



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, July 21, 2009

Electricity

Thunderstorms, Reported Tornado Down Power Lines, Knocking out Power to Over 50,000 Xcel Energy Customers in Denver, Colorado Area July 20

The National Weather Service reported strong thunderstorms in the Denver, Colorado area during the evening of July 20, bringing high winds, heavy rain and hail. A weak tornado was also spotted, but no damage was reported. Xcel Energy said more than 50,000 customers lost power after the storm with 27,000 customers remaining without power the morning of July 21.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Storms-knock-out-power-uproot-apf-3256361270.html?x=0&.v=1>

Update: Constellation's 825 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuke Unit 1 in Maryland at Full Power by July 21

The unit shut on July 16 to fix a failed containment air coolant motor. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 20 the unit was operating at 10 percent.

Reuters, 07:28 July 21, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

U.S. Renewable Energy, Nuclear Use Up in 2008: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Reports

In a recently released study on U.S. energy use for 2008, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) reported Americans used more solar, nuclear, biomass and wind energy in 2008 than they did in 2007. The nation used less coal and petroleum during the same time frame and only slightly increased its natural gas consumption. Geothermal energy use remained the same.

A link to the LLNL Energy Flow Charts is available here:

https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/news_releases/2009/NR-09-07-02.html

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/8730071.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

Terra-Gen Power Secures Financing for First Phase of Planned 3,000 MW Alta Wind Energy Center to be Located in California

Terra-Gen Power LLC, a renewable energy developer, announced recently it has secured financing for its planned 150 MW Alta Wind I project to be located in California, also the first phase of its planned 3,000 MW Alta Wind Energy Center. The wind center is slated to be one of the largest wind development projects in the U.S.

Reuters, 14:38 July 20, 2009

<http://www.terra-genpower.com/News.aspx>

Petroleum

Valero Reports Leak in Line at its 325,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 20

In a filing to state regulators, Valero reported a pinhole-sized leak in the butane line at its Port Arthur refinery. A spokesperson for the company said the leak has since been fixed and there was no impact to production

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127044>

Bloomberg News, 10:31 July 21, 2009

Pasadena Refining Restores Feed to Crude Unit at its 106,500 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery Following Loss of Power due to Lightning Strike

According to a filing to state regulators, Pasadena Refining System Incorporated reported a lightning strike on July 18 that disabled all power to the Red Bluff Tank Farm on site at its Pasadena, Texas refinery. The depowered tank farm resulted in the loss of feed to the refinery's crude unit. Workers at the refinery were able to restore feed to the crude unit by way of a backup generator.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127024>

Bloomberg News, 08:26 July 21, 2009

Update: Fire Reported within Alkylation Unit at Citgo's 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery July 19 Still Burning Company Says

A fire that broke out in an alkylation unit at Citgo's Corpus Christi refinery the morning of July 19 is still burning the company reports. As of noon yesterday, July 20, the fire had been contained with emergency crews remaining on site as residual hydrocarbon burns off. The company reported that it shut a fluid catalytic cracker carbon monoxide boiler stack following the fire.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127032>

Bloomberg News, 11:22 July 21, 2009

Bloomberg News, 07:34 July 21, 2009

Update: Hydrotreater at 80 Percent of Capacity at Alon USA's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery July 21 Following Loss of Power

The diesel hydrotreater unit at the refinery was operating at 80 percent of capacity the company reported. The unit is recovering from lower rates this month after a power outage.

Reuters, 10:10 July 21, 2009

Update: Weekend Power Outage its 135,000 b/d Edmonton, Alberta Refinery Forces Petro-Canada to Ration Fuel Supplies to Retail Outlets July 21

According to a company spokesperson, Petro-Canada's refinery in Edmonton suffered damage to its catalytic cracker following the severe storms that knocked out power to the refinery over the weekend of July 18-19. The company is being forced to ration fuel supplies to retail outlets and other customers due to the outage.

Reuters, 11:53 July 21, 2009

Natural Gas

Iraq Plans to Develop its Major Natural Gas Fields in Preparation for Joining the Nabucco Pipeline Project

According to an Iraqi Oil Ministry spokesperson, Iraq will first focus on meeting domestic needs but after the European Union expressed interest in acquiring Iraqi gas, the government will begin to develop its promising Akkash and Mansouriya gas fields. The gas from these fields will be sent along the Nabucco pipeline via Turkey by 2013.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=17183

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 21, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	63.99	59.62	130.81
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.49	3.29	10.54

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: FERC Issues Favorable Environmental Assessment for Mississippi Hub LLC's Proposed Storage Expansion at Salt Cavern Facility in Mississippi

Natural Gas Intelligence's Daily Gas Price Index July 21, 2009 <http://intelligencepress.com/http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/advResults.asp>

No Impact to Production Following Coker Malfunction at Valero's 170,000 b/d Benicia, California Refinery July 20

Reuters, 16:59 July 20, 2009

Local Niger Delta Leaders Set Up Panel for Amnesty, Peace Talks between Nigerian Government and Militants

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8730343.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Update: Imperial Oil's 187,000 b/d Strathcona, Alberta Refinery in Restart Mode to Last 'Few Days' Following Power Outage on July 18

Reuters, 10:37 July 21, 2009

Downed Power Line Causes 17,000 PGE Customers to Lose Power for Two Hours in Oregon July 20

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/power_telephone_lines_out_in_c.html

Substation Fire Knocks out Power to Over 17,000 Austin Energy Customers in Texas July 18, Power Now Restored

http://www.news8austin.com/content/your_news/default.asp?ArID=246885

Update: Chevron Appeals Court Decision to Halt Expansion Project at its 242,901 b/d Richmond, California Refinery

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090720-710339.html?mod=dist_smartbrief

Department of Interior Proposes Halting Uranium Mining in 1 Million Acres In and Near Grand Canyon in Arizona

<http://www.lloyds.com/CmsPhoenix/DowJonesArticle.aspx?id=436018>

Ford Seeks Department of Energy Funding for Electric-Vehicle Infrastructure in Effort to Bring Forward ‘Comprehensive National Electrification Transportation Demonstration,’ Company Says

<http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=200907201302dowjonesdjonline000443&title=ford-seeks-doe-funding-for-electric-vehicle-infrastructure>

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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