



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, February 15, 2011

Electricity

Separate Storms Cut Power to More than 100,000 Customers in Washington February 12 and February 14

Winds knocked out power to 60,000 Snohomish County PUD customers on February 12; the company restored service to those customers in about 30 minutes, but a new round of storms cut electricity to 55,000 Puget Sound Energy customers, 5,600 Peninsula Light customers, about 2,800 Seattle City Light customers, and an unknown number of Snohomish County PUD customers on February 14, news and company sources reported. The utilities had restored power to most affected customers, as of latest reports.

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/theweatherbeat/2014226402_outages.html

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/theweatherbeat/2014208738_windyouthere13m.html

<http://www.pse.com/safetyReliability/pse-service-alert/Pages/ServiceAlertMap.aspx>

Update: DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Ramped Up to 20 Percent by February 15

DTE shut the unit for repairs by January 29, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and a local news source. The company restarted the unit on February 10, but leaking condenser tubes led operators to shut it again on February 11. The NRC reported that on the morning of February 14 the unit was operating at 1 percent.

<http://www.monroenews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110211/NEWS01/702119977>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Update: AES's 495 MW Alamosa Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by February 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201102141515.html>

Duke Energy's 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Reduced by February 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 260 MW by February 14.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201102141515.html>

AES's 179 MW Redondo Gas-Fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by February 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201102141515.html>

Cabrillo Power's 106 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Shut by February 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by February 14.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201102141515.html>

PacifiCorp Plans 100-Mile, 500/345 kV Mona-Oquirrh Transmission Line in Utah

The project would consist of a single circuit 500/345 kV transmission line from an existing substation in Juab County to a planned substation in Tooele County, and a double-circuit 345 kV line from Limber to the existing Oquirrh substation in West Jordan, Utah. It is part of PacifiCorp's Energy Gateway program, a plan to add about 2,000 mile of new transmission lines across the West.

<http://www.pacificorp.com/about/newsroom/2011nrl/pactcsegtep.html>

Update: Cold Weather Forced Offline as Many as 82 Power Plants in Texas February 2

Cold weather – and associated equipment issues – was likely the primary reason that up to 82 power plants went offline across Texas on February 2, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) said in a preliminary report on February 14. Those shutdowns, combined with abnormally high demand for electricity, forced the grid operator to order rolling blackouts throughout the state. Separately, despite lawmakers concerns, ERCOT said today that it had not yet seen evidence that companies manipulated electricity prices during the outages.

<http://www.automatedtrader.net/real-time-dow-jones/46689/2nd--rolling-blackouts-in-texas-from-poor-preparation>
DJN, 11:36 February 15, 2011

Petroleum

Western Refining to Resume Normal Operations Later This Week at 125,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery – Cold Weather Led to Shutdown in Early February

Western Refining began restarting various units late last week and expects to return the refinery to normal operations later this week, it said on February 14. Harsh weather and related electricity issues led the company to temporarily halt refining operations at the facility on February 2, the company said on February 7. The refinery also experienced some freeze-related damage.

<http://ir.westernrefining.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=194293&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1528840&highlight=>
<http://ir.westernrefining.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=194293&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1526050&highlight=>
<http://www.wnr.com/Refining.aspx>

Update: After January 6 Fire, Canadian Natural to Resume 50 Percent Production in Second Quarter of 2011 at 110,000 b/d Horizon Oil Sands Plant in Alberta, Canada

Canadian Natural Resources Limited aims to restart the site's first set of Coke Drums – and about 55,000 b/d of production capacity – during the second quarter of 2011, the company said on February 14. It plans to restart the second set of Coke Drums, and presumably resume full production, during the third quarter of 2011. The fire occurred on January 6, 2011 in the facility's coker unit. It was the result of the opening of the top unheading valve on an active low-pressure Coke Drum, according to the company's internal investigation team. That opening allowed the release of hot hydrocarbons within the coker cutting deck building, which was followed by ignition and the fire.

http://www.cnrl.com/upload/multi_media_element/48/02/0214-horizon-upgrader-incident-further-update.pdf
http://www.cnrl.com/upload/media_element/371/02/0110-horizon-upgrader-incident-further-update.pdf
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2416658120110124>

Update: DOE to Halve Size of Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve

The Department of Energy (DOE) sold nearly 2 million barrels of heating oil from the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve in recent weeks, and the department plans to use the receipts from those sales to purchase 1 million barrels of ultra low sulfur (ULS) distillate, it said on February 14. The reserve's capacity, subsequently, will be reduced by 50 percent. The new total would, in the event of an emergency, be sufficient to supplement supplies until refiners could deliver fuel from the U.S. Gulf Coast, according to DOE.

http://www.fossil.energy.gov/news/techlines/2011/11015-DOE_Unveils_Fossil_Energy_Budget.html
DJN, 09:28 February 15, 2011

Exxon Mobil Adds 3.5 Billion Barrels of Oil Equivalent to Proved Reserves in 2010

Exxon Mobil Corporation added 3.5 billion barrels of oil equivalents to its proved reserves in 2010, replacing 209 percent of production, the company said on February 15. The reserves additions include acquisitions, new developments, revisions and extensions of existing fields resulting from drilling, and studies and analysis of reservoir performance.

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/exxonmobil/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&ndmConfigId=1001106&newsId=20110215006304&newsLang=en

Fire Cuts Throughput by About 25 Percent along Gulf South's Natural Gas Pipeline in Texas February 14-15

A fire in a compressor station led Boardwalk Pipeline Partners LP's Gulf South Pipeline Co. to reduce throughput by about 25 percent along its natural gas pipeline in Texas, a company spokeswoman said on February 15. The fire occurred on February 14. The affected line was moving about 1 Bcf/d on February 15, compared to 1.3 Bcf/d on February 14. The Gulf South Pipeline system transports natural gas throughout Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, according to the company's website. The entire system – presumably including the affected segment in Texas – can deliver about 6.2 Bcf/d.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-15/boardwalk-reduces-gas-flow-by-25-on-texas-pipeline-update1-.html>

<http://www.gulfsouthpl.com/AboutUsGS.aspx>

Reuters, 11:17 February 15, 2011

After February 10 Explosion, El Paso Warns of Possible Restrictions along Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Ohio February 15

El Paso Corporation anticipated “a possible restriction through 100% secondary out of the path (SOP) nominations” along its Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Ohio on February 15, the company said in an online posting. A section of the line exploded on February 10 in Columbiana County, Ohio on February 10, causing a fire, prompting residents to evacuate, and forcing El Paso to declare majeure for the line’s Station 214 in Carrollton, Ohio on February 11, previous news and company sources reported. The company was investigating the incident and working to prepare plans to repair and restart the affected segment, it said on its website

<http://tebb.epenergy.com/ebbmastertpage/Notices/NoticesAutoTable.aspx?code=TGP&name=Tennessee%20Gas%20Pipeline%20Company%20-%20Notice%20Text&status=Notice&sParam1=TGP&sParam2=D&sParam4=136417&sParam9=D&details=Y>

<http://tebb.epenergy.com/ebbmastertpage/Notices/NoticesAutoTable.aspx?code=TGP&name=Tennessee%20Gas%20Pipeline%20Company%20-%20Notice%20Text&status=Notice&sParam1=TGP&sParam2=D&sParam4=136356&sParam9=D&details=Y>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/11/pipeline-leak-el-paso-idUSN1113572820110211>

<http://www.timesreporter.com/communities/carroll/x163791193/Gas-pipeline-explodes-in-rural-Columbiana-County>

Other News

President Obama Seeks \$29.5 Billion Budget for DOE in Fiscal Year 2012

The budget includes investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy programs, loan guarantee authority to help jumpstart the domestic nuclear industry, basic and applied research, and numerous other measures. To read more about the budget proposal, please click on the Department of Energy's (DOE) summary below.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/10064.htm>

Coal-Carrying Train Cars Derail in Mendota, Illinois February 11

About 12 cars derailed from a 122-car train, blocking local traffic and spilling an unspecified quantity of coal in Mendota, Illinois on February 11. No one was injured.

<http://mywebtimes.com/archives/ottawa/display.php?id=424317>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 15, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	83.11	86.47	73.58
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.89	4.32	5.48

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Wyoming Files Legal Petition, Challenging EPA's Early-January Decision to Take Over State's GHG Permit Process – State Claims EPA Allowed it Only Nine Days to Devise Plan for Regulating GHGs

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-15/wyoming-challenges-epa-greenhouse-regs-in-court.html>

Ecuadorean Judge Fines Chevron \$8 Billion for Oil-Related Damage in Nation's Jungle – Company Does not Confirm Size of Fine, But Refers to Decision as “Illegitimate and Unenforceable”

<http://www.kxan.com/dpps/news/international/chevron-fined-8-billion-in-ecuador-wd11-jpe-3719024>

Hole Discovered in Process Tower at Flint Hills Resources' 280,500 b/d St. Paul, Minnesota Refinery by February 15

Reuters, 00:08 February 15, 2011

Valve Leak Leads to Benzene Release at Frontier Oil's 130,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas Refinery by February 15 – Leak Halted, as of Latest Reports

Reuters, 00:23 February 15, 2011

Diesel Fuel Leak Forces Shut Drinking Water System in Whitesburg, Kentucky over Weekend

<http://www.kentucky.com/2011/02/15/1634853/whitesburg-water-remains-unusable.html#more>

Nearby Grass Fire Led Chevron to Temporarily Shut Natural Gas Pipelines at Henry Hub, Texas February 14 – Company Reports No Impact to Its Equipment

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-15/chevron-briefly-shut-natural-gas-lines-at-henry-hub-facility.html>

Leak Along PG&E-Owned, 2-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Leads to Shelter-in-Place Warning in San Francisco, California February 14 – Company Plugs Leak within Just Over an Hour

<http://sfappeal.com/news/2011/02/shelter-in-place-ordered-after-outer-mission-gas-leak.php>

Unit Shuts Twice on Multiple Issues at Boyd Compressor Station in Texas February 14

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150696>

Operators Repair Leaking Cooler, Restart Equipment at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas February 14

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150732>

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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