



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, February 06, 2013

Electricity

Update: NFL Says Power Problems Occurred During Super Bowl Rehearsals; Officials Rule Out Cyberattack as Cause of Partial Power Outage at Superdome in New Orleans

Power fluctuations during rehearsals for the Super Bowl led organizers to use generators at the game last Sunday, a National Football League (NFL) official said in a statement Tuesday. Officials noticed "fluctuations in the frequency of the power supply" during rehearsals, and so decided to use generators designed for the type of power demand presented by the event. Shortly after the second half of the game began, however, load-sensing equipment detected an abnormality in the electrical system feeding the stadium and opened a circuit breaker, causing a partial power loss that interrupted the game for about 35 minutes. Entergy Corp., the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District, and stadium manager SMG on Tuesday announced they were jointly hiring an independent third party to investigate the cause of the outage. An Entergy spokesman said Tuesday that the utility has ruled out a cyberattack as a cause of the blackout, in part because there was no Internet or remote computer access to the equipment that sensed the abnormality and opened the breaker. Workers monitoring the electrical switchgear equipment found no evidence of either a cyber or physical attack, he said. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) also said it had "no intelligence to indicate the power outage was the result of a cyberattack or a threat of terrorism of any kind," according to a spokeswoman for the FBI's New Orleans Division.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/06/nfl-superbowl-lights-idUSL1N0B60Q320130206?feedType=RSS&feedName=utilitiesSector&rpc=43>
<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-02-05/super-bowl-blackout-wasn-t-caused-by-cyberattack.html?cmpid=yhoo>
http://www.entergy.com/news_room/newsrelease.aspx?NR_ID=2667

Wind Storm Cuts Power to 39,000 NP Power Customers in New Brunswick January 31

A wind storm hit New Brunswick last Thursday, cutting power to 39,000 NB Power customers across the province at its peak. It took four days for the utility to restore power to all its affected customers.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/story/2013/02/05/nb-power-outages.html>
<http://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/thousands-of-new-brunswickers-still-without-power-after-storm-1.1139607>

PPL's 1,111 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Reduced to 85 Percent by February 6

On the morning of February 5 the unit was operating at 99 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Reduced by February 5

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 327 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201302051515.html>

Sea West Energy's 100 MW Sea West Wind Unit in California Shut by February 5

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201302051515.html>

TVA Applies to Renew Operating Licenses at Its Sequoyah Nuclear Power Plant in Tennessee

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) on Wednesday announced it recently filed an application with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to extend the operating licenses of both units at its Sequoyah Nuclear Power Plant. The licenses for the 1,152 MW Unit 1 and 1,126 MW Unit 2 expire in 2020 and 2021, respectively. Renewing the existing licenses will allow each unit to operate for an additional 20 years. The license renewal process is expected to take about 30 months.

http://www.tva.com/news/releases/janmar13/sqn_renewal.html

Petroleum

Pinhole Leak on Sour Gas Feed Causes Emissions at Shell's 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery February 4

Shell reported a pinhole leak discovered Monday afternoon on the sour gas feed to the Rectified Absorber Column at its Deer Park refinery had caused emissions of sour gas to the atmosphere, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators barricaded the area and evacuated personnel before installing a clamp to stop the emissions, which continued until Tuesday morning.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179000>

Phillips 66 Reports Unspecified Equipment Failure at Its 120,000 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery February 1

Phillips 66 reported an unspecified equipment failure at its Rodeo refinery February 1, according to a filing the Contra Costa Health Services. The incident had no offsite impact, the filing said.

Reuters, 18:22 February 5, 2013

Tesoro Reports Unspecified 'Major' Unit Startup at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery February 4

Tesoro Corp. reported an unspecified "major" unit startup at its Martinez refinery on Monday, according to a filing with the Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 18:21 February 5, 2013

Plains All American Shuts Crude Oil Pipeline Due to Leak near Bay Springs, Mississippi February 5

Plains All American shut down a crude oil pipeline near Bay Springs, Mississippi after discovering a spill on Tuesday, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Approximately 45 gallons of crude oil were spilled before operators secured the release, the filing said. The incident cause was unknown at the time of the filing.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1037650

Sunoco Logistics Shuts Crude Oil Pipeline Due to Leak near Breckenridge, Texas February 3

Sunoco Logistics Partners shut an intrastate crude oil pipeline near Breckenridge, Texas after discovering a spill on Sunday, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Approximately 25 barrels of crude oil were spilled before operators excavated the leak and clamped it shut, the filing said. The Railroad Commission of Texas said Sunoco reported that its preliminary investigation indicated that corrosion was the cause of the spill. It did not have information on the section of pipeline that was shut, nor an estimate of when the pipeline may restart.

Reuters, 18:23 February 6, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1037541

Natural Gas

DCP Midstream Reports Amine Acid Gas Emissions at Its 150 MMcf/d Gulf Plains Gas Plant in Texas February 3

DCP Midstream reported a high volume of pipeline liquids coming into the Gulf Plains plant from pigging operations led to problems with the amine system Sunday, causing amine acid gas to release to the atmosphere, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179013>

AGI Unit Shuts During Equipment Startup at Enbridge's Tilden Gas Plant in Texas February 5

Enbridge reported the No. 2 acid gas injector (AGI) at its Tilden plant down due to a malfunction during the startup of new equipment, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179017>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Update: Hijackers Release French Oil Tanker and Crew Seized Off the Ivory Coast by February 6

West African coastal pirates hijacked the *M/T Gascogne* offshore on Sunday, taking 17 sailors hostage. Reports Wednesday said the ship and crew had been freed, but did not indicate the fate of the assailants or cargo on the ship.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/feb/6/french-oil-tanker-crew-seized-pirates-now-free/>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices February 6, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	96.15	97.74	96.97
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.34	3.14	2.41

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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