



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, January 19, 2010

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to More than 150,000 Customers in California January 18-19

Rain and winds knocked out power to at least 96,000 Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) customers, 53,397 Southern California Edison customers (SCE), and 10,000 Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) customers on January 18-19, news sources said. The storm affected more than 420,000 PG&E customers, but no more than 96,000 at one time, based on multiple sources. Outage figures varied as storms continued throughout the day.

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2010/01/18/la-county-fire-dept-adds-100-firefighters-help-pos/>

http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_14220804?nclink_check=1

http://www.santamariatimes.com/news/local/article_81b2626c-046d-11df-a44c-001cc4c03286.html

http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?type=bnews&id=123244&eddate=

http://thepinetree.net/index.php?module=announce&ANN_user_op=view&ANN_id=15559

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-rains19-2010jan19,0,5738307.story>

Winds Knock Out Power to about 64,000 Customers in Washington January 18-19

Winds cut electricity to 40,000 Puget Sound Energy customers, 10,000 Clallam County PUD customers, 9,000 Snohomish County PUD customers, and more than 5,000 Cowlitz County PUD customers in Washington State on January 18-19, sources said. Puget Sound Energy restored power to all affected customers by mid-afternoon, January 19; Clallam County PUD returned service to most of its downed customers by early morning.

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20100119/news/301199993>

<http://www.kirotv.com/news/22263845/detail.html>

Winds Knock Out Power to 70,000 BC Hydro Customers in British Columbia, Canada January 18

The company restored power to all but 6,000 customers by yesterday evening, January 18, a news source said.

<http://www.news1130.com/news/local/article/18383--bc-hydro-making-progress-after-storm>

Luminant's 1,150 MW Comanche Peak Nuke Unit 1 in Texas Shut by January 19

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 18 the unit was operating at 54 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuke Unit 1 in Tennessee Reduced to 49 Percent by January 19

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 18 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

NRG Reduces 734 MW WA Parish Coal-fired Unit 5 in Texas January 16

Operators slowed the unit after the "loss of primary and secondary air preheaters" led to a baghouse malfunction, the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134561>

Luminant to Reduce 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas January 19

The company expected to reduce the unit as it performed maintenance on electrostatic precipitator rappers, it said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134603>

Constellation's 565 MW Nine Mile Point Nuke Unit 1 in New York Reduced to 55 Percent by January 18

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 17 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Mountainview Power Company's 525 MW Mountainview Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by January 18

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by January 18.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001181515.html>

Cabrillo Power's 330 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Shut by January 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by January 16.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001161515.html>

Ace Cogeneration's 118 MW Ace Cogeneration Coal-fired Unit in California Shut by January 18

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by January 18.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001181515.html>

Update: TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuke Unit 2 in Alabama Ramped Up to 86 Percent by January 18

The unit went offline by January 11 due to issues with the core spray system, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 17 the unit was operating at 55 percent.

Reuters, 07:53 January 19, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Update: TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuke Unit 3 in Alabama at Full Power by January 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 16 the unit was operating at 87 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Update: Luminant to Restart 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas January 19

The company repaired a boiler water wall safety valve, it said in a filing with state regulators. Operators had expected to shut the unit on January 15-16, according to a previous filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134151>

Update: AEP to Restart 721 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Power Plant in Texas January 16

American Electric Power (AEP) planned to restart the unit after repairing a transformer, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company had expected to shut the unit from January 15-17, according to a previous filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134401>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134399>

Luminant to Restart 591 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas January 18

The company shut the unit to fix a boiler tube leak, it said in a January 16 filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134551>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134549>

Update: PG&E's 407 MW Helms Hydro Unit 2 in California Returns to Service by January 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001151515.html>

Update: AES's 227 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by January 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001171515.html>

AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by January 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201001171515.html>

Xcel Installs about 50 Miles of New Transmission Lines in Minnesota and South Dakota by January 18

Xcel Energy completed its Buffalo Ridge Incremental Generation Outlet (BRIGO) Transmission Projects, boosting its capacity to deliver wind-derived power through Minnesota and South Dakota, the company said in a January 18 release. The BRIGO projects included one 345-kV line, three 115-kV lines and associated transformer installations.
<http://www.xcelenergy.com/Colorado/Company/Newsroom/Pages/01-18-2010-majortransmissionprojects.aspx>

LADWP Aims to Install 200 MW of Solar Power Capacity by 2012 in California

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/quantum-announces-solar-system-supplier-agreement-with-the-los-angeles-department-of-water-and-power-82052207.html>

Petroleum

Fire Forces Shut Crude Unit at Holly's 84,000 b/d Navajo Refinery in Artesia, New Mexico January 17

A pump seal malfunction was likely to blame for the fire, but on-site responders extinguished the blaze within about one hour, and the incident appeared to have caused only minimal damage, Holly Corporation said in a news release. The company had expected to shut the affected unit later in the week for an approximately three-week, scheduled turnaround; it planned to incorporate the fire-related repairs into that work.
http://www.hollycorp.com/press_release.cfm?id=331

SRU Snag Causes Flaring at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery January 17

BP resumed normal operations after a brief sulfur recovery unit (SRU) malfunction at its 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery on January 17, the company said in a filing with state regulators.
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134562>
<http://www.foxbusiness.com/story/markets/industries/energy/bp-reports-brief-upset-texas-sulfur-recovery-unit--filing/>

Valero to Restart Coker at 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery 18

The company did not say when or why the unit went offline, according to a filing with state regulators.
http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/201001180132DOWJONESDJONLINE000019_FORTUNE5.htm
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134498>

Frontier Oil Corp to Curtail 130,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas Refinery amid Slower Pipeline Deliveries

Frontier plans to reduce production by 10,000 b/d due to reduced receipts from the Spearhead oil pipeline, it said on January 15. According to a source from Enbridge, owner of the pipeline, "a combination of supply and nominations by customers have resulted in lower volumes for the short term on Spearhead Pipeline," Frontier also expects to reduce throughput by 10,000 b/d at its 37,000 b/d Cheyenne, Wyoming refinery in January, due to economic conditions.
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1521864320100116?type=marketsNews>

Update: Husky Restarts All Units after November Fire at 160,000 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery by January 19

The facility is running at 140,000 b/d, a spokesman said on January 19. It had been at reduced rates since a November fire.

Reuters, 09:25 January 19, 2010

Delek Restarts SRU after Brief Malfunction at 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery January 15

A sulfur recovery unit (SRU) and a SCOT Tail Gas Unit shut briefly due to “an unplanned trip of the air blowers,” the company said in a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 14:37 January 15, 2010

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134506>

Global Oil Demand Slides in 2009, but EIA Sees Uptick through 2011

Oil demand will rise globally by 1.1 million b/d in 2010 and 1.5 million b/d in 2011, despite sliding for a second straight year in 2009, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on January 12. U.S. demand will increase by 200,000 b/d in 2010, according to the EIA. The International Energy Agency (IEA), separately, said international oil demand would rise by 1.4 million b/d in 2010.

Reuters, 13:19 January 15, 2010

<http://www.oil.com/index/article-display/9630773833/articles/oil-gas-journal/volume-108/issue-02/general-interest/eia-world-economic.html>

ExxonMobil's 500,000 Barrel Kodiak Oil Tanker Loses Power Offshore Alaska January 17

Two tugboats towed the tanker to a harbor. There was no spill.

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/northwest/story/1033766.html>

Update: ConocoPhillips to Boost Production to 110,000 b/d at Existing 27,000 b/d Surmont Oil Sands Facility in Alberta, Canada

The company plans to break ground in 2010, and begin production in 2015, according to a press release.

http://www.conocophillips.com/EN/newsroom/news_releases/2010news/Pages/01-19-2010.aspx

Update: Kurdistan, Iraq to Restart Oil Exports of at Least 100,000 b/d

Kurdistan plans to boost oil output to more than 200,000 b/d during 2010, and produce 1 million b/d within five years, the region's minister for natural resources said on January 17. The announcement comes months after the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) temporarily suspended Norway-based DNO International from northern Iraq on September 21, 2009, citing “unjustifiable” damage wrought by publicity over a stock market transaction, sources reported.

http://www.marketwatch.com/story/dno-shares-rally-as-kurdistan-resumes-oil-exports-2010-01-18?reflink=MW_news_stmp

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2010/01/19/Kurds-aim-to-double-oil-exports-from-Iraq/UPI-27911263918000/

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100118-702049.html?mod=WSJ_World_MIDDLEHeadlinesEurope

Update: Hours-of-Service Waivers Expire in West Virginia, Maryland, and Iowa January 17

Hours-of-service exemptions remained in effect across 16 states, down from 19 on January 15, for trucks delivering propane and heating fuel, the National Propane Gas Association reported January 19.

<http://www.npga.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=832>

Colonial Pipeline to Freeze Nominations for Cycle 6 Shipments along Main Distillate Line North of Collins, Mississippi January 19

The freeze came as nominations exceeded the company's ability to meet its 5-day lifting cycle, it said in a bulletin.

Reuters, 09:22 January 19, 2010

Update: U.S. Oil-and-Gas Drilling on the Rise toward End of 2009, Despite Overall Decline—API

Drillers completed just 39,068 U.S. oil-and-gas wells during 2009—some 37 percent lower than in 2008—but the pace of activity increased as economic conditions improved throughout the year, the American Petroleum Institute (API) said by January 14. Fourth-quarter completions were 19 percent greater than the third quarter, and third-quarter completions were 6 percent greater than the second quarter, according to the API.

http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/7420562237/articles/oil-gas-journal/drilling-production-2/drilling-operations/2010/01/api_-us_drilling_activity.html

Other News

Update: Aventine Aims to Complete Partly-Constructed 110 MMGal/Yr. Aurora, Nebraska Ethanol Plant in 2011

The company postponed construction in November 2008, citing economic conditions, a previous news source said.

http://www.auroranewsregister.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1180:aventine-planning-to-finish-plant&catid=1:local&Itemid=10

<http://www.theindependent.com/articles/2009/09/02/news/local/10550289.txt>

Update: Cobalt Technologies Plans 15-to-50 MMGal/Yr. Biobutanol Plant by 2014

Cobalt Technologies expects to convert plant sugars, food grains, or cellulosic plant parts into 15-to-50 MMGal/Yr. of biobutanol by 2014, according to a news source. It aims to compete with corn-derived ethanol by 2012. The company recently opened a pilot-sized facility in California.

<http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2010/01/13/13climatewire-biobutanol-firm-aims-to-compete-with-ethanol-29682.html>

GNPD, Allied Syngas Plan 100 MMcf/d Coal Gasification Plant in North Dakota

Great Northern Power Development L.P. and Allied Syngas Corporation plan to construct a coal mine and associated coal-gasification facility near South Heart, North Dakota, according to multiple news sources. The plant would yield as much as 100 MMcf/d of substitute natural gas. GNPD expects to break ground in 2011.

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/31536/>

<http://coalgasificationnews.com/2009/03/04/great-northern-and-allied-syngas-stick-with-south-heart/>

California Office of Administrative Law Okays Low Carbon Fuel Standard January 12—Ethanol Producers Say Rule Will Keep Domestic Ethanol Out of California Market

California will, beginning in 2011, include the emissions produced during the planting, harvesting and grinding process as the corn is turned into fuel when it calculates the carbon output of corn-derived ethanol, according to the new rule. Poet LLC and the industry's two largest trade groups have sued the state, and at least one analyst says the rule is "crippling," and would make "ethanol produced in the Midwest uncompetitive."

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-34472/>

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-34464/>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 19, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	77.90	81.00	34.61
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.66	5.77	5.27

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Winds Knock Out Power Briefly to about 14,500 Pacific Power Customers in Oregon January 17

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20100119/NEWS/1190338/1001/news>

NRC Considering Rule that Would Require Nuclear Power Plants to Assess Impact of Attack against Dry Cask Storage Equipment

http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_14213323

National Grid Plans Smart Grid Demonstration Program in New York—39,400 Customers to Use New Equipment

BSW, 12:01 January 19, 2010

Coal Inventories Fall 3 Percent at U.S. Power Plants as Cold Weather Leads to Record Demand Spikes in Week Ended January 18—Genscape

Reuters, 12:00 January 19, 2010

Ohio County Seeks Public Input in Bid to Catch Copper Thieves—At Least 10 Thefts Reported Since November 27

http://www.maysville-online.com/news/local/article_5f58f4c8-0199-11df-8826-001cc4c002e0.html

Update: Pennsylvania PUC Okays 101-mile Segment of PSE&G's Planned 146-mile Pennsylvania-to-New Jersey Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Line January 15

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/nj_power_line_approved_in_penn.html

Winds Cut Power to more than 500,000 Customers in Mexico January 16

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=350515&CategoryId=14091>

Fort Reliance Seeks Regional Electric Transmission System in Eastern Canada

<http://www.fortreliance.com/news/fort-reliance-calls-regional-transmission-system>

Plugged Tap Leads to Flaring at Valero's 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 18

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134571>

Update: Somali Pirates Release Greek-Flagged, 2 Million-Barrel Maran Centaurus Oil Tanker and Crew after Receiving Ransom January 18

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=20540

Update: Enbridge's Proposed 367,500 b/d Alberta-to-British Columbia Northern Gateway Oil Pipeline Would Facilitate Almost 30 Percent Rise in Oil Sands Output—Pembina Institute

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/watchdog-disputes-pipeline/article1435865/>

Update: TransCanada Expects to Begin Commercial Operations along 435,000 b/d, 30-inch, 1,300-Mile, Alberta, Canada-to-Illinois Keystone Oil Pipeline around the End of First Quarter, 2010

http://journalstar.com/news/local/article_4aa7057a-049f-11df-95fc-001cc4c03286.html

Global Refiners Need to Shutter about 7 Million b/d of Capacity within Five Years to Reach Economically-Viable Capacity—Energy Market Consultants

Reuters, 13:26 January 15, 2010

Supply Boat Bumps into Songa Dee Drilling Rig at Alvheim Oil-and-Gas Field in North Sea, Offshore Norway January 18

Reuters, 01:40 January 19, 2010

Venezuelan Oil Industry Sees no Impact amid Power Rationing January 15

Reuters, 15:11 January 16, 2010

Update: Kidnappers Release Four Expatriate Shell Workers in Nigeria by January 19

DJN, 09:20 January 19, 2010

Brazilian Oil Production Jumps 6.3 Percent in 2009, Year-on-Year, to Average 1.97 Million b/d—Petrobras

Reuters, 12:52 January 19, 2010

Vast Exploration's Qara Dagh Block in Kurdistan Region, Iraq Holds Estimated "Best Estimate" of 2.7 Billion Barrels of Oil—AJM Petroleum Consultants

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=85905

Criminal Mischief Likely to Blame after Regulator Station Snag Cuts Natural Gas Supplies to 1,125 Texas Gas Service Customers in Texas January 12

<http://www.statesman.com/news/local/central-texas-digest-criminal-mischief-might-be-behind-179891.html>

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, EcoTech Fuels Plan 200-to-400 b/d Waste-to-Torqazine Fuel or Fuel Additive Plant in South Dakota

<http://www.argusleader.com/article/20100118/NEWS/1180308/1001/news>

Natural Gas Explosion Destroys Home, Forces Local Evacuations in New Jersey January 18

http://www.northjersey.com/news/state/011810_Edison_building_explosion_prompts_evacuations.html

Compressor Shutdown Causes Flaring at Cedar Lake Booster Station in Texas January 17

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134560>

Bryans Mill Gas Plant Remains Offline in Texas—Operators Reduce Pressure along Associated Pipeline January 17-24

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134559>

U.S. Energy Secretary Chu Does not Favor "Fracking" Ban for Natural Gas Drillers

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=85864

BP to Halt Natural Gas Drilling for at Least Six Months in La Plata County, Colorado, Citing Other Opportunities

http://durangoherald.com/sections/News/2010/01/15/BP_will_suspend_drilling_in_area/

CalStar Opens Fly Ash-to-Bricks and Pavers Facility in Wisconsin by January 18

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-wi-ashtobricks,0,7456269.story>

U.S. Supreme Court Rejects Request to Close Navigation Locks near Chicago, Illinois—Move Could Have Affected Boat Traffic between Lake Michigan and Mississippi River

DJN, 10:13 January 19, 2010

Ethanol Industry Likely Accounted for One-Third of 2009 Corn Crop—USDA

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703672104574654743666027548.html?mod=WSJ_Markets_section_Commodities

SunOpta Eyes December 2012 Start-Date for 10.6 MMGal/Yr. Cellulosic Ethanol Facility in Ontario, Canada

<http://investor.sunopta.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=437363>

Praxair to Supply Oxygen and Nitrogen to Valero's 180,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee Refinery via New Pipeline System

<http://memphis.bizjournals.com/memphis/stories/2010/01/18/daily3.html>

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov