



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, January 11, 2013

Electricity

Entergy Shuts 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts after Both Recirculation Pumps Trip January 10

Entergy Nuclear reported that on Thursday afternoon, with the Pilgrim nuclear reactor at 100 percent power, both recirculation pumps spuriously tripped and a manual reactor scram was inserted as required by station procedures, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The cause of the recirculation pump trip was under investigation.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2013/20130111en.html>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramped Up to 90 Percent by January 11

Grand Gulf Unit 1 is returning from an outage that began January 4, when the reactor automatically scrambled from what appeared to be a generator/turbine trip. Operators restarted the unit by January 8.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

Update: CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Returns to Service by January 10

The unit returned from a curtailment of 639 MW that was due to planned and unplanned causes and began by December 14.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201301101515.html>

Update: Dynegy's 754 MW Moss Landing Natural Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by January 10

The unit returned from an outage that was due to planned and unplanned causes and began by January 9.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201301101515.html>

San Diego Gas & Electric's 575 MW Palomar Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Reduced by January 10

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 300 MW.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201301101515.html>

LCRA Restarts 615 MW Fayette Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas after Repairs to Correct Turbine Generator Vibrations January 2

The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) reported its Fayette Unit 2 was scheduled to begin startup procedures on January 2 following a maintenance outage to attempt to resolve excessive turbine generator vibrations, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The vibrations were too high to safely run the unit for an extended period of time. Unit startup activities were expected to be completed in approximately 18 hours.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177640>

Duke Places 12.5 MW Washington White Post Solar Farm into Service in North Carolina

Duke Energy on Thursday announced it completed construction on the Washington White Post plant and placed it into service in December 2012. The plant is selling electricity to North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency under a 15-year agreement.

<http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2013011001.asp>

Update: Texas Regulators May Revoke Approval of Entergy's Bid to Join MISO

The Texas Public Utility Commission on Thursday said it may seek to revoke its October vote to approve Entergy's integration into the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO), which is scheduled for completion by the end of this year, after a new economic analysis indicated that the savings for Texas customers under MISO could be negated by Entergy's intention to end certain power purchase agreements (PPAs). Texas commissioners have advised Entergy to delay filing with the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for permissions to end the PPAs until an independent analysis can determine how ending the contracts will impact customers under MISO. Entergy told the commission that the FERC filing needs to be made by the end of January, but that the company is working to find another resolution.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/01/10/utilities-entergy-miso-idUSL1E9CACYS20130110?feedType=RSS&feedName=marketsNews&rpc=43>

NRC Amends Regulations on Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Thursday announced it has approved amendments to its environmental protection regulations (10 CFR Part 51) governing environmental impact reviews of nuclear power plant operating license renewals, redefining the number and scope of environmental issues that must be addressed and incorporating lessons learned from previous license renewal reviews.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2013/13-003.pdf>

Petroleum

Kinder Morgan Increases Proposed Expansion Capacity to 890,000 b/d on Its Trans Mountain Pipeline in Western Canada

Trans Mountain Pipeline ULC, operated by Kinder Morgan Canada Inc. and owned by Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P., on Thursday announced an update to the scope of its proposed expansion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline. As a result of a recently completed supplemental open season process, new long-term contracts have been signed, bringing the total volume of committed shippers to approximately 700,000 b/d. These additional commitments will result in an increase in the proposed expansion capacity from 750,000 b/d to 890,000 b/d. In spring 2012, Kinder Morgan Canada announced it would expand its existing 300,000 b/d Trans Mountain Pipeline by twinning part of the line between Edmonton, Alberta and Burnaby, British Columbia. This latest proposed expansion will complete the twinning of the existing pipeline. Pending regulatory approvals, the project would be operational in 2017.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/trans-mountain-updates-customer-commitments-200000441.html>

Update: Officials Address Tallgrass Energy's Proposed 230,000 b/d Pony Express Crude Oil Pipeline Project to Ship Bakken Shale Oil from Wyoming to Cushing, Oklahoma

Harvey County Commissioners recently addressed concerns from community members about a pipeline project Tallgrass Energy Partners has proposed. The Tallgrass Pony Express Pipeline (formerly the Kinder Morgan Pony Express Pipeline) was originally built in the 1950s as an oil pipeline, and then was converted to a natural gas pipeline in 1996. The proposed project would convert the 430-mile, 24-inch Pony Express Pipeline back to oil service and add a 260-mile extension from Lincoln County, Kansas to Payne County, Oklahoma. The pipeline would transport approximately 230,000–320,000 b/d of Bakken Shale light crude oil from Wyoming to Cushing, Oklahoma. Construction on the pipeline is slated to begin in the summer of 2013, and it is expected to be in service by the summer of 2014.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=38205

<http://tallgrassenergy.com/Pipelines/PonyExpress/>

Natural Gas

Industry Report Predicts Minor Impact of U.S. LNG Exports on Domestic Gas Market

Deloitte MarketPoint LLC recently published an independent assessment of the potential economic impacts of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports from the United States that concludes the magnitude of domestic price increase will likely be quite small—a weighted-average price impact of \$0.12/MMBtu on U.S. prices from 2016 to 2035 as a result of 6 Bcf/d of LNG exports. The report addresses concerns raised regarding the viability of exports and the impact they may have on the U.S. gas market.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=38186

<https://www.deloittemarketpoint.com/Documents.pdf>

Enbridge Reports AGI Unit Shutdowns at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas January 10

Enbridge reported acid gas injector (AGI) Units 1 and 2 at its Tilden plant shut down early Thursday morning on low suction pressure due to low amine flow across the rich amine filters, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/occe/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177910>

Other News

Cyberattacks Targeting U.S. Energy Sector Increased in 2012 – DHS

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Industrial Controls Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team said the number of cyberattacks reported the agency grew by 52 percent in 2012. Of the 198 cyberattacks reported to the agency last year, 81 targeted the energy sector, including several cyber incidents impacting organizations in the nuclear sector.

<http://money.cnn.com/2013/01/09/technology/security/infrastructure-cyberattacks/>

http://www.us-cert.gov/control_systems/pdf/ICS-CERT_Monthly_Monitor_Oct-Dec2012.pdf

International News

Update: Libya's Army Sent to Secure 60,000 b/d Al-Zuweitina Oil Export Terminal as Protesters Maintain Shutdown Since December 23

Libya's oil ministry has reached agreement with the country's army chief and defense and interior ministries to secure exporting terminals, after several protests have caused shipping disruptions. Oil Minister Al-Arusi said the defense minister, chief of staff, and interior minister have agreed to secure the oil ports, and the army has sent a force to the port of Al-Zuweitina, where exports should resume in coming days. The port, which normally exports around 60,000–70,000 b/d, was shut December 23 after protestors demanding jobs and health benefits entered the terminal's management offices and pressured the port manager to stop operations.

<http://www.equities.com/news/headline-story?dt=2013-01-11&val=913731&cat=energy>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 11, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	93.48	92.54	101.90
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.33	3.19	2.97

Source: Reuters

Links

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

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

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

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

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

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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