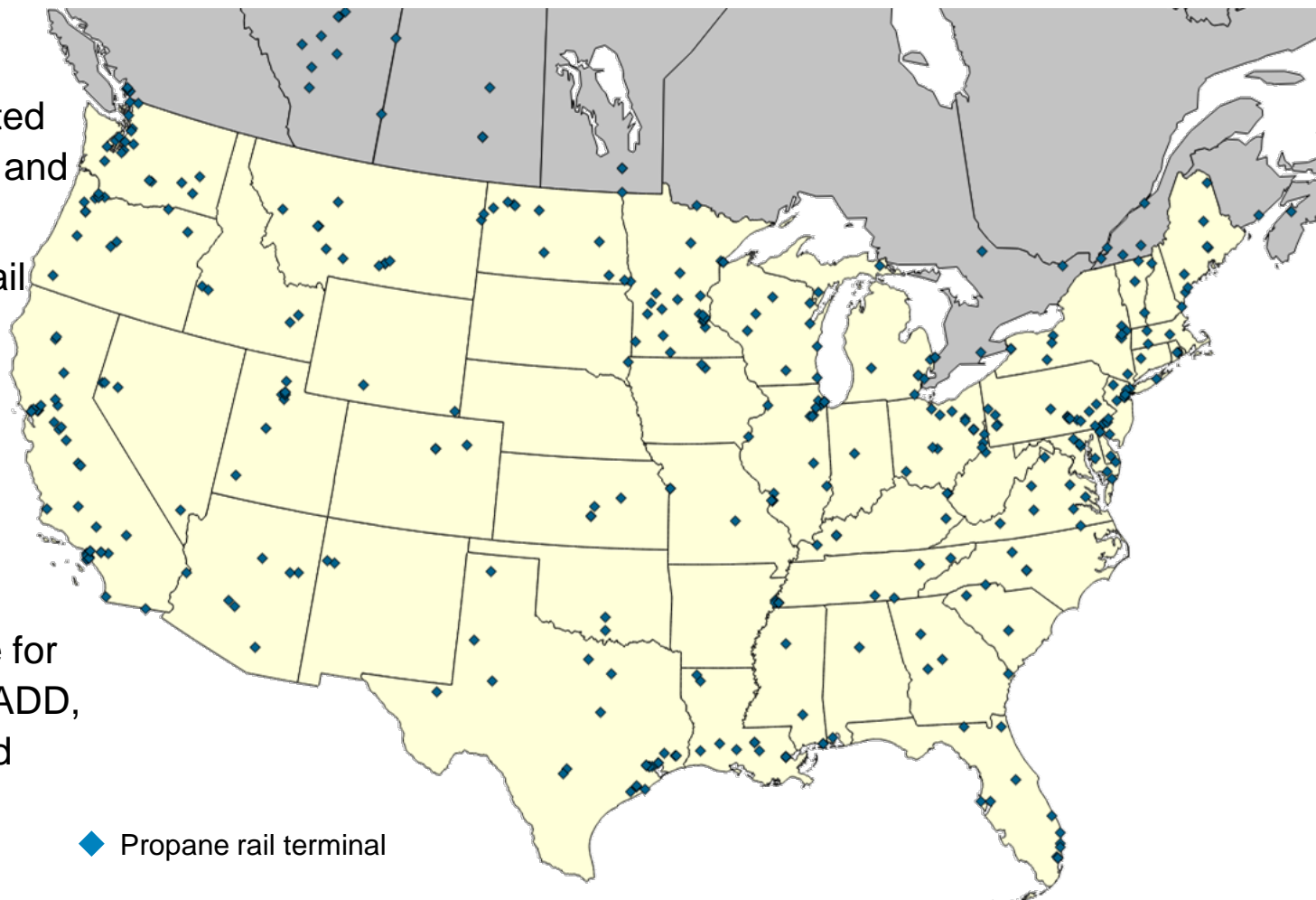


# Propane delivery infrastructure links production and consumers



## Expanding rail movements data from crude by rail to energy by rail

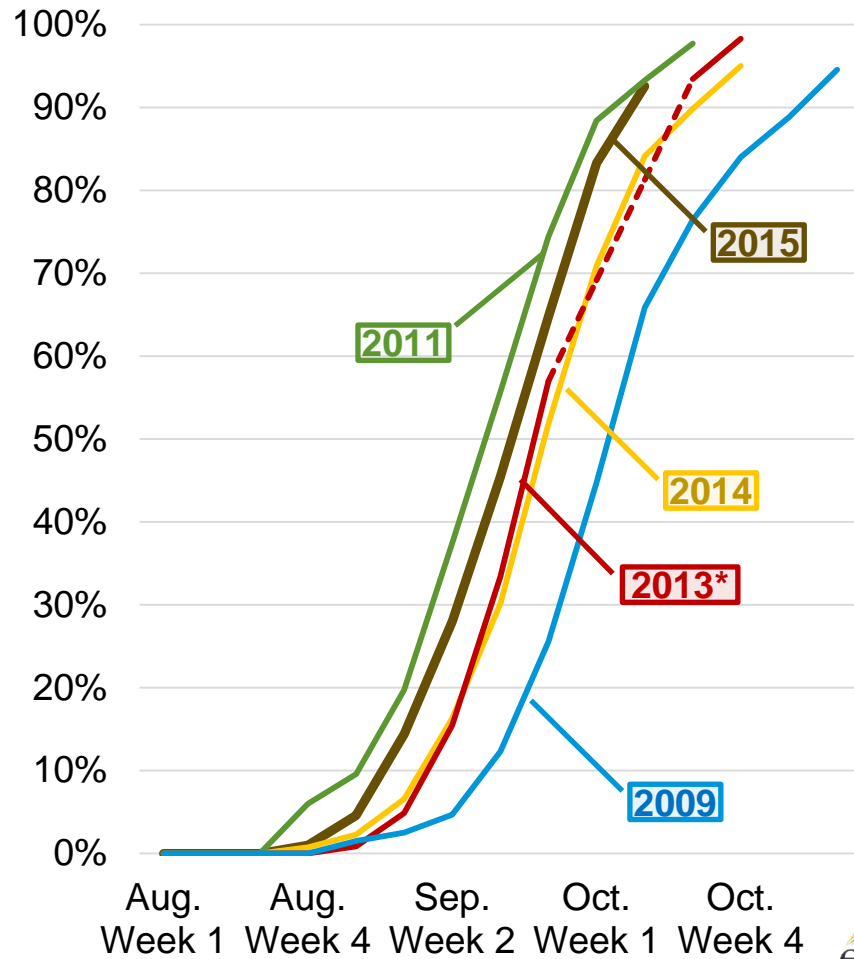
- First energy-by-rail products to be reported will be coal, ethanol, and propane
- Identified over 400 rail terminals handling propane and butane
- Mapped nearly 300 terminals handling ethanol
- As with crude by rail, data will be available for movements within PADD, between PADDs, and to/from Canada



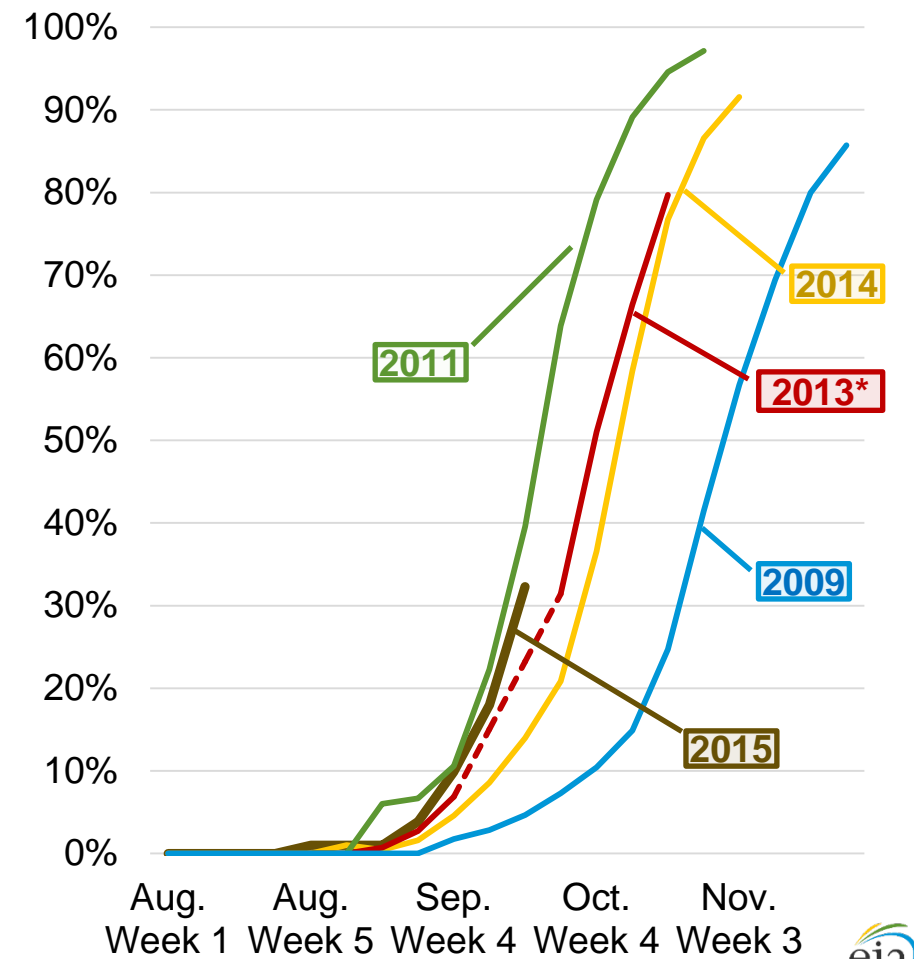
Source: EIA, based on data shared with the Surface Transportation Board

# Corn crop maturity and pace of harvest close to 2011 average – a year with minor grain-drying propane demand

Corn crop maturity



Corn for grain harvest progress



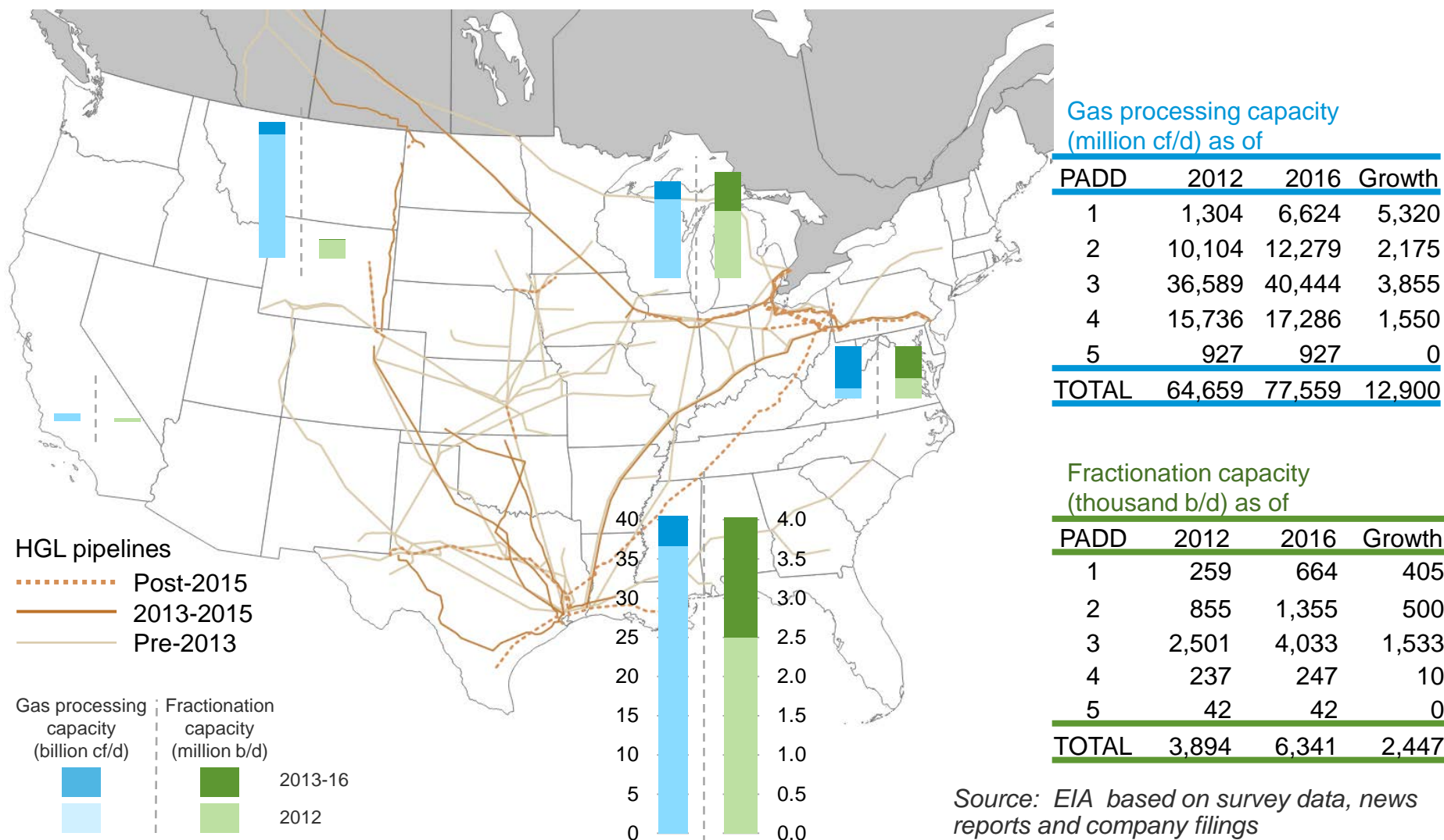
Source: EIA based on U.S. Department of Agriculture.



\* USDA 2013 data incomplete. Weeks 40 and 41 not available.



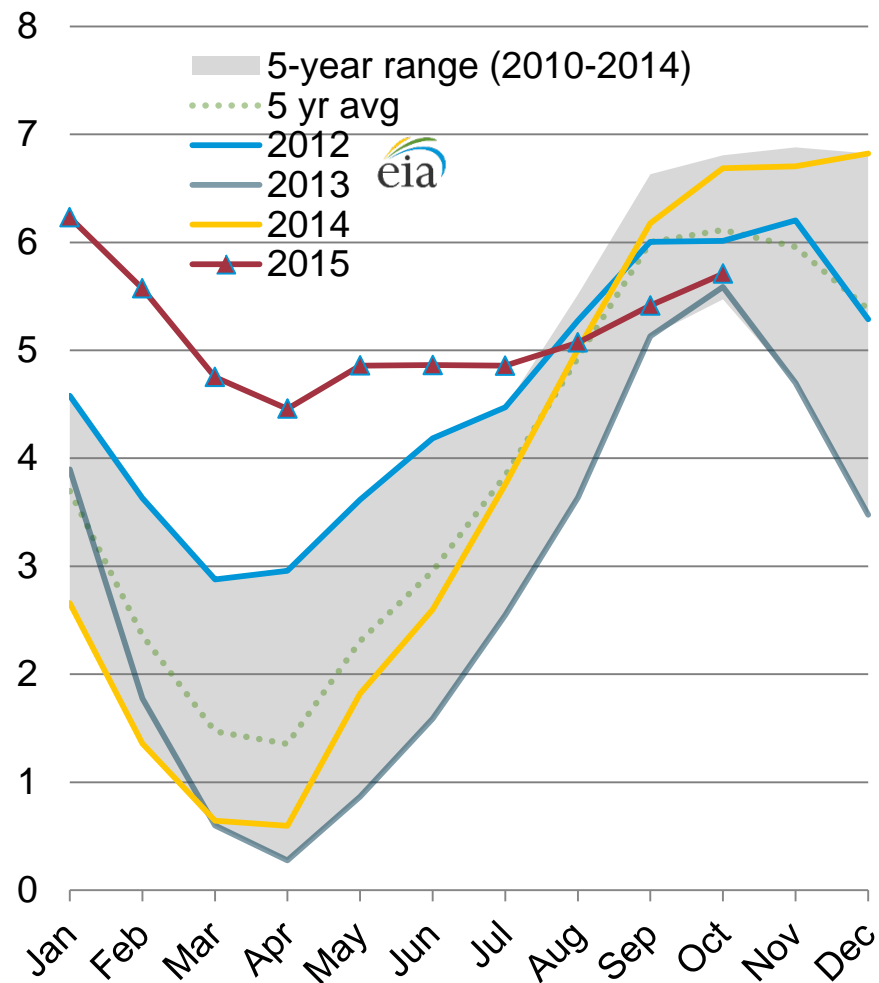
# U.S. midstream buildout focused on widespread production growth, Gulf-centered consumption



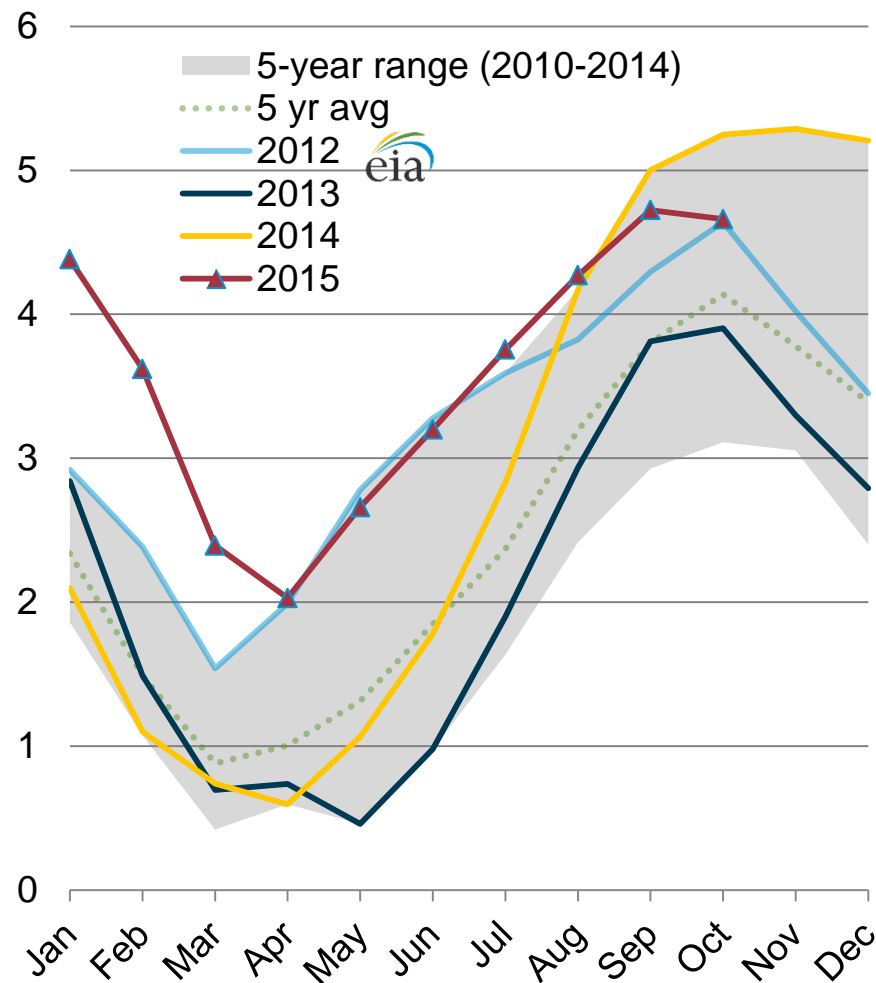
Source: EIA based on survey data, news reports and company filings

# Canadian storage supplements U.S. supply

Western Canada Propane Inventories  
million barrels



Eastern Canada Propane Inventories  
million barrels

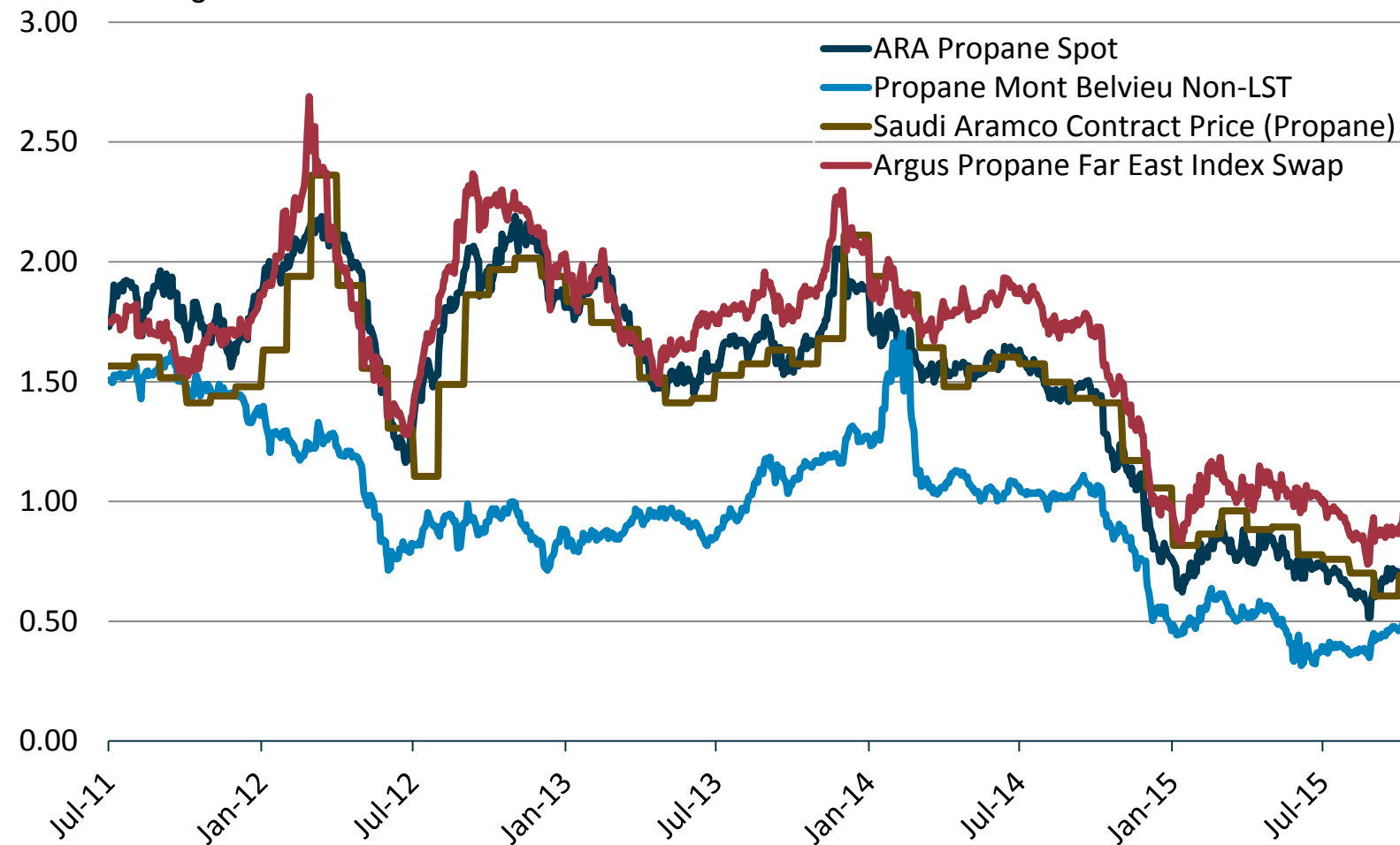


Source: National Energy Board of Canada, EIA



# U.S. wholesale propane prices closely track international prices

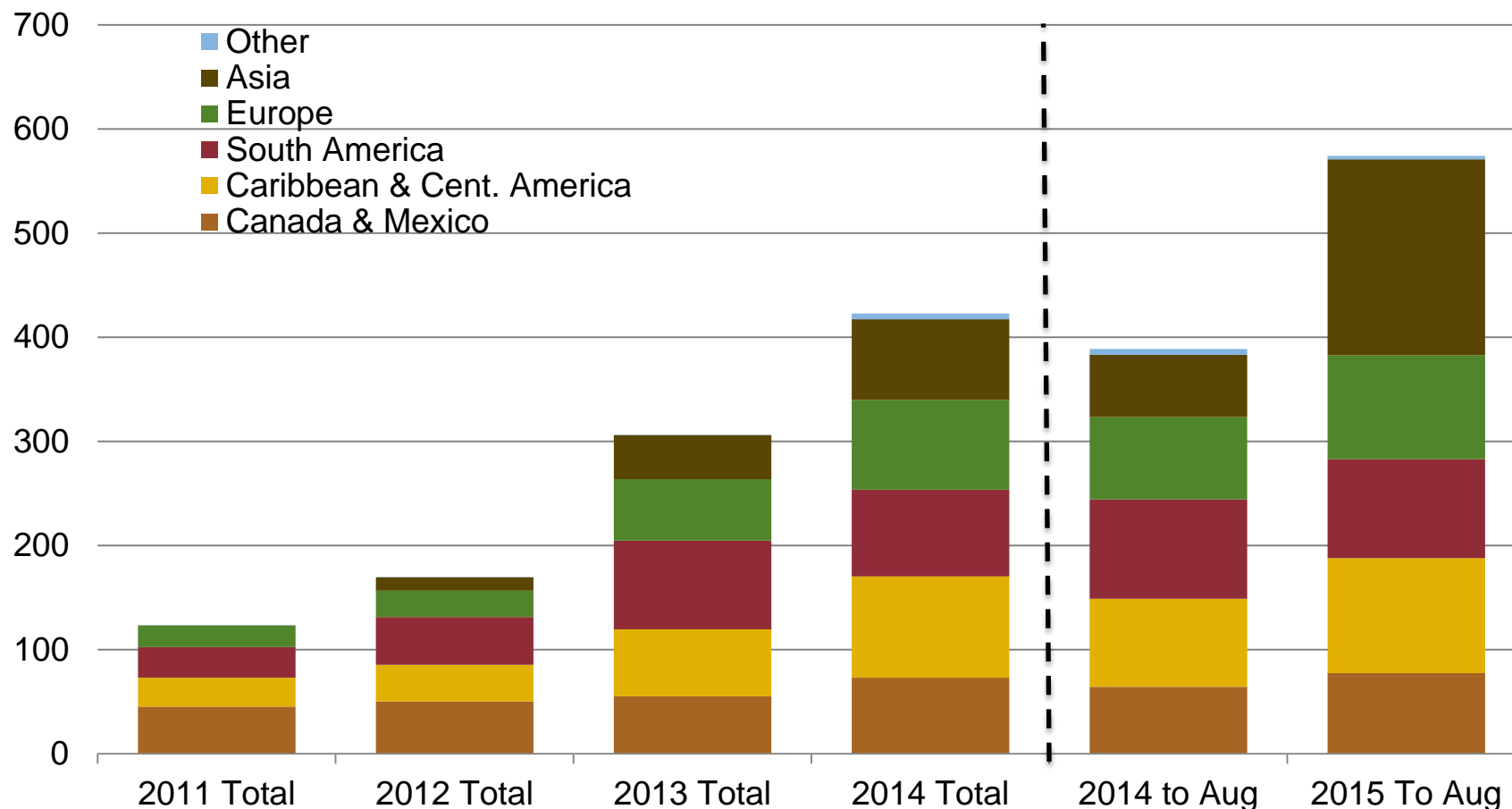
U.S. dollars/gallon



Source: Bloomberg 2015-10-13

# Asia now the marginal destination for U.S. propane

Propane exports  
thousand b/d



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, EIA

## Propane-related reference products from the EIA

*2015 Winter Energy Outlook Conference* | <http://www.naseo.org/winter-energy-2015-agenda>

*Hydrocarbon Gas Liquids (HGL): Recent Market Trends and Issues* | <http://www.eia.gov/analysis/hgl/>

*Today in Energy* | <http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/index.cfm?tg=%20propane>

*Heating Oil & Propane Prices* | <http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/heatingoilpropane>

*Energy Explained - Propane* | [http://www.eia.gov/EnergyExplained/?page=propane\\_home](http://www.eia.gov/EnergyExplained/?page=propane_home)

*Energy Explained – Hydrocarbon Gas Liquids (HGL)* | *coming soon*



# Thank you!

Γ υ σ ι κ λ ο η ι

*U.S. Energy Information Administration home page / [www.eia.gov](http://www.eia.gov)*

*Short-Term Energy Outlook / [www.eia.gov/steo](http://www.eia.gov/steo)*

*This Week in Petroleum / <http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>*

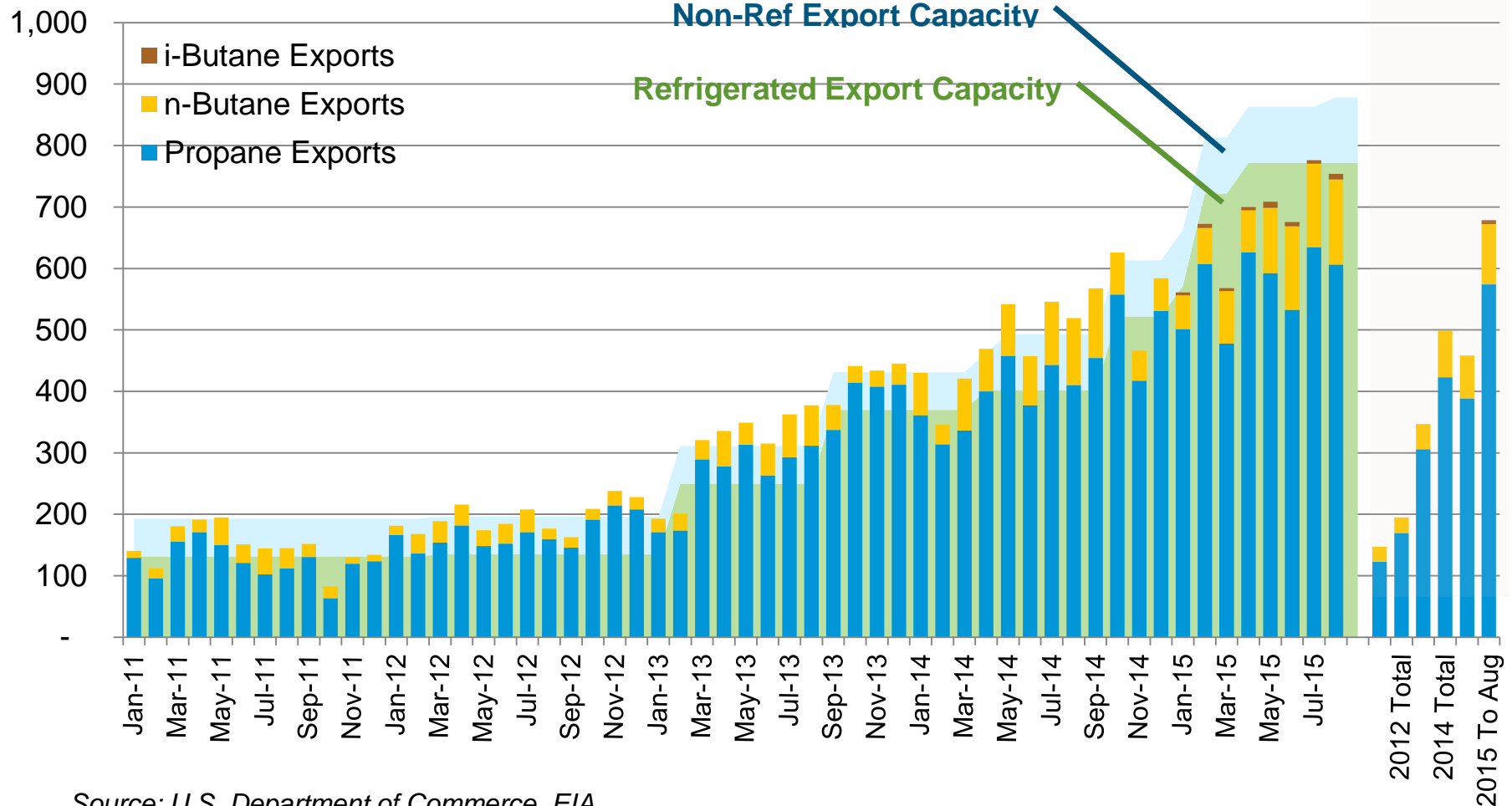
*Today in Energy/ <http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy>*

*Glossary/ <http://www.eia.gov/tools/glossary>*

# Backup slides

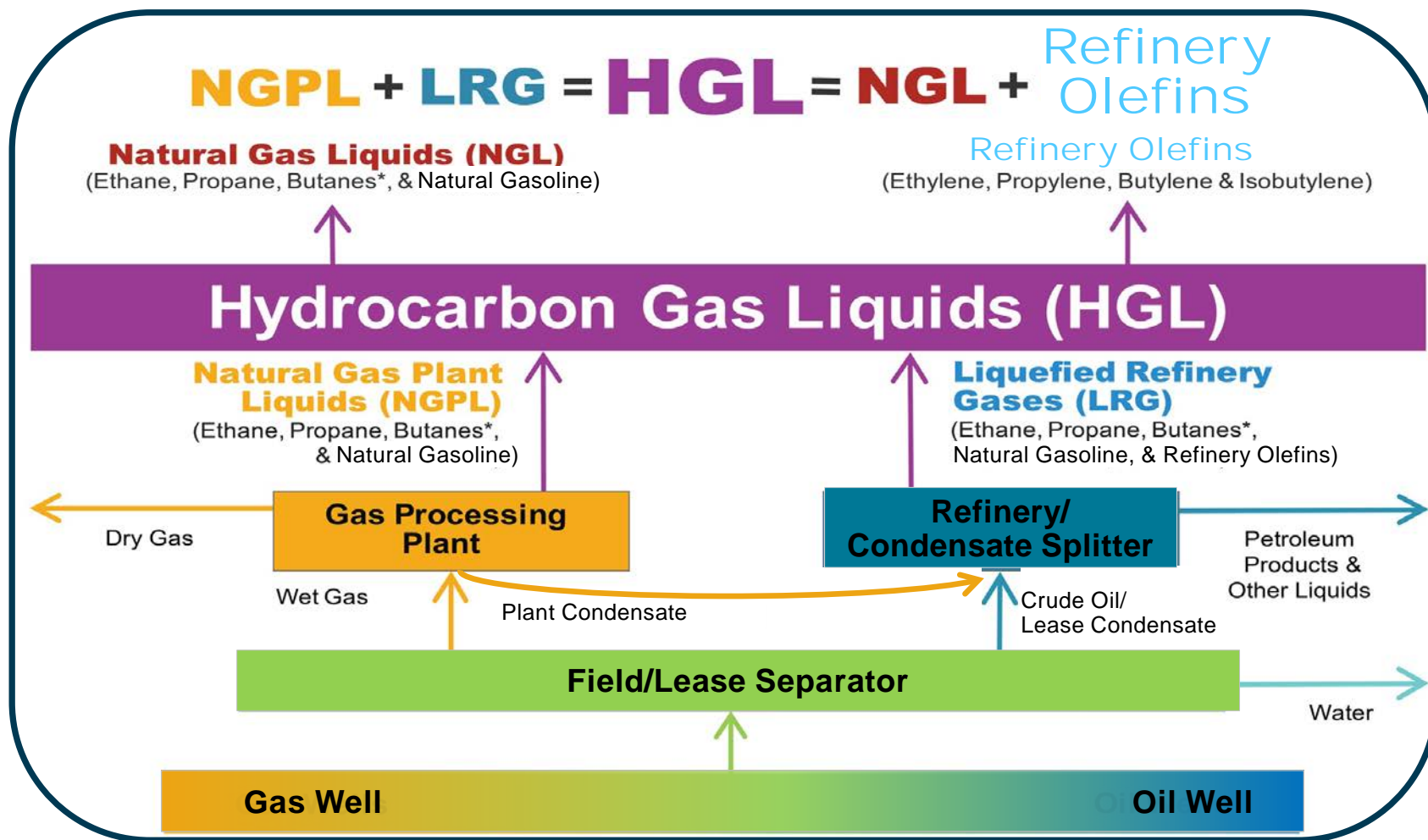
# Export volumes continue to track refrigerated capacity

HGL exports  
thousand b/d



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, EIA

# EIA's new HGL terminology bridges how the commodities are supplied, marketed and consumed



\*Butanes include normal butane and isobutane.

# Automating EIA data pulls

1 Download & Install Excel plug-in: <http://www.eia.gov/beta/api/excel/>

## 2 Total Stocks (Thousand Barrels)

Product:  Period:

Download Series History		Definitions, Sources & Notes						
Show Data By:	Graph	07/24/15	07/31/15	08/07/15	08/14/15	08/21/15	08/28/15	View History
<input type="radio"/> Product <input checked="" type="radio"/> Area	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>							
U.S.	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	89,446	90,378	92,792	93,866	95,724	96,344	1993-2015
PADD 1	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	4,433	4,424	4,270	4,294	4,314	4,530	1993-2015
New England	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	37	35	37	38	36	35	1993-2015
Central Atlantic	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	2,830	2,811	2,660	2,671	2,692	2,933	1993-2015
Lower Atlantic	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	1,566	1,578	1,574	1,585	1,586	1,563	1993-2015
PADD 2	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	25,467	26,123	26,079	26,327	26,884	27,317	1993-2015
PADD 3	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	56,359	56,578	59,035	59,671	60,684	60,688	1993-2015
PADD's 4 & 5	<input type="button" value="Graph"/>	3,188	3,252	3,407	3,574	3,842	3,908	1993-2015

Click on the source key icon to learn how to download series into Excel, or to embed a chart or map on your website.

## 3 API Query Browser

EIA Data Sets > Petroleum > Summary > Weekly Supply Estimates > by Area > PADD 3

API CALL TO USE: [http://api.eia.gov/series/?api\\_key=YOUR\\_API\\_KEY\\_HERE&series\\_id=PET.WPRSTP31.W](http://api.eia.gov/series/?api_key=YOUR_API_KEY_HERE&series_id=PET.WPRSTP31.W)

SERIES NAME: Gulf Coast (PADD 3) Ending Stocks of Propane and Propylene, Weekly

SERIES ID: PET.WPRSTP31.W [Show me how to embed a chart of this series](#)

4

4b PRESS



4a PASTE

Book2		A	B
1	PET.WPRSTP31.W		
2	Units	Thousand Barrels	
3	W		
4	3/5/1993	1993-03-05 - 2015-08-28	
5	Gulf Coast (PADD 3) Ending Stocks of		
6	EIA, U.S. Energy Information Administ E		
7	date	value	
8	2015-08-28	60688	
9	2015-08-21	60684	
10	2015-08-14	59671	
11	2015-08-07	59035	
12	2015-07-31	56578	
13	2015-07-24	56359	
14	2015-07-17	55180	

RESULT