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Contents

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LNG Outlook 2017: Surplus or balance?

This year looks set to be an important one for LNG. Global production is forecast to reach 292 mt in 2017, marking an increase of around 34 mt from 2016 – an unparalleled year-on-year rise. The lion's share of additional production will come from the ramp-up of liquefaction plants commissioned in the US and Australia in 2016, though a fair amount of extra production is also expected from projects scheduled for start-up in 2017. But as sellers continue to grapple with an already well-supplied market, the crucial question this year is: will demand grow enough to absorb surplus production volumes as it did in 2016? If not, how will the market balance?

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