



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, February 01, 2011

Electricity

Winter Storm Cuts Power to About 175,000 Customers across U.S. Midcontinent February 1 – Storms Expected to Impact More than 30 States

Winter storms blasted the central United States on February 1, disrupting travel, forcing five states to declare at least partial states of emergency, and knocking out power to about 175,000 customers, multiple news and company sources reported. The storms were expected to affect more than 30 states, and several utilities – despite limited outages, as of latest reports – warned of the potential for widespread customer outages. Utilities in numerous states reported power disruptions, but the following table lists only those states where 10,000 or more customers lost electricity.

U.S. Midcontinent to East Coast Major Winter Storm Customer Power Outages			
February 1, 2011			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
CenterPoint Energy	TX	35,000	3,033
Oncor	TX	26,895	8,497
Entergy	TX	16,241	3,545
Austin Energy	TX	14,000	204
CPS Energy	TX	8,200	23
SWEPCO	TX/LA/AR	4,717	2,237
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	TX	2,400	0
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative	TX	1,700	1,300
Ameren	IL	35,734	35,734
FirstEnergy**	OH	10,000	1,759
AEP	OH	4,000	872
Dayton Power and Light	OH	1,400	110
Duke Energy	IN	12,500	10,819
South Central REMC	IN	1,646	31
TOTAL*		174,433	68,164

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

** News sources conflicted as to the cause of the FirstEnergy outage. Multiple sources said a pole fire had knocked out power to 9,500 customers, but at least one source implied that ice was to blame and that more than 10,000 customers were without power.

Sources:

Situation Report: http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/docs/MidContinentEastCoastWinterStorm_v_2.pdf

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/02/01/winter.storm/index.html?hpt=C1>

CenterPoint Energy: <http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/OutageTracker/Default.aspx> ,

<http://woodlandsonline.com/npps/story.cfm?nppage=39913> ,

Oncor: <https://maps.oncor.com/summary.asp> , <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7407304.html>

Entergy: <http://viewoutage.entergy.com/tx.aspx>

Austin Energy: <https://my.austinenergy.com/outages/> , http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html

CPS Energy: <http://www.cpsenergy.com/CPSEnergyOutageMap.html> ,

http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/Cold-front-reaches-San-Antonio-989183.php

SWEPCO: <https://www.swepco.com/outages/>

Pedernales Electric Cooperative: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html
FirstEnergy: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=OH ,
<http://www.indeonline.com/newsnow/x1911152484/Thousands-without-power-in-Cleveland-Columbus> ,
<http://www.wkyc.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=172831&catid=3>
AEP: <https://www.aepohio.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=AEP%20Ohio%20Winter%20Storm%20Jan.%2031,%202011> , <http://www.indeonline.com/newsnow/x1911152484/Thousands-without-power-in-Cleveland-Columbus>
Dayton Power and Light: <http://www.dpandl.com/customer-service/outage-center/outage-map/> ,
<http://www.whiotv.com/weather/26690459/detail.html>
Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp> ,
<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/26688150/detail.html>
South Central REMC: <http://sciremc.maps.sienatech.com/> , http://www.tradingmarkets.com/news/stock-alert/duk_national-weather-service-it-s-going-to-get-worse-power-outages-reported-1460567.html
Ameren: <http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL>

Petroleum

Power Failure Leads Marathon to Reduce Production at 81,500 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery January 31

Marathon “cut back production and was “repairing the power supply,” the company said in a filing with the National Response Center.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-01/marathon-cuts-production-after-texas-power-failure-update1-.html>

Update: Canadian Natural Expects Fire-Downed 110,000 b/d Horizon Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada to Stay Offline through February 2011

A fire damaged the site’s upgrader on January 6. Canadian Natural Resources Limited does not expect the project to produce any crude oil in February 2011, it said last week.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/31/markets-cancrude-idUSN3123548720110131>

Safety Concerns to Restrict Oil-and-Gas Production into 2012 at Statoil’s Gullfaks Oil-and-Gas Field in Norwegian North Sea – Field Typically Produces 78,000 b/d of Oil

Safety concerns led Statoil to shut 50 wells at its Gullfaks oil-and-gas field in the Norwegian North Sea, and the company expects those issues to restrict production in 2011 and into 2012, it said on February 1. The field’s “reservoir was not strong enough to prevent a leak of oil and gas to the seabed,” Reuters said, citing the company. Despite that, Reuters said Statoil “did not anticipate such an event, as a sand formation at the site could prevent it.” The field was expected to produce about 30,000 b/d less oil than normal in February, based on a loading schedule.

<http://www.forexyard.com/en/news/Statoil-reveals-bigger-well-woes-at-Gullfaks-field-2011-02-01T135015Z-UPDATE-1>

<http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2011/Pages/01FebGullfaksUpdate.aspx>

Amid Protests, Egypt Sends Troops to Guard 2.5 Million b/d, 220-Mile SuMed Oil Pipeline January 28 – Line Runs Parallel to Suez Canal

Egypt sent troops to guard the 2.5 million b/d, 220-mile SuMed oil pipeline on January 28, but the pipeline remained online and the Suez Canal was open to traffic, as of latest reports. Oil companies transport crude along the SuMed pipeline because the Suez Canal is not equipped to handle fully-loaded Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCC). A pipeline shutdown would, according to one analyst, more significantly impact oil and shipping markets than would a shutdown of the Suez Canal. Separately in Egypt, the ongoing unrest led multiple companies – BP, Shell, BG Group and Lukoil – to evacuate non-essential workers. The evacuations, however, had not yet impacted oil-and-gas production in Egypt’s Western Desert, Nile Delta, and Gulf of Suez areas.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-02-01/egypt-s-military-deploys-along-sumed-oil-pipeline-official-says.html>

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Oil/8475472>

Natural Gas

Update: Apache Halts Natural Gas Leak at Non-Producing Platform Offshore Louisiana by January 31

Apache Corp. halted a natural gas leak at its non-producing East Cameron Block 278 Platform B in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) said on January 31. The company had begun working to permanently plug the well, according to BOEMRE. Apache discovered the leak on January 16; it evacuated the site and shut down associated pipelines and facilities. After several safety system evaluations, the company re-boarded the platform on January 19. Apache was, prior to the leak, using the affected platform to process natural gas and condensate from separate offshore locations. It was working to permanently plug some non-producing wells at the time of the incident.

<http://www.pennenergy.com/index/petroleum/display/9666704551/articles/pennenergy/petroleum/offshore/2011/01/apache-successfully.html>

<http://www.boemre.gov/ooc/press/2011/press0127.htm>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 1, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	89.96	85.50	74.09
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	4.42	4.72	5.26
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

About 14,000 Xcel Energy Customers Lose Power for Unknown Reasons in Colorado February 1

http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_17261274

Sheriff's Office Arrests Two Men for Allegedly Stealing Copper Wire from City of Tallahassee, Florida's Sam O. Purdom Power Plant – Suspected Theft Occurred on January 30

http://www.wakulla.com/Wakulla_News/Local_News/Two_Arrested_for_Theft_of_Copper_Wire_from_Purdom_Power_Plant_2011013111447/

Copper Wire Taken from Street Light Poles near Punta Gorda, Florida by February 1

<http://www.nbc-2.com/Global/story.asp?S=13947235>

Thieves Steal Copper Wire from South Central Power Substation in Ohio, Knocking Out Power Briefly to Approximately 1,000 Customers January 27-28

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20110201/NEWS01/102010303/1002/news01/Copper-wire-reported-stolen-from-church-substations>

Dominion Virginia Power Proposes Pilot Program to Offer Time-of-Day Pricing Options, Encourage Off-Peak Charging of Electric Vehicles

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=957>

Indianapolis Power and Light Investigating after Five Manhole Covers Explode in Indianapolis, Indiana January 30

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/26667466/detail.html>

Tanker Truck Crashes, Spills Unspecified Quantity of Diesel Fuel in Orange County, Florida January 28 – Truck Was Hauling 2,700 Gallons of Diesel Fuel at Time of Incident

<http://www.wftv.com/news/26651292/detail.html>

Natural Gas Pipeline Malfunction Leaves Two Injured, Forces Local Families to Evacuate in Desoto Parish, Louisiana January 28

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/20110129/NEWS01/101290321/Pipeline-malfunction-injures-2-prompts-temporary-evacuations>

Update: After Legal Battle, Emmert International to Begin Trucking Oversized Equipment through Idaho to ConocoPhillips' Billing, Montana Refinery February 1

http://www.oregonlive.com/business/index.ssf/2011/01/oregon_company_begins_shipment.html

Brazilian Oil Production Rises to 2.18 Million b/d in December 2010, or 9.1 Percent Higher than in December 2009: National Petroleum Agency

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=103625

Update: After Tropical Cyclone Bianca, Apache Resumes Production at Stag Oilfield and BHP Billiton-Operated Pyrenees FPSO Vessel Offshore Australia by January 31

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=103646

Citing More Stringent Fuel Standards in U.S. Northeast, DOE to Sell Current Inventory of Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve – about 2 Million Barrels – and Repurchase Ultra Low Sulfur Distillate

http://www.fossil.energy.gov/news/techlines/2011/11006-DOE_to_Convert_Heating_Oil_Reserve.html

Oil-and-Gas Companies Violated Safe Water Drinking Act by Injecting Diesel Fuel into Onshore Natural Gas Wells during Hydraulic Fracturing Process: Congressional Investigators

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/01/business/energy-environment/01gas.html>

Cold Weather Forces Shut Cornell-Mahoney Gas Plant in Texas February 1-7

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150046>

Turbine Shuts, Restarts at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas January 31

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150040>

SRU Shutdown Leads to Flaring at Sneed Booster Station in Texas January 31

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150037>

Operators to Restart Process Unit after Repairs at Amerada Hess Seminole Gas Processing Plant in Texas January 31 – February 3

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=149983>

Port Dolphin Receives Major State Environmental Permits for Proposed LNG Terminal Offshore Florida by January 31 – Terminal’s Pipeline Would Be Equipped to Deliver 1.2 Bcf/d of Natural Gas

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/port-dolphin-energy-receives-key-state-environmental-permits-to-build-deepwater-lng-port-serving-florida-114933034.html>

Enbridge to Expand Condensate Processing Capacity at Existing Venice, Louisiana Facility – Project Scheduled to Enter Service in Late 2013, More than Double Facility's Capacity to Approximately 12,000 b/d of Condensate

<http://www.enbridge.com/MediaCentre/News.aspx?yearTab=en2011&id=1387992>

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

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

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