



Iowa Propane Supply Chain Optimization Analysis Update

Midwest Governors Association

October 2014

Propane Supply Chain Optimization Approach

2

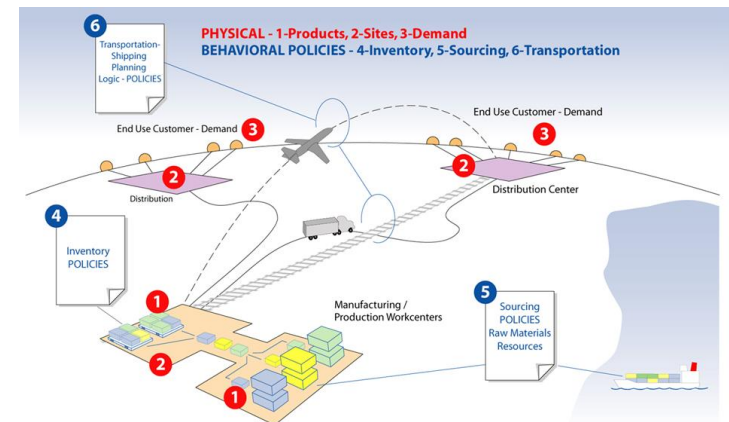
- Iowa is taking a scientific approach to the propane crisis
 - ▣ Understand root causes underlying shortage and sharp price increases
 - ▣ Proactively analyze risks and opportunities to better manage in future
- Propane supply chain optimization analysis focuses on:
 - ▣ Ability to handle current demand with current infrastructure
 - ▣ Ability to handle future increases in demand with current infrastructure
 - ▣ Impact of changing and/or new infrastructure constraints
- Emphasis of the project is on “planning”
 - ▣ Create an efficient propane supply chain for the State of Iowa
 - ▣ Prioritize infrastructure investments to lower supply chain costs
- Identifies thresholds for when changes in demand or constraints limit ability to meet propane demand at reasonable price

Building the Model

Data Collection

3

- Approach leverages commercial best practices for supply chain optimization
- Initial emphasis was on collecting data for quantitative analysis
 - ▣ Demand by sector: historical vs. future
 - ▣ Sites and storage capacity: end users, marketers, hubs, terminals
 - ▣ Product/pricing data by source
 - ▣ Transportation costs and capacity
- Sourced via combination of primary and secondary research
 - ▣ Public data sources including EIA, OPIS, API, industry directories
 - ▣ Interviews and surveys with Industry SMEs, associations and partners



Building the Model

Defining Policies

4

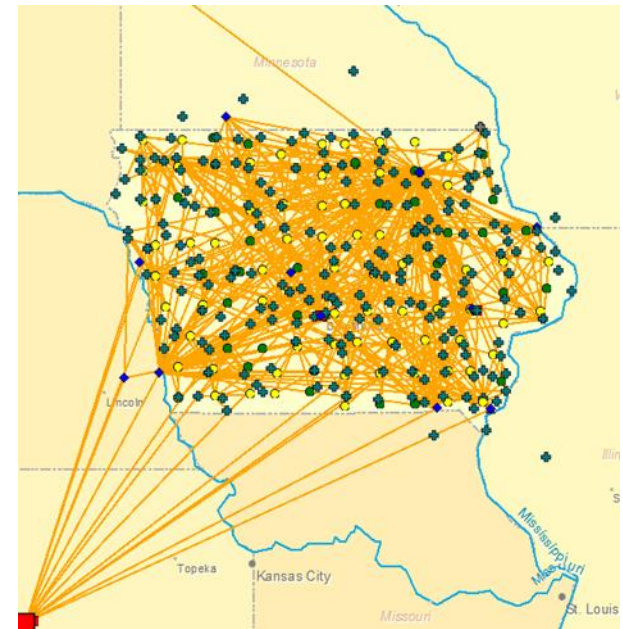
- Next step was to translate industry practices into policies within the model
 - Sourcing: Where do participants source propane; Single vs. multiple sources; Pricing and contracting practices?
 - Inventory: What storage is available; What level of inventory is maintained; When is it reviewed, reordered?
 - Transportation: What modes are used to move product from different origins to destinations; What is asset capacity and availability; Costs?
- Goal to reflect current practices within baseline model
- Ongoing process to validate with industry experts

Analyzing Scenarios

Demand

5

- Efforts now centered on what-if analysis
 - ▣ Ability to handle current and future demand
 - ▣ Changes in infrastructure and practices
- Starts with baseline model of historical demand and infrastructure
- Then model ability to handle peak demand without Cochin in 2014
- Add in existing, alternative sources outside “normal” supply points
 - ▣ Optimal supply chain in post-Cochin era
- Analyze impact of increasing demand
- Goal to help State of Iowa understand:
 - ▣ Demand thresholds that present risks
 - ▣ Proactively vet alternatives to best handle fluctuations

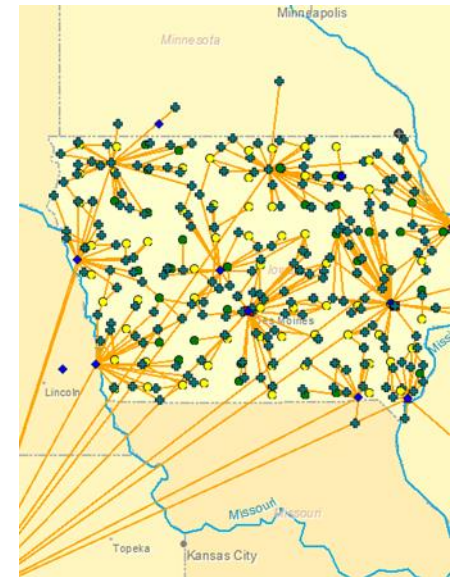


Analyzing Scenarios

Infrastructure, Policies and Practices

6

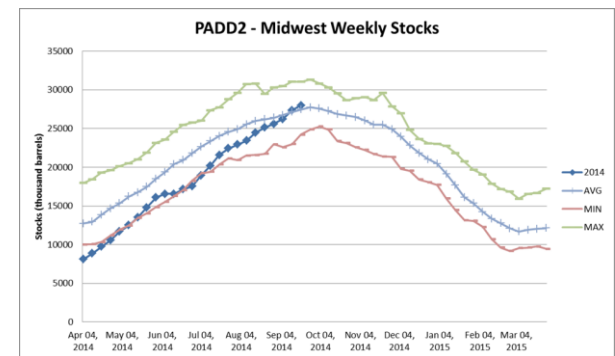
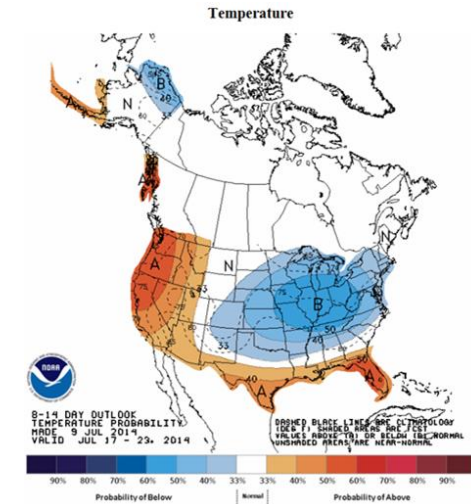
- Analyze impact of new infrastructure, behavioral changes or best practices on ability to serve demand
 - ▣ Increase in export capacity and/or demand outside IA
 - ▣ Investment in storage in IA
 - ▣ Building inventory in summer
 - ▣ Change in ordering and inventory management
 - ▣ Adequacy of truck/rail capacity
 - ▣ Reduction in pipeline capacity or outage
 - ▣ Investments in new terminals or sites
- Goal to understand what draft recommendations will have most impact and prioritize State efforts, e.g.
 - ▣ Tax credits for summer build, increased storage
 - ▣ Development of new primary storage sites in Iowa
 - ▣ Reporting requirements linked to tax credits/incentives to increase visibility
 - ▣ Providing truckers with terminal wait times



What's Happens After the Analysis?

7

- Focus shifts to execution and market monitoring
 - When face high risk of future shortage / emergency
 - When enact action plan based on reaching threshold
- (1) Short-Term Monitoring
 - Short-term demand factors (e.g. weather, grain moisture, harvest) and inventory levels
 - Collect data and convert to actionable analytics
 - Define contingency plan and triggers for action
 - Systemic monitoring for timely, effective response
- (2) Long-Term Monitoring
 - Long-term changes in demand and constraints (e.g. export capacity, rail capacity, storage investments)
 - Track changes in infrastructure and constraints
 - Periodically re-baseline analysis to determine changes in thresholds for action



8

Questions

Craig Markley

Iowa DOT

515-239-1027

craig.markley@dot.iowa.gov

Richard Langer

Quetica, LLC

651-964-4646 x800

richard.langer@quetica.com