

Holyoke OK'd to add a gas tank to boost supply

- May. 12, 2026, By [Aprell May Munford](#) [Story source: MassLive.com](#)

HOLYOKE — When temperatures drop, nearly half of Holyoke’s natural gas supply comes from one local facility — and soon, that supply will grow.

State regulators have approved plans for Holyoke Gas & Electric to expand its West Holyoke liquefied natural gas facility by adding a storage tank and equipment.

The project is intended to improve reliability and reduce dependence on a single pipeline, especially during peak demand.

City leaders say it could also help attract new business and support economic growth.

Eric Nakajima, the city’s planning director, said the approval will boost competitiveness.

“Energy supply bottlenecks are a barrier to new investment and growth in Holyoke,” Nakajima said. “This decision will support jobs and businesses in the city in the coming decade.”

The project follows three years of review, and a new tank could be in service by late 2027 or early 2028, pending a delivery commitment from the manufacturer.

Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia praised the approval, citing support from the Healey administration.

“We’re grateful to Governor Healey’s office for supporting this necessary and forward-looking reliability improvement and storage expansion of HG&E’s natural gas resource,” Garcia said.

Holyoke has a natural gas moratorium that still applies when a cost-effective alternative is available. Customers can request service by completing a natural gas interest [form](#).

The utility said it will approve gas service only when it has capacity, when no cost-effective alternative exists, or when doing so supports the city’s needs.

The utility says its supply comes from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline, and liquefied natural gas stored in West Holyoke provides about 40% of the city’s gas during peak cold-weather demand.

The project would add a fifth tank and new equipment at the existing site to boost reliability and reduce reliance on a single pipeline.

“There will be very limited construction and operational impacts related to this project,” the utility wrote.

“Approval of this additional storage tank is in the best interests of Holyoke’s residential and commercial customers,” Garcia said.

The utility said it will continue updating its website and outreach materials as more information becomes available.