



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, January 15, 2008

## ***Electricity***

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### **Curious Cat Knocks Out Substation Cutting Power to 28,000 PG&E Customers in California January 14**

The outage lasted about two hours.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/263/story/322800.html>

### **Duke to Shut 1,300 MW Zimmer Coal-fired Power Plant in Ohio January 15 -- Traders**

According to traders, Duke Energy began the shutdown January 15 to fix a boiler tube leak. Such repairs typically take a few days.

Reuters, 11:31 January 15, 2008

### **Update: Entergy Restarting 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi January 15**

The unit shut January 12 due to degraded cooling to main transformers, and an electrical fault. It is ramping up, and may reconnect to the grid later tonight, a spokesman said.

Bloomberg, 10:04 January 15, 2008

### **Update: Entergy Restarts 730 MW Palisades Nuke Unit in Michigan January 15**

The unit shut January 13 due to the loss of a main feedwater pump. It is at 40 percent of capacity, and may return to full power by later today, a company spokesman said.

Bloomberg, 10:04 January 15, 2008

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Update: Integrys Restarts 334 MW Weston Coal-fired Unit 3 in Wisconsin January 14**

A lightning strike shut the unit October 6.

Reuters, 16:18 January 14, 2008

### **Worker at SCE's San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant in California Forged Safety Records "Low Safety Significance," NRC Says**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), a Southern California Edison (SCE) employee forged fire safety records, falsely claiming to have performed hourly fire patrols at the 2,254 MW San Onofre power plant over a period of five years. Although the NRC considers the problem to have a "low safety significance", it expressed concern about management practices and oversight at the plant and will require SCE to institute programs to ensure plant safety.

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/15045920/detail.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Incident Kills Worker at BP's 460,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery January 14**

The event occurred near an ultracracker unit that began restart in early January. According to a Reuters story, it is unclear whether the unit was still in restart mode when the accident occurred. However, according to earlier reports from traders, the unit was restarted by January 10.

Reuters, 11:04 January 15, 2008

Reuters, 10:55 January 10, 2008

### **Frontier Restarts Coker Unit at 52,000 b/d Cheyenne, Wyoming Refinery**

Fire damaged the coker unit December 15. During repairs, the refinery slowed to about 25,000-30,000 b/d capacity. The refinery continues to run at slightly reduced rates—between 40,000 and 46,000 b/d—but a company spokesman said the curtailment is not unusual for the winter season.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN1443494720080114>

### **Benzene Spill at Total's 95,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 15**

Some 200 barrels of benzene-contaminated liquid was spilled at Total's Port Arthur, Texas refinery, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The fluid's benzene concentration was about 2.7 parts per million.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102392>

Reuters, 08:15 January 15, 2008

### **Update: ExxonMobil Spills 3,341 barrels of Gasoline at 348,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery January 13**

According to the regional director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the gasoline leaked from a storage tank and it is anticipated that cleanup will take approximately 18 hours. An ExxonMobil spokeswoman stated that the incident followed a problem with the tank's venting system, and was the second time that rehabilitated tank had been filled.

Bloomberg 15:35 January 14, 2008

### **Update: PDVSA Restarting 300,000 b/d Cardon Refinery in Venezuela January 14**

Power failure shut the refinery December 3. As of January 14, the facility is in restart mode, a source said.

Reuters, 14:41 January 14, 2008

### **Saudi Arabia Has 2 Million b/d Spare Capacity, Oil Minister Says**

Saudi Arabia will spend \$90 billion to boost oil, gas and petrochemical capacity during the next five years, the Oil Minister said January 15. He said the state has 2 million b/d in auxiliary capacity.

Reuters, 07:09 January 15, 2008

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Update: Rockies Express Opens 1.4 Bcf/d, 500-miles Along REX-West Natural Gas Pipeline January 12**

Rockies Express Pipeline LLC announced that a 500-mile stretch of the Rockies Express-West Pipeline (REX-West) opened for service January 12. It will deliver natural gas from the Cheyenne Hub in Colorado to a delivery point in Kansas. A remaining 213 miles of pipeline will boost REX-West's capacity to 1.5 Bcf/d. That segment is expected to come online in early February.

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/pmnewswire/LAM10414012008-1.htm>

## **Other News**

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Nothing to report.

## **Energy Prices**

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b>			
January 15, 2008			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	91.30	97.22	52.96
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	8.45	7.61	5.97

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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**Update: 10,000 Customers Remain without Power in Connecticut and New Hampshire January 15—Storms Cut Power to 89,000 in Northeast January 14**

[http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=7625137&nav=menu183\\_2](http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=7625137&nav=menu183_2)

**NuCoastal Power Corporation Ready to 300 MW Thermal Energy Power Plant in Texas**

<http://powermarketers.net/content/inc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5Cnqoloy%5BTif%7D38%7Dbfen%5Fv>

**Maine Land Regulators to Endorse TransCanada's Proposal for 132 MW Kibby Wind Power Project in Maine**

[http://www.transcanada.com/news/2008\\_news/20080115.html](http://www.transcanada.com/news/2008_news/20080115.html)

**Explosion Near Xcel's 1,137 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in Minnesota Plant on High Alert for 2½ Hours January 14**

<http://wkbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=7619072>

**Update: U.S. Regulators Draft Positive Environmental Impact Statement for Cape Wind's Proposed 170 MW Wind Farm Offshore Cape Cod January 14**

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/15/cape\\_wind\\_proposal\\_clears\\_big\\_obstacle/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/15/cape_wind_proposal_clears_big_obstacle/)

**Environmental Groups Sue DOE Over Creation of New Mid-Atlantic Power Transmission Corridor—Say Designation Violates Environmental Laws**

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jUAYKjXaNb0UbYadhIOt3nwte31gD8U5S1AO2>

**U.S. Ethanol Boom to Slow in Next 18 Months, Research Group Says**

Reuters, 15:54 January 14, 2008

**Fire at Shuaiba Oil Refinery near Basra, Iraq January 15**

**Oil Ministry Blames U.S. Forces, but Says No Impact to Production**

Reuters, 02:21 January 15, 2008

Reuters, 05:42 January 15, 2008

**Saudi Oil Minister Says Low World Oil Inventories Worrying, but Expects Recovery in Second Quarter, 2008**

Reuters, 07:32 January 15, 2008

## Links

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***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](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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