



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, January 21, 2015

Electricity

Power Restored to 38,000 PG&E Customers after Substation Problem in Northern California January 20

Power was restored to 38,000 Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) customers in the East Bay area of the San Francisco metropolitan area in California on Tuesday at about 3 p.m. PST. The outage, which began about 1:45 p.m. PST, resulted from a problem at a PG&E substation in Berkeley, according to a spokesman.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Big-power-outage-in-East-Bay-downtown-Berkeley-6028103.php>
<https://twitter.com/pge4me>

Update: Southern's 856 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Restarts, Ramps Up to 18 Percent by January 21

The unit was shut by January 19 from 76 percent power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

KCP&L Plans to Stop Burning Coal at Three Power Plants in Missouri

Kansas City Power & Light Co (KCP&L) announced plans on Tuesday to stop burning coal at three of its plants in Missouri. KCP&L said it will stop burning coal in one unit at its Lake Road Station plant in St. Joseph and at one unit at its Montrose Station plant in Clinton by the end of 2016. It will stop using coal as a fuel at two units of its Sibley Station plant in Sibley by the end of 2019 and at two units of the Montrose plant by the end of 2021. The Lake Road plant boiler already is able to burn natural gas and will switch to that fuel. KCP&L said it had not decided whether to retire units at the Montrose and Sibley plants or convert them to another fuel source.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/news/2015/01/20/kcp-l-plans-to-stop-burning-coal-at-three-plants.html?ana=yahoo>

Dominion Virginia Power Planning Virginia's First Large-Scale Solar Project

Dominion Virginia Power filed an application with the Virginia State Corporation Commission on Tuesday to build Virginia's first large-scale solar facility. The 20 MW project would be built on approximately 125 acres of land owned by the company near the Remington Power Station in Fauquier County. The facility would contain approximately 90,000 photovoltaic panels. The estimated in-service date for the facility is October 2016.

<https://www.dom.com/residential/dominion-virginia-power/news/news-releases/136972>

Petroleum

Update: Ice May Delay Restart of Bridger's 42,000 b/d Poplar Pipeline in Montana after 1,200 Barrel Leak Over Weekend

A ruptured section of Bridger Pipeline LLC's pipeline that spilled 1,200 barrels of Bakken crude oil is under a frozen part of the Yellowstone River in eastern Montana, which may delay an investigation that is required for the pipeline's restart. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration would need to sign off on the investigation before Bridger can restart the pipeline, an agency spokesman said. The agency dispatched inspection agents to the spill site and to Bridger's control center in Wyoming to help investigate the cause of the breach. The icy river is also causing problems for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is searching for evidence of wildlife affected by the oil, a spokesman said. No oiled wildlife had been found yet. The Poplar pipeline system gathers crude from producers in eastern Montana and North Dakota. The rupture had no impact on Bakken differentials in thin trading, according to two market sources.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=46069

Petro-Hunt Says 260 Barrel Oil Spill in North Dakota Caused by Vandalism

Petro-Hunt L.L.C. reported January 19 that a 260-barrel oil spill at an oil well site near Watford City, North Dakota, was due to vandalism after an individual came on site, broke the seals on the tank valves, and opened them. Authorities are investigating the incident after the oil was contained and recovered at the site.

<http://www.greenwichtime.com/business/energy/article/Company-says-260-barrel-oil-spill-caused-by-6025628.php>

Hydrocracker Shut at Valero's 330,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 17 – Sources

A 57,000 b/d hydrocracking unit was shut on Saturday at Valero Energy Corp's refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, said sources familiar with plant operations. Valero began the planned overhaul of a sulfur recovery unit a few days early on Saturday due to the unplanned outage of the hydrocracker, the source said. The shut hydrocracker, called Unit 943, produced gasoline from gas oil supplied by a vacuum distillation unit. A 47,000 b/d hydrocracker that produces diesel continues to operate at the refinery, the sources said.

Reuters, 12:39 January 21, 2015

Citgo Reports FCCU Startup at Its 163,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery January 21

Citgo Petroleum Corp reported emissions from the no. 2 fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Corpus Christi, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environment Quality.

Reuters, 9:43 January 21, 2015

Valero Reports Emissions at Its 225,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery January 21

Valero Energy Corp reported emissions complex 7 at its Texas City, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 10:00 January 21, 2015

Reuters, 9:54 January 21, 2015

LyondellBasell Reports Flaring at Its 263,776 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery January 21

Reuters, 11:55 January 21, 2015

CVR Reports Emissions at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery January 15

CVR Energy Inc reported excess hydrogen sulfide emissions to the north flare on January 15 at its Wynnewood, Oklahoma, refinery, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 11:15 January 21, 2015

Traders Book Oil Tankers to Store 40 Million Barrels at Sea – Sources

Oil traders have booked up to 20 tankers to store an estimated 40 million barrels of crude at sea, rising from 25 million barrels last week, as they soak up a stocks surplus in anticipation of future profits, shipping and oil market sources said. The more than 50 percent fall in spot prices since June enables traders to make money by storing the crude for delivery months down the line, when prices are expected to recover. The sources said the volume of oil earmarked for floating storage had risen in recent days. Some of the tankers could nonetheless still be used for conventional oil transportation. In the past two weeks, trading firms including Trafigura, Vitol, Gunvor, Koch, and energy company Shell have started booking oil tankers for floating storage for up to 12 months, according to industry sources and freight bookings.

Reuters, 11:05 January 21, 2015

CAPP Cuts Western Canadian Oil Output Forecast to 3.6 Million b/d January 21

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) cut its 2015 Western Canadian oil production forecast by about 65,000 b/d to 3.6 million b/d on Wednesday as a result of falling oil prices. Western Canadian crude output, which includes production from northern Alberta's oil sands, continues to grow as producers have already sunk billions of dollars into multi-year projects and are reluctant to shut in production. The new 2015 Western Canadian production forecast of 3.6 million b/d is around 150,000 b/d higher than total 2014 output of 3.5 million b/d, thanks to new oil sands projects starting up following investment in previous years. CAPP expects a similar rate of production growth in 2016. However, CAPP a spokeswoman said the updated forecast is based on oil prices from a few weeks ago, which have since declined further, and warned there could be more revisions if prices continue to tumble.

<http://www.capp.ca/aboutUs/mediaCentre/NewsReleases/Pages/access-to-markets-remains-critical.aspx>

Reuters, 11:36 January 21, 2015

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 21, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	47.50	48.44	94.53
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.92	2.89	4.41

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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