



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, January 21, 2010

Major Developments

Update: At Least 75,000 Customers Remain Without Power as Storms Continue in California January 21—SDG&E Warns of High Outages

Storms continued to batter California on January 21, and at least 75,385 customers remained without power across the state, company and news sources said. San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), which reports outages on its website, warned that "information could be delayed" because of "the high volume of outages." It was not immediately clear how many SDG&E customers might be in the dark. The storms cut power, in total, to more than 1.2 million Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) customers and 317,924 Southern California Edison (SCE) customers, but to no more than 165,000 PG&E customers and 53,397 SCE customers at one time, according to sources. Among the affected customers was Beale Air Force Base, a news source said. The National Weather Service (NWS) warned of possible waterspouts, small tornadoes, and high winds, and a Los Angeles fire official said the department was "anticipating that a significant mud flow and debris flow is likely today." The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

California Customer Power Outages			
January 18-21, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Pacific Gas & Electric	CA	165,000	51,000
San Diego Gas & Electric	CA	70,000	11,000
Southern California Edison	CA	53,397	6,986
Sacramento Municipal Utility District	CA	50,000	399
LADWP	CA	10,000	6,000
TOTAL*		348,397	75,385

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

PG&E: <http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/>

SDG&E: <http://www.sdge.com/outages/outageDetailsLists.shtml> , <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local-beat/More-Rain-on-the-Way-82156092.html> , <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/jan/21/one-good-storm-leads-another/?imw=Y> , <http://www.kpbs.org/news/2010/jan/21/storm-brings-blackouts-and-flight-cancellations-sd/>

SCE: <http://www.sce.com/feature/outages.htm?from=homepage> , <http://www.scpr.org/news/2010/01/18/la-county-fire-dept-adds-100-firefighters-help-pos/>

SMUD: <http://www.smud.org/en/power/Pages/index.aspx> , <http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-news-poweroutages0120,0,4441844.story> , <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3798301>

LADWP: http://laist.com/2010/01/18/power_outages.php , http://laist.com/2010/01/19/gale_harris.php

<http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/01/20/us/AP-US-California-Storms.html> ,

http://laist.com/2010/01/20/power_outage_update_19000_without_s.php

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h6f6w0UAeeOUX7txbOvoNGqeyNLQ>

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-01-20-fresno-airport-power-rain_N.htm

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3797491>

<http://www.heraldson.com.au/news/breaking-news/california-on-flood-mudslide-alert/story-e6frf7jx-1225822370512>

Ice, Winds Knock Out Power to More than 80,000 Customers in Iowa and Illinois January 20-21

Ice and winds cut electricity to about 31,000 MidAmerican customers in Iowa, 25,573 Ameren customers in Illinois, 13,718 Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) customers in Iowa, and 10,407 Alliant Energy customers in Iowa from January 20-21, multiple sources said. Outages remained near their peaks, as of latest reports.

MidAmerican: <http://www.radioiowa.com/2010/01/21/ice-storm-leaves-thousands-without-power/> ,

<http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx>

Ameren: http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_IllinoisOutageInformation.asp , <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ameren-illinois-utilities-work-to-restore-power-for-about-18300-northern-illinois-customers-82250907.html>

IAEC: <http://outages.iowarec.org/>

Alliant: <http://www.alliantenergy.com/UtilityServices/StormOutageCenter/ElectricalOutageSummary/index.htm>

<http://www.pjstar.com/news/x867958114/More-than-20-000-without-power-north-and-northwest-of-Peoria>

Luminant's 793 MW Monticello Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Reduced January 20

The unit reduced power after heavy rains led to a "water intrusion into the electrostatic precipitator," the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134716>

Luminant's 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas Shuts January 20

A lightning strike appeared to have caused the trip, the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134694>

Update: TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuke Unit 1 in Tennessee Ramped Up to 97 Percent by January 21

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 20 the unit was operating at 43 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuke Unit 1 in California Ramped Up to 50 Percent by January 21

Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) reduced both units at its Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant because it expected stormy seas to impact the site's intake water system, a spokeswoman said previously. The 1,087 MW Unit 2 was operating at 33 percent power this morning, up from 32 percent yesterday, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of January 20 Unit 1 was operating at 24 percent.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSNN1910428420100120?type=marketsNews>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey Ramped Up to 94 Percent by January 21

Public Service Enterprise Group (PSE&G) shut the unit last week to repair a discharge valve, a news source said.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 20 the unit was operating at 7 percent. Reuters, 07:04 January 21, 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: Constellation's 565 MW Nine Mile Point Nuke Unit 1 in New York at Full Power by January 21

The company reduced the unit to perform work on feedwater flow controls, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman said previously. The NRC reported that on the morning of January 20 the unit was operating at 60 percent.

Bloomberg News, 08:10 January 21, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

TMPA Restarting 454 MW Gibbons Creek Coal-fired Unit in Texas

The unit shut due to electrical issues by January 20, Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA) said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134751>

Eastern Connection Could Shift to 20 Percent Wind by 2024—NREL

The Eastern Interconnection could shift 20 percent or more of its electrical load to wind energy by 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) said in its Eastern Wind Integration and Transmission Study (EWITS). The two-and-a-half year study analyzed the economic, operational, and technical implications of the shift. To read the report, click on the first link below.

<http://www.nrel.gov/wind/systemsintegration/ewits.html>

<http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2010/801.html>

Petroleum

Lightning Strikes Oil Storage Tank, Triggers Fire at Cushing Storage Hub in Oklahoma January 20

Lightning struck a Blueknight-owned, 55,000-barrel oil storage tank in Cushing, Oklahoma on January 20, causing a fire on the rim of the tank, news sources said. The blaze was extinguished, and traders did not expect the incident to affect the oil or products markets.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKN2120325220100121>

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=aEH_NUmU1Qj0

Update: Silver Eagle Refining Postpones Crude Unit Restart from Early-November Explosion at 10,250 b/d Woods Cross, Utah Refinery

Silver Eagle had planned to restart a crude unit on January 24, or more than two months after the explosion, a news source said. The restart is "at least a week away, and maybe longer," according to a consulting official.

Bloomberg News, 11:56 January 21, 2010

Update: Montana Governor Seeks "On-Ramp" to TransCanada's Planned 900,000 b/d, 1,980-mile, Alberta-to-Gulf Coast Keystone XL Oil Pipeline

The "on-ramp" would allow Montana and North Dakota producers to deliver oil into the proposed line, a news source said. Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer asked the Public Service Commission to look into whether the state could require TransCanada to accommodate the connection. A TransCanada spokesman said the company had not received great interest from Montana oil producers, but that it would be willing to continue talks.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=9621979>

Update: Husky, BP to Begin Production in 2014 at Previously-Delayed, Planned 200,000 b/d Sunrise Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

Husky Energy plans to break ground in the second half of 2010 and begin Phase 1 production in 2014, it said in a news release. The company—along with its partner, BP—delayed the project in 2009 amid lagging oil prices. Now, Husky says it expects the project to yield up to 200,000 b/d by 2020. The company has completed front end engineering and design (FEED) for the project's first phase and received necessary approvals. The Sunrise site contains 3.7 billion barrels of proved, probable plus possible reserves, according to Husky.

<http://www.huskyenergy.ca/news/newsrelease.asp?ID=256>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=aGw2sL7JwHG8>

Update: Japex, Petronas to Produce 50,000 b/d at Garraf Oilfield in Iraq, Beginning in 2012

The companies plan to increase production to 230,000 b/d by 2016, and produce about 1.2 billion barrels, total, over a 20-year span, a news source said.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=86144

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Secretary Chu Announces Closing of \$465 Million Loan to Tesla Motors January 21

The Department of Energy closed its \$465 million loan with Tesla Motors, Inc. for construction of a manufacturing facility in southern California on the Model S electric sedan and a power-train manufacturing facility in Palo Alto, California, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced on January 21.

<http://energy.gov/news2009/8538.htm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 21, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	75.84	79.55	41.30
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.52	5.61	4.86

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Workers Damage Wire, Cut Power Briefly to More than 20,000 Kansas City Power & Light Customers in Missouri by January 21

<http://www.stjoenews.net/news/2010/jan/21/another-power-outage-hits-st-joseph/?local>

FERC Approves Transmission Incentives for Battery Storage Devices under EL10-19.

http://elibrary.FERC.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20100121-3054

E Wind LLC Plans 30 MW Wind Farm near Friesland, Wisconsin

http://www.evwind.es/noticias.php?id_not=3560

Energy Quest, Inc. Plans 26.8 MW Biomass Fueled Facility to Produce Algae-Based Biodiesel in Alabama

<http://www.examiner.com/science-news-in-birmingham/green-alabama-piedmont-and-energy-quest>

Ameren Plans 138-kV, 9-Mile Transmission Line through Champaign, Illinois

http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2010/01/19/ameren_unveils_route_plan_for_new_transmission_line

Missing Nuclear Gauge Could Cause Harmful Radiation Releases, if Misused, Authorities Say—Device Lost from Storage Locker at Jeff Zell Consultants' Location in Pennsylvania

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/01/16/Nuclear-gauge-missing-from-plant/UPI-82451263675551/

Three Congressmen Ask GAO to Investigate Buried Pipes at U.S. Nuclear Power Plants

<http://www.oregister.com/news/threaten-229284-failures-nuclear.html>

NRC Okays Exelon's Request for Pilot Program to Explore Cobalt-60 Production at Clinton Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-015.html>

Refineries Reduce Utilization to 78.4 Percent of Capacity Last Week, or Lowest Rate since 1980s, Not Counting Hurricanes—EIA

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKN2115846520100121>

Power Disruption affects Multiple Instruments at ExxonMobil's 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery January 20—Company Resolves Incident, Sees no Impact to Production

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134686>

Fuel Gas Line Leak Triggers Flaring at Total's 174,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 20

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134701>

Compressor Snag Causes Flaring at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery January 20

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134679>

Pacific Pipeline Systems to Pay \$1.3 Million after 2005 Oil Spill along Pipeline through California—Company also Agrees to Stop Using Segment of Line

<http://www.the-signal.com/news/article/23565/>

Drought Continues to Strain Venezuelan Power Grid—Nation May Re-direct Electricity from 940,000 b/d Paraguana Refinery for Public Consumption which Could Cause Petroleum Price Spikes, Analyst Says

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-01-19/venezuela-power-shortage-may-push-oil-above-100-update1-.html>

Indonesia Aims to Start-up Five Oil-and-Gas Projects, Combined 25,000 b/d of Oil Production, at Start of February 2010

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=86085

Belarus Processes 19,000 Tons/Day of Oil, Compared to Normal 30,000-to-31,000 Tons/Day, amid Reduced Russian Deliveries by January 20

http://georgiandaily.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=16547&Itemid=132

Pump Seal Fault Forces Shut Waha Gas Plant in Texas January 20—Operators Restart Facility within Five Hours

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134714>

Hess Restarts Compressor at Seminole Gas Processing Plant in Texas January 20

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134690>

Turbine Problems at DCP Midstream Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas January 20-21

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=134695>

State of Oregon, National Marine Fisheries Service Ask FERC to Reconsider Approval of Proposed Coos Bay LNG Terminal and Associated Pipeline in Oregon

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100120/NEWS/1200312>

El Paso Says Costs to Discover and Develop U.S. Oil-and-Gas Supplies Dropped by 45 Percent in 2009

<http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201001201114dowjonesdjonline000527&title=el-paso-corps-domestic-reserve-replacement-costs-fall>

Kuwait Oil Tanker Co. Plans 8 Million Cylinder/Year LNG Plant in Kuwait

<http://www.arabtimesonline.com/NewsDetails/tabid/96/smld/414/ArticleID/148426/t/KOTC-to-invest-more-than-KD-30-million-on-LNG-plant/Default.aspx>

Kinder Morgan Plans to Handle at Least 80 Million Barrels of Biodiesel and Ethanol in 2010, Compared to 55 Million Barrels in 2009

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=20617

New Jersey Aims to Generate 2,164 Gwh of Solar Power by 2020

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/solar-advocates-applaud-new-jerseys-renewable-energy-bill-passage-82188477.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.

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

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