VIREO CAPITAL RESEARCH | Equity Research | Initiating Coverage | August 12, 2026

EQT Corporation

NYSE: EQT | Energy | Oil & Gas E&P (Natural Gas)

RATING	PRICE TARGET	CURRENT PRICE	UPSIDE
BUY	USD 69.95	USD 52.81	+32.5%

MARKET CAP	52-WEEK RANGE	NEXT EARNINGS	P/E (TTM)
USD 33.0B	$47.94 - $68.24	Oct 28, 2026	12.4x

EV/EBITDA (TTM)	REVENUE (TTM)	EBITDA MARGIN	DIVIDEND YIELD
5.6x	USD 9.3B	72.9%	1.3%

Report Date: August 12, 2026 | **Analyst:** Memanmiupa Symblai, Vireo Capital Research

1. INVESTMENT THESIS

EQT is rated a Buy with a $69.95 price target, implying about 32.5% upside from its current price of roughly $52.81. The main concern is weak natural gas prices through 2026, with spot prices dipping below $3/MMBtu at times. That risk is real, but the market is still valuing EQT like a traditional gas producer rather than recognizing how much the company has changed over the past two years. EQT has strengthened its balance sheet, bought back its pipeline system, and is now positioned to benefit from two major demand drivers: LNG exports and AI driven power demand. These growth trends are only beginning to develop, and the stock has yet to fully reflect that potential.

Demand is the core thesis. U.S. LNG capacity is expected to rise from 17 Bcf/d in 2025 to 19+ Bcf/d in 2026, while AI data centres are driving power demand higher, with EIA gas production forecasts rising from 119 Bcf/d in 2026 to 124 Bcf/d in 2027. EQT is already positioned, with a 10-year CPV gas deal expected to add about $100 million annually in free cash flow.

EQT generated $2.50 billion in 2025 free cash flow, up 266%, and expects roughly $3.5 billion in 2026. Production guidance is 2,375 to 2,450 Bcfe, while net debt has fallen from $7.69 billion to $5.5 billion, helping earn a BBB investment grade rating. Once debt reaches $5 billion, buybacks should increase, yet EQT trades at just 5.6x EV/EBITDA.

The key risk is weak gas prices. EIA cut its 2027 Henry Hub forecast 24% to $3.49/MMBtu, while Permian drilling adds supply. Beyond prices, the DCF is highly assumption sensitive, with a 9.0% WACC and 1.00 beta versus research backed beta near 0.50, potentially shifting value by $25+ per share. Still, EQT's low costs, scale and stronger balance sheet make it well positioned to benefit when LNG and AI driven power demand accelerate.

KEY BULL CASE vs. BEAR CASE

KEY BULL CASE	KEY BEAR CASE
LNG export capacity rising from 17 Bcf/d in 2025 to 19+ Bcf/d in 2026 as Golden Pass, Plaquemines, and Corpus Christi Stage III ramp together.	EIA cut its 2027 Henry Hub forecast to $3.49/MMBtu in July 2026, down 24% from the $4.60 projected just six months earlier in the January 2026 outlook.
AI data centre power demand is reversing 20 years of flat U.S. electricity growth. EIA's own forecast has total gas production climbing from 119 to 124 Bcf/d in a single year to keep up.	Permian associated gas keeps growing alongside oil drilling, adding supply EQT does not control or benefit from, regardless of its own capital discipline.

2025 FCF attributable to EQT hit $2.5B, up 266% YoY. 2026 guidance points to roughly $3.5B and full year production guidance has been raised twice in 2026.	Q2 2026 net income fell to $211M from $784M a year earlier as realized prices and derivatives gains dropped, a reminder of how much this business still swings with the commodity.
Net debt cut to $5.5B from $7.69B in under two quarters, with a 2026 Fitch upgrade to investment grade (BBB), clearing the path to buybacks once the $5B target is hit.	This valuation's WACC (9.0%) is entered directly rather than derived, and beta (1.00) is an assumption, not a verified company-specific figure. The DCF alone ranges roughly $54-$158 depending on which assumption is used.

2. COMPANY OVERVIEW

EQT Corporation is a natural gas company based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, founded in 1888. The modern company was largely built through consolidation, most notably its 2017 merger with Rice Energy, which brought in current CEO Toby Rice. EQT operates across the Marcellus and Utica shale formations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio, producing and selling natural gas to utilities, industrial customers, marketers, and increasingly LNG exporters. With production of around 7.4 Bcf/d, EQT is the largest natural gas producer in the U.S.

EQT's revenue is largely transactional because natural gas is a commodity, meaning the company has little pricing power. Its competitive advantage therefore comes from low production costs, hedging, and vertical integration. Customer exposure is also shifting, with supply agreements increasingly tied to LNG exporters and data centre power demand, including its landmark 10-year gas supply agreement with CPV, priced off power rather than traditional gas indices.

The biggest strategic change was the 2024 reacquisition of Equitrans Midstream, the pipeline business EQT had spun off in 2018. This made EQT vertically integrated, allowing it to own the infrastructure used to move its gas to market, retain more margin, and reduce costs. EQT has continued this strategy by increasing its Mountain Valley Pipeline stake from approximately 49% to approximately 53% in 2026, acquiring Blackline Midstream for about $77 million, and expanding its CPV relationship.

The U.S. natural gas market is expected to expand, with EIA production rising from roughly 119 Bcf/d in 2026 to 124 Bcf/d in 2027. Growth is being driven mainly by LNG exports and rising gas fired power demand from AI data centres. However, a mild winter, LNG project delays, or increased associated gas from Permian oil drilling could pressure prices and demand.

3. INDUSTRY AND COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

The U.S. natural gas market is expanding, with marketed production expected to increase from 120.8 Bcf/d in 2026 to 122.4 Bcf/d in 2027, driven by LNG exports and rising power demand. LNG exports are forecast to rise from 17.4 Bcf/d to 18.6 Bcf/d over the same period (EIA, 2026).

EQT is the largest U.S. natural gas producer, producing about 7.4 Bcf/d, and competes mainly with Expand Energy, Antero Resources, Range Resources and CNX Resources. Since natural gas is a commodity, EQT is a price taker, making scale, low costs and infrastructure its key advantages. Its 2024 acquisition of Equitrans Midstream strengthened its vertical integration (EQT Corporation, 2024).

The main risk is oversupply. Henry Hub prices are forecast to average $3.67/MMBtu in 2026 and $3.49/MMBtu in 2027, although growing LNG demand should provide support (EIA, 2026).

EQT trades at 5.6x EV/EBITDA and 4.1x EV/Revenue, versus peer medians of approximately 7.1x and 2.8x. This indicates a scale and quality premium, but EQT's low-cost structure and exposure to LNG and AI driven power demand could support further upside.

COMPARABLE COMPANY ANALYSIS

Company	Ticker	Mkt Cap ($B)	EV ($B)	Rev ($B)	EV/Rev	EV/EBITDA	P/E (Fwd)	Rev Growth
EQT Corporation	EQT	$32.3	$37.9	$9.3	4.1x	5.6x	15.0x	62%
Expand Energy	EXE	$21.5	$24	$12.7	1.9x	3.7x	11.1x	—
Antero Resources	AR	$10.7	$15.3	$5.8	2.6x	16.4x	8.3x	19.6%

Range Resources	RRC	$8.9	$10	$3.3	3.0x	7.1x	10.1x	19.3%
Comstock Resources	CRK	$3.9	$7.1	$1.9	3.8x	11.3x	22.1x	77.0%
Gulfport Energy	GPOR	$2.9	$3.8	$1.4	2.8x	3.8x	6.2x	—

All market data as of 12/08/2026. Source: StockAnalysis.com, S&P Global Market Intelligence, company filings, and EQT investor relations. Vireo Capital Research estimates.

4. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

EQT's revenue is highly sensitive to natural gas prices. Revenue fell 24% from $6.91 billion in 2023 to $5.27 billion in 2024, before rebounding 64% to $8.64 billion in 2025 as prices and production recovered. Using the model's growth assumptions, revenue reaches roughly $9.6 billion in 2026, $10.4 billion in 2027, and $11.3 billion in 2028. The 2026 estimate is within the $9.4 to $9.7 billion Street consensus.

EBITDA margins remained strong at 71% in 2024 and 68% in 2025, reflecting EQT's low-cost structure and pipeline integration. Holding the margin at 68% implies EBITDA rising from $5.90 billion in 2025 to about $7.7 billion in 2028. Net income recovered from $231 million in 2024 to $2.04 billion in 2025, after falling from $1.74 billion in 2023 due to weak gas prices and Equitrans merger costs.

Free cash flow is the key metric. EQT generated $2.50 billion in 2025, up 266% from $684 million in 2024, with management guiding to about $3.5 billion in 2026. The model projects roughly $3.6 billion in 2027 and $3.9 billion in 2028.

Balance sheet improvement has been equally significant. Net debt fell from $7.69 billion at the end of 2025 to about $5.5 billion by mid-2026, leading Fitch to upgrade EQT to BBB investment grade. Reaching management's $5 billion debt target should allow greater capital allocation toward buybacks. A detailed debt maturity schedule was not available for this analysis and should be verified using EQT's latest 10-Q.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Metric	FY2023A	FY2024A	FY2025A	FY2026E	FY2027E	FY2028E
Revenue (USD B)	$6,910	$5,270	$8,640	$9,590	$10,358	$11,290
YoY Growth %	—	—	63.9%	11.0%	8%	9%
Gross Profit (USD B)	—	$791	$3,715	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gross Margin %	—	15.0%	43.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
EBITDA (USD B)	—	$3,730	$5,900	$6,521	$7,043	$7,677
EBITDA Margin %	—	70.8%	68.3%	68.0%	68.0%	68.0%
EBIT (USD B)	—	—	—	$886	$957	$1,043
Net Income (USD B)	$1.74B	$0.231B	$2.04B	$2.61B-$3.02B	$2.48B-$2.59B	—
EPS (Diluted, USD)	—	$0.45	$3.31	$4.18-$4.83	$3.97-$4.15	—
FCF (USD B)	—	—	—	$3,333	$3,600	$3,925
Net Debt (USD B)	—	—	$7,690	$5,500	—	—

Source: Company 10-K/10-Q filings (SEC EDGAR). FY2026E-FY2028E: Vireo Capital Research estimates.

5. VALUATION

A blended valuation of DCF, EV/EBITDA and P/E, weighted 45%/30%/25%, gives a $69.95 price target, or 32.5% upside from $52.81. The DCF receives the highest weight because EQT's LNG and power demand growth is forward looking, while the comps provide a market-based check.

It uses 2026E to 2028E revenue growth of 11%/8%/9%, a 68% EBITDA margin, 2.5% terminal growth and a 9.0% WACC, producing an $82.26 DCF value. WACC is entered directly, although the stated CAPM inputs imply 9.8%. Beta is also uncertain at 1.00 versus a research estimate of 0.50, which could push the DCF toward $100. Sensitivity ranges from roughly $54 to $158.

The comps provide a more conservative valuation. Applying 6.4x EV/EBITDA to 2026E EBITDA of about $6.5 billion gives approximately $58, while 13.8x P/E on 2026E EPS of $4.51 gives about $62. These values bring the DCF down to the $69.95 blended target, reflecting market uncertainty over how quickly LNG and power demand growth translates into EQT's earnings.

PRICE TARGET DERIVATION

Method	Weight	Implied Price	Key Assumptions
DCF (3-Yr Explicit + Terminal)	45%	USD 82.26	*WACC 9.0% (entered directly, matching source assumptions; not computed as Rf + Beta x ERP, which would give 9.8%). Terminal growth 2.5%. Beta reverted from an earlier company-specific 0.50 estimate. 84% of value sits in terminal value.*
EV/EBITDA Comps	30%	USD 57.98	*6.4x applied to FY2026E EBITDA. A modest premium to EQT's own current 5.6x and below the peer median of 7.1x (itself skewed by AR/CRK outliers).*
P/E Comps	25%	USD 62.17	*13.8x applied to FY2026E consensus EPS of $4.51 midpoint. Between EQT's own 15.0x and cheaper peers Range and Gulfport.*
BLENDED PRICE TARGET	**100%**	**USD 69.95**	*+32.5% upside from $52.81 | 45%x$82.26 + 30%x$57.98 + 25%x$62.17 = $69.95*

6. CATALYSTS

Q3 2026 earnings on October 28 are the nearest catalyst. The key focus is whether EQT maintains its 2,375 to 2,450 Bcfe production guidance and $3.5 billion FCF target, after Q2 net income fell to $211 million from $784 million due to weaker prices. A strong result could move the stock toward the $58 EV/EBITDA valuation, while a miss could pressure it lower.

The debt to buyback pivot is another key catalyst. Net debt fell from $7.69 billion to $5.5 billion, with management targeting $5 billion before prioritizing buybacks. This could happen within one to three quarters, and a formal buyback announcement could support a valuation re-rating.

Golden Pass LNG Train 2, expected to begin shipping in H2 2026, follows Train 1's first cargo in April. Its launch would provide concrete evidence of growing LNG demand and support EQT's valuation.

Longer term, additional LNG and power linked supply agreements could reduce EQT's exposure to spot prices and support a higher valuation multiple if investors increasingly view the company as having more predictable cash flows.

7. RISKS TO OUR THESIS

Risk 1: Gas oversupply. The EIA cut its 2027 Henry Hub forecast by roughly 24%, from about $4.60 to $3.49/MMBtu, while U.S. gas production is expected to rise from 119 Bcf/d in 2026 to 124 Bcf/d in 2027. Much of the additional supply comes from Permian oil drilling, which EQT cannot control. If prices remain weak, the 68% EBITDA margin and DCF terminal value would both decline. A sustained price of $2.75/MMBtu or below would be the trigger to reduce the position.

Risk 2: Concentration. Around 93% of EQT's reserves are in the Marcellus, creating significant exposure to regional pipeline bottlenecks, regulation and weather. A regional disruption could therefore affect most of EQT's operations simultaneously.

Risk 3: Valuation assumptions. The DCF uses a 9.0% WACC and 1.00 beta, while another research estimate puts beta closer to 0.50. Sensitivity analysis produces a DCF range of roughly $54 to $158, showing how dependent the valuation is on these assumptions.

Risk 4: LNG execution. The thesis depends partly on Golden Pass Train 2, Plaquemines and Corpus Christi Stage III ramping on schedule. Golden Pass has already faced delays following Zachry Group's 2024 bankruptcy. Further delays could push back the expected demand catalyst and pressure the stock in the near term.

8. ESG NOTE

For a gas producer, the ESG factor that actually matters is methane, both how much leaks out during drilling and transport, and how it is regulated. Congress repealed the EPA's methane fee, which would have charged up to $1,500 per metric ton starting in 2026, in early 2025, and the EPA has since pushed back several related reporting deadlines into 2027 and beyond, reducing near term regulatory costs. EQT has leaned into this as a selling point, reporting net zero Scope 1 and 2 emissions for a second straight year in 2026 and marketing itself as a lower methane intensity producer to utilities and LNG buyers that increasingly care about the carbon footprint of the gas they purchase. As more of EQT's gas enters LNG cargoes for environmentally conscious overseas buyers, methane performance is becoming a commercial differentiator that could support premium pricing on export contracts, not just a compliance issue.

9. MANAGEMENT AND OWNERSHIP

CEO Toby Rice has led EQT since 2019 after winning a proxy fight with investors. He co-founded Rice Energy, acquired by EQT in 2017, and has driven the company's shift toward vertical integration, including the 2024 Equitrans deal. CFO Jeremy Knop has held the role since 2023, following experience in energy credit at Blackstone and energy analysis at Barclays. Management has consistently delivered on debt reduction and production guidance, supporting its credibility. Institutional ownership is roughly 91%, while insider ownership is low single digit. Current short interest should be verified through NASDAQ before use.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Name	Role	Background
Toby Z. Rice	President & CEO	*Co-founded Rice Energy (acquired by EQT, 2017). CEO since July 2019 following a successful proxy contest.*
Jeremy T. Knop	Chief Financial Officer	*CFO since July 2023. Joined EQT in 2021 to lead M&A. Previously Blackstone (energy credit) and Barclays (energy equity research).*

Insider Ownership: <2% | Institutional Ownership: 91% | Short Interest: not confirmed | Dividend Yield: 1.3%

10. CONCLUSION

EQT is a company the market has not finished re-rating. It is the largest and lowest cost natural gas producer in the U.S., positioned to benefit from growing LNG exports and AI driven power demand. EQT has strengthened its balance sheet, regained investment grade status, and is approaching the debt level where it can shift toward share buybacks.

The risks are real. Gas remains oversupplied, EIA forecasts have become less optimistic, and the valuation depends on an assumed rather than derived WACC. These factors support a disciplined 12 to 24 month Buy rather than an aggressive bet. At 5.6x EV/EBITDA, the market appears to be pricing in current gas market weakness without fully reflecting EQT's long term demand growth and recovery potential.

Rating: Buy | Price Target: $69.95

ANALYST CERTIFICATION

I, Memanmiupa Symblai, certify that the views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal views about EQT Corporation and its securities. I have not received and will not receive direct or indirect compensation related to the specific recommendations expressed herein. This report represents my independent analysis based on publicly available information. Disclosure: no position in EQT.

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