

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
**Office of Electricity Delivery and  
Energy Reliability**



# **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

**January 23, 2006**

## **Highlight/Major Developments**

### **Sabine-Neches Channel Reopened**

An accident closed the Sabine-Neches Channel for most of last week to deep-draft vessels that serve four major refineries. The channel was cleared of debris from the accident and was reopened during the afternoon of January 21. The closure of the channel led to a shortage of crude oil at the Total refinery and led the Department of Energy to authorize a loan of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to make up the difference.

Reuters, 18:33 January 22, 2006.

## **Electricity**

### **Power Outage Briefly Delays Departures at Chicago's O'Hare and Midway Airports**

A power failure at the Chicago Terminal Radar Approach Control Center resulted in delays of about 35 minutes for departing flights. The center immediately switched to emergency back-up power at 3:23 p.m. but stopped departures as a precaution until 4:01p.m.

Reuters, 18:22 January 21, 2006.

### **Los Angeles Area Brush Fire Contained but 20,000 Remain Without Power**

A wild fire driven by 40 mph winds that threatened the Los Angeles suburb of La Cañada has been contained. Nonetheless, power outages caused by winds gusting to as much as 80 mph left at least 20,000 customers of Southern California Edison without power as of the morning of January 23. The National Weather Service has issued a high wind advisory that will be in effect until the afternoon of January 24.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/10990472/from/RSS/#storyContinued>.

### **Wind Storm Knocks Out Power to 33,000 in Albany, New York**

A windstorm knocked out power to some 33,000 customers of National Grid in the Albany area on January 21. Crews worked to restore power and by the afternoon of January 22 power had been restored to all but approximately 800 customers. The company anticipated that restoration to all customers should be completed on January 23.

The PostStar, January 23, 2006.

<http://www.poststar.com/story.asp?storyid=207872>.

### **Update: AEP to Restart Welsh Unit 2**

American Electric Power (AEP) announced that as system load requires, the company would restart the 528 MW unit 2 at its Welsh generating facility in Texas.

Reuters, 09:18 January 23, 2006.

### **Texas Genco's 766 MW Unit 2 at Limestone Plant in Texas Shut, January 21**

The Texas Genco closed the 766 MW unit 2 at the Limestone generating facility in Limestone County, Texas on January 21 because of leaking boiler tubes according to a report filed with Texas regulators. The company anticipates that the unit will return to service on January 22 or 23.

Reuters 09:06 January 23, 2006

### **Xcel's 522 MW Nuke Returns to Full Power in Minnesota, January 23**

Xcel Energy Inc.'s 522 MW unit 1 at the Prairie Island nuclear power station in Minnesota returned to full power by early Jan. 23. The operator of the plant reduced the unit last week to about 40 percent of capacity to fix a leak in the condenser on the non-nuclear side of the plant.

Reuters ,08:00 January 23, 2006.

### **APS 1,358 MW Palo Verde 1 Nuke Exits Outage, Ramps Up to 26 Percent**

Arizona Public Service's 1,358 MW Palo Verde 1 nuke exited an outage and ramped up to 26 percent of capacity by early Jan. 23. The company shut the unit last week to install clamps to try to stop a pipe from vibrating.

Reuters, 16:04 January 2006.

### **FPL's 864 MW St. Lucie 2 Nuke Shut in Florida, January 20**

FPL shut the St Lucie 2 nuke on Jan. 20 to fix a leak in the condenser.

Reuters, 15:37, January 23, 2006.

### **Update: Exelon's 864 MW Quad Cities 2 Nuke Ramps Up to 85 Percent in Illinois**

Exelon's Quad Cities 2 nuke ramped up to 85 percent by early Jan. 23, up from 48 percent on Jan 20. The company shut both units at the Illinois station over the weekend of January 14-15 to inspect relief valves.

Reuters, 15:37, January 23, 2006.

## **Petroleum**

### **Iraqi Port of Basra Again Closed by Bad Weather**

Bad weather has closed Iraq's principal oil port of Basra. Although the shipping operations at the port were suspended late on January 21, loading of two oil tankers already docked in port is continuing.

Platts, January 22, 2006.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8256911.xml?S=n>.

### **Militants Repelled in Attack on Agip Platform in Nigeria, Output Unaffected**

Eni SpA has confirmed that a platform operated by Agip, its venture in Nigeria, came under attack on Jan. 23. Security officials repelled militants who attempted to storm the platform and output was unaffected. A security official said the attack was probably motivated by a local dispute over the distribution of money, and not related to a wider campaign of sabotage.

Bloomberg, 07:15 January 23, 2006.

Reuters, 07:47 January 23, 2006.

Reuters, 06:45 January 2006.

## Natural Gas

### Pipeline Expansion Plan Filed with FERC by Chesapeake Utilities

Chesapeake Utilities has filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to enable its subsidiary Eastern Shore Natural Gas to expand its facilities in Pennsylvania and Delaware. Eastern Shore will increase pipeline capacity by 36 percent and will also add some 55 miles of new pipeline looping facilities.

[http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060123/chesapeake\\_utilities\\_pipeline.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060123/chesapeake_utilities_pipeline.html?v=1).

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060123/phm028.html?v=37>.

### Hurricane Recovery Updates

December 15 was the last scheduled hurricane emergency situation report prepared in 2005. There will be no further updates to refinery, natural gas plant, or pipeline data. The U.S. Minerals Management Service continues to provide status reports on Gulf of Mexico production every two weeks. This information is represented in the tables below. For past Gulf Coast Hurricanes situation reports, see the website of the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) of the U.S. Department of Energy at:

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

<b>Gulf Coast and Louisiana Shut-in Production Per Day</b>			
January 23, 2006*			
	<b>Gulf Coast</b>	<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Gas</b> (MMcf/day) % of normal	1,805 18.1%	613 27.4%	<b>2,418</b> 19.8%
<b>Oil</b> (bbls/day) % of normal	396,786 26.5%	79,109 38.9%	<b>475,895</b> 27.9%

*NOTE: Normal Production in the Gulf Coast (Outer Continental Shelf as reported by MMS) is 10,000 MMcf/d of gas and 1,500,000 b/d of oil. Normal Production in Louisiana (as reported by DNR) is 2,235 MMcf/d of gas and 203,139 b/d of oil.*

\*Sources: [U.S. MMS](#), January 11, 2006 and [Louisiana DNR](#), January 23, 2006.

<b>Gulf Coast Cumulative Shut-in Production</b>		
Ivan vs. Katrina/ Rita		
	<b>Ivan</b> 9/13/04 - 02/14/05	<b>Katrina/ Rita</b> 8/26/05 - 1/11/06
<b>Gas</b> (MMcf)	172,259	<b>585,308</b>
<b>Oil</b> (bbls)	43,841,245	<b>114,042,425</b>

Source: [U.S. MMS](#), January 11, 2006.

<b>Louisiana Pipeline Operation</b>			
January 23, 2006			
<b>Total</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Partially Open</b>	<b>Shut-in</b>
55	19	16	20

Source: [Louisiana DNR](#), January 23, 2006.

## Other News

Nothing to Report

## Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 23, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	68.06	63.92	48.61
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	8.29	8.50	6.41

Source: Reuters

**This Week in Petroleum** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

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

*Updated on Wednesdays.*

**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 1:00 pm (Eastern time) on Wednesdays.*

**Natural Gas Weekly Update** from EIA

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

*Updated after 2:00 pm (Eastern time) on Thursdays.*

**Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration Website** from ISER/OE/DOE

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

*Updated after 5:00 pm (Mon. thru Fri.) with latest Energy Assurance Daily; previous Energy Assurance Daily and emergency situation reports are also posted on the website.*