



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, February 26, 2010

Major Developments

Update: Over 845,000 Customers Remain Without Power across New England and Canada after Windy Winter Storm

A winter storm moved across swaths of New England and Canada causing significant snowfall accumulations and treacherous conditions. Hardest hit were New Hampshire, Maine and New York where conditions have slowed restoration efforts with some utilities expecting customers to be without power through the weekend. Neighboring utilities have been brought in to assist crews to restore customers. Public Service of New Hampshire reported the highest utility outages with over half of its service territory without power.

New England, New York, Canada Customer Power Outages			
February 24 – 26, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Public Service of New Hampshire	NH	264,000	264,000
Unitil	NH	59,000	36,700
New Hampshire Electric Power Coop	NH	27,000	22,652
National Grid	NH	10,000	5,835
Central Hudson Gas and Electric	NY	151,265	146,334
Orange & Rockland Utilities	NY	50,000	16,715
ConEd	NY	37,239	37,183
National Grid	NY	21,304	3,696
Central Maine Power	ME	133,000	95,000
Bangor Hydro Electric	ME	12,750	6,368
National Grid	MA	89,000	67,009
Orange & Rockland Utilities	NJ	50,000	6,303
Jersey Central Power & Light	NJ	3,200	3,200
Central Vermont Public Service	VT	13,191	8,526
Hydro-Quebec	Quebec	106,000	95,000
Nova Scotia Power	Nova Scotia	31,086	31,086
TOTAL *		1,058,035	845,607

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

Sources:

National Grid (MA): <http://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/stormcenter/>,

https://www.nationalgridus.com/granitestate/a3-1_news2.asp?document=4894

Central Maine Power (ME): <http://www.cmpco.com/OurCompany/News/2010/news100226a.html>

<http://www.cmpco.com/OurCompany/News/2010/news100226d.html>

Bangor Hydro Electric Company (ME): <http://www.bhe.com/about/outages.cfm#>

Con-Ed (NY): <http://www.coned.com/sm/outageinfo.asp#>

Orange & Rockland Utilities (NY): <http://www.oru.com/advisories/?id=365>,

http://wp1.coned.com/or_stormcenter/default.aspx

National Grid (NY): <http://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/stormcenter/>

Long Island Power Authority (NY): <http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/township.html>

Central Hudson Gas and Electric (NY): http://www.cenhud.com/about_us/news/feb26_storm7.html

Orange & Rockland Electric Utilities (NJ): <http://www.oru.com/advisories/?id=365>

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100226/UPDATES01/100226018/1005/NEWS01/More+than+14+000+witho+ut+power+in+NJ++Montville++Pequannock++Newton+among+areas+affected>

Jersey Central Power & Light (NJ): http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=NJ,
<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100226/UPDATES01/100226018/1005/NEWS01/More+than+14+000+witho+ut+power+in+NJ++Montville++Pequannock++Newton+among+areas+affected>
Public Service of New Hampshire (NH): <http://twitter.com/psnh>
<http://www.psnh.com/aboutpsnh/mediacenter/stormupdates.asp>
Unitil (NH): <http://www.unitil.com/outage/index.asp>,
<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=330%2C000+without+power+in+Granite+State&articleId=b287bca3-198a-4c0d-bd8b-c86da275a5ff>
New Hampshire Electric Coop (NH): <http://www.nhec.com/oms.php>,
http://www.nhec.com/news_archive.php?n=83
National Grid (NH): <http://www1.nationalgridus.com/granitestate/stormcenter/>
Central Vermont Public Service (VT): <http://www.cvps.com/CustomerService/outages/default.aspx>

Electricity

Strong Winds Batter Virginia, Maryland Area Leaving over 33,000 Customers in Region without Power February 26

Throughout the Virginia, Maryland and DC region February 26, high winds ranging between 50 - 55 mph have impacted the area causing over 33,000 customers to lose power. At the height of the outages, 12,931 Dominion customers were without power in Virginia, 13,811 Baltimore Gas and Electric customers were without power in Maryland, Allegheny Power reported 4,179 customers out in Maryland and PEPCO reported 2,317 customers out in D.C. and Maryland the morning of February 26.

<http://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>
<http://www.bge.com/portal/site/bge/menuitem.42d31413f80c584606370f10d66166a0>
http://app.alleghenyenergy.com/outagestatus/OMS_Customer_State.aspx?Option=State&User=
<http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

Dominion's 909 MW Millstone Nuke Unit 2 Shut February 26

According to a spokesperson from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Dominion shutdown the unit after a water pump malfunctioned.

Bloomberg News, 13:37 February 26, 2010

Update: Southern's 830 MW Farley Nuke Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 85 Percent by February 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of February 25 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Bruce Power's 750 Bruce Nuke Unit 3 in Ontario Shut by February 25

Reuters, 16:25 February 25, 2010

Petroleum

Teppco Partners' Fuel Terminal in Louisiana Expects Diesel Outage February 28 -March 2

In a bulletin to shippers, Teppco Partners reported its fuel terminal in Shreveport, Louisiana will run out of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel at noon February 28 due to high demand with the outage expected to last until early morning March 2.

Bloomberg News, 12:00 February 25, 2010

Storm Prevents Crude Oil Tanker Deliveries to Portland, Maine, February 26

Crude oil tanker deliveries to a Portland, Maine, pipeline that supplies two Montreal-area refineries have been delayed a second day because unsafe swells and high winds delayed unloading. Two tankers are waiting to enter the pier area to unload their crude; they may not be able to do so until early tomorrow, February 27.

Bloomberg News, 8:23 February 26, 2010

FCC Unit Shut at ConocoPhillips's 153,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery February 25

In a filing with state regulators, ConocoPhillips said it shut down a fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit at its refinery in Borger, Texas due to a process upset. The company said it will take until March 7 to repair the unit.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=136367>

Reuters, 07:13 February 26, 2010

TCEQ Votes to Renew Air Permit for LyondellBassell's 270,600 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery Rejecting Pleas for Public Hearing

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) voted 2-0 to approve renewal of an air pollution permit for LyondellBassell's refinery in Houston. The commission rejected pleas for a public hearing on the topic.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21301

Canadian Oil Sands Producers Benefit from Gas Surplus, Low Prices in Expanding Oil-Sands Operations in Canada

Numerous companies operating oil-sands production sites in Canada are benefitting from a natural gas surplus into the country along with lower than normal prices of natural gas. Specifically, Syncrude, the world's largest oil-sands operator, said the situation will increase output by 50 percent. Another company, Canadian Oil Sands announced plans February 25 to boost bitumen production to 600,000 b/d with projects scheduled to get underway during the next 4 years.

Bloomberg News, 07:52 February 25, 2010

Natural Gas

Cedar Lake Booster Station in Texas Shut on Gas Flow to Pipeline Leak February 25

In a filing to state regulators, the Cedar Lake booster station reported its pipeline to its associated CO2 plant began to leak and the booster station shutdown in order to repair the leak. The shutdown is expected to last through February 28.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=136369>

Canadian Natural Resources' Gas Well Explodes near Protest Site in Edmonton, Alberta February 25

A dozen Canadian Natural Resources crew members were drilling a sweet gas well when it blew up early morning February 25. Pro-environmental protesters were camped out nearby when the well exploded. The company reported no injuries due to the explosion.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/well+blows+near+Hythe/2607065/story.html>

Other News

Number of U.S. Oil Rigs at Highest Level since 1993, Baker Hughes Consulting Says

The overall total number of rigs operating in the U.S. rose by 28 this week to 1,373, with the number of oil rigs growing by 16 to a total of 456 and the number of gas rigs growing by 12 to a total of 905.

Bloomberg News, 14:07 February 26, 2010

Update: Coast Guard Restricts Vessels in Atchafalaya Channel on February 25 due to Contango's Pipeline Ruptured in Louisiana

The U.S. Coast Guard restricted vessel traffic in the Atchafalaya Channel in southern Louisiana after a ship struck a Contango Oil & Gas Company natural gas line causing a fire and minor injuries. Traffic along the Channel will be cleared every four hours the Coast Guard reported, whereas Contango declared force majeure on February 24 due to curtailed production of the affected platform and transporting pipeline.

Bloomberg News, 08:51 February 26, 2010

EPA Emissions Regulations may Delay BP's Refinery and Natural Gas Projects, Company Lobbyist Worries

A corporate lobbyist for BP warned that the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recently announced plans to regulate greenhouse gas emissions will lead to delays in the permitting process for new refinery and natural gas projects across the U.S. The company said it fears that the new federal rules will leave state regulators short-handed and unprepared to handle the large amounts of permitting applications required under the rule, especially in the early years of the new greenhouse gas program.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21284

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices February 26, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	79.87	79.76	43.24
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.84	5.40	4.20

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Workers Claim Years of Exposure to Unsafe Levels of Radioactive Material from Cleaning Pipes at Harvey, Louisiana Oil Terminal in Court Case against ExxonMobil

Bloomberg News, 18:10 February 24, 2010

Underground Formation in Southwest Wyoming could Hold Enough Carbon Dioxide to Support 2 Clean-Coal Power Plants for 50 Years, Wyoming State Geological Survey Reports

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9E3SDQO0.htm>

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company Plans \$48.4 Billion Horsepower Replacement Project at Nine Compressor Units in Louisiana

[http://www.streetinsider.com/Press+Releases/Tennessee+Gas+Pipeline+Company+Plans+\\$48.4+Million+Horsepower+Replacement+Project+in+Louisiana,+an+Industrial+Info+News+Alert/5387004.html](http://www.streetinsider.com/Press+Releases/Tennessee+Gas+Pipeline+Company+Plans+$48.4+Million+Horsepower+Replacement+Project+in+Louisiana,+an+Industrial+Info+News+Alert/5387004.html)

Update: Suncor Energy's 135,000 b/d Edmonton, Alberta Refinery Operating Normally After Running at Reduced Rates since February 17

Reuters, 14:57

Lukoil, Vanco and Ghana National Petroleum Corporation Announce Significant Oil and Gas Discovery Offshore Ghana February 26

Reuters, 09:59 February 26, 2010

James River Coal Company Reports Worker Fatality at Mine in Kentucky January 22

<http://www.kftc.org/blog/archive/2010/01/22/kentuckys-first-mine-fatality-and-hopefully-our-last/>

Reuters, 11:08 February 26, 2010

Rig Shortage Delays Drilling and Appraisals in Oil Fields in Uganda, Government Reports

Dow Jones Newswire, 12:15 February 26, 2010

Militant Attacks, Pipeline Sabotage in Niger Delta Cost Nigerian Government about \$73 Million in Repairs in 2009

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2010/02/26/Nigeria-spends-millions-on-pipeline-repair/UPI-71261267195219/

Oil Tanker Truck Overturns in Baltimore County, Maryland February 26 – Two People Injured

<http://www.wbaltv.com/news/22681555/detail.html>

Ultra-Deepwater Drilling Likely to Remain Profitable, Analysts Report

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=88478

Department of Interior’s Minerals Management Service Misses Deadline for Submitting Environmental Impact Study on Offshore Drilling in Alaska

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=88480

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov