



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, February 27, 2017

Electricity

Power Restoration Nearly Complete in Northeast U.S., Canada February 27 after Strong Storms Hit February 25

Power restorations were nearly complete on Monday after strong storms knocked out power to at least 85,848 customers across Pennsylvania, New York, and Ontario on Saturday. The storms produced heavy rain and wind gusts up to 69 mph, toppling trees and power lines. As of 3:30 p.m. EST on Monday, 979 customers remained without power. Central Hudson on Sunday evening said it had restored power to about 85 percent of customers impacted by the storm. The table below shows the latest reported outages by utility.

Northeast U.S., Canada Customer Power Outages February 25–27, 2017		
Electric Utility	State	Latest Reported
Central Hudson	NY	106
Orange & Rockland	NY	409
NYSEG	NY	65
FirstEnergy	PA	214
Hydro One	Ontario	185
TOTAL*		979

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

Sources:

<https://stormcentral.cenhud.com/>

<https://www.cenhud.com/news/news/crews-repairing-electric-system-following-damaging-storm>

<https://www.facebook.com/ORUConnect>

http://apps.coned.com/stormcenter_external_oru/default.html

<https://outagemap.nyseg.com/nyseg/>

<http://outages.firstenergycorp.com/pa.html>

<http://www.hydroone.com/stormcenter3/>

<http://www.wiartonecho.com/2017/02/25/power-out-to-9873-hydro-one-customers-in-south-and-northern-bruce>

<http://patch.com/new-york/tarrytown/power-outages-reported-throughout-hudson-valley-wake-thunderstorm>

<http://www.recordonline.com/news/20170226/powerful-storm-triggers-power-outages-planes-damaged-at-orange-county-airport>

<http://www.mcall.com/news/breaking/mc-lehigh-valley-weather-severe-storms-cold-front-20170225-story.html>

Update: Duke Energy’s 846 MW Oconee Nuclear Unit 1 in South Carolina Restarts by February 25, Ramps Up to Full Power by February 26

The unit shut on February 18 due to unknown causes.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Progress Energy’s 710 MW Robinson Nuclear Unit 2 in South Carolina Shut by February 25

The unit shut from 90 percent. The cause of the shutdown was not immediately known.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Shut by February 25

The unit shut from 74 percent power. The cause of the shutdown was not immediately known.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

FirstEnergy's 882 MW Davis-Besse Nuclear Unit in Ohio Reduced to 50 Percent by February 25

On the morning of February 24, the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Shut by February 27

The unit was shut from full power. The cause of the shutdown was not immediately known.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Solar Partners' 133 MW Ivanpah Solar Unit 3 in California Shut by February 26

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201702261515.html>

Update: El Segundo Energy Center's 263 MW Gas-fired Unit 5/6 in California Returns to Service by February 25

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on January 5.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201702251515.html>

Petroleum

PBF Energy Shuts Its 160,000 b/d Toledo, Ohio Refinery after Fire February 26 – Source

PBF Energy shut its Toledo, Ohio, refinery early Sunday morning after a fire broke out on the gasoline unit, according to a source familiar with the plant's operations. The fire did not result in any injuries and was extinguished by the refinery's emergency response team, a company spokesman said. The plant-wide shutdown was expected to last another 48 hours as the company investigates pump issues, the source said. The refinery suffered a pump failure and loss of pressure, along with a flange leak, the source said. Earlier this month, PBF cut production rates by about 16 percent at the refinery, scaling back operations in the gasoline-making unit and hydrocracker, due to weak profit margins. The refinery relies on a mix of domestic and Canadian crude, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The refinery imports roughly 70,000 b/d of Canadian crude, mostly medium grade, according to the EIA.

Reuters, 11:05 February 27, 2017

Update: Phillips 66 Restarts Its Pipeline in Paradis, Louisiana February 27 after Explosion, Fire February 9

Phillips 66 on Monday said its pipeline, which was shut after a February 9 fire at its Paradis pipeline station in Louisiana, was restarted over the weekend. An explosion and fire at the Paradis pipeline station occurred during routine maintenance. The pipeline carries y-grade, a mixture of natural gas liquids such as propane and butane, from Venice to Paradis, Louisiana.

Reuters, 9:59 February 27, 2017

Shell Reopens Its Pipeline after False Crude Leak Alarm in Fresno County, California February 27

Royal Dutch Shell on Monday restarted its 20-inch mainline pipeline in Fresno County, California after a brief shutdown due to a false crude leak alarm. The pipeline was shut for 34 minutes until Shell determined that there was no release.

Reuters 9:53 February 27, 2017

Valero Reports Hydrocracker Upset at Its 293,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery February 25

Valero reported a hydrocracker upset at the east plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery, on February 25, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 21:52 February 26, 2017

Shell Reports Unit Startup at Its 145,000 b/d Puget Sound, Washington Refinery February 21

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a unit startup at its Puget Sound, Washington refinery, on February 21, according to a Northwest Clean Air Agency filing made public on Friday.
Reuters, 19:21 February 24, 2017

Update: PBF Energy Says Repairs Complete at Its 151,300 b/d Torrance, California Refinery February 24 after Fire, Explosion February 18

PBF Energy on Friday said it completed repairs on equipment involved in a February 18 explosion at its Torrance, California, refinery. The equipment was being brought back to service, a PBF spokesman said, adding the company would continue to meet all its product supply commitments. Reuters had earlier reported, citing a Fire Department official that the explosion occurred on the vacuum unit.
Reuters, 18:38 February 24, 2017

Imperial Oil Reports Small Hydrocarbon Spill, Coker Restart at Its Sarnia, Ontario Facility February 27

Imperial Oil issued an alert Monday for a small liquid hydrocarbon leak from a line at its Sarnia, Ontario facility, according to a Sarnia-Lambton alert site. The leak, which was estimated to be less than 3 gallons, was quickly contained and a vacuum truck was being used for cleanup, the company said. An all clear was issued later on Monday. Imperial also on Monday reported flaring due to a coker restart at the site, according to a community information line. Imperial operates a 121,000 b/d refinery and a chemical plant at the Sarnia site.
Reuters, 10:10 February 27, 2017
Reuters, 14:57 February 27, 2017

Natural Gas

Man Killed after Shooting at Spectra's 1.1 Bcf/d Sabal Trail Natural Gas Pipeline Project in Florida February 26

A man was shot and killed on Sunday during a pursuit that began at a construction site of Spectra Energy's Sabal Trail natural gas transmission pipeline project in Marion County, Florida. Local law enforcement officials were dispatched at about 9:00 a.m. EST to reports of a man shooting at the pipeline and construction equipment using a high-powered rifle. The suspect was killed after brandishing a firearm while attempting to evade local law enforcement officials. Construction of the Sabal Trail pipeline has caused protests by those who believe the project is a threat to the environment. Last week, two protesters were arrested in Marion County after crawling into the pipeline. The 515-mile Sabal Trail pipeline project, a joint venture between Spectra Energy, Florida Power and Light, and Duke Energy of Florida, will have the capacity to ship 1.1 Bcf/d of natural gas through Alabama, Georgia, and Florida from a connection in Alabama to Williams Co.'s 10,500-mile, 8.4 Bcf/d Transco pipeline system. Sabal Trail is expected to be in service by summer 2017.
<http://www.villages-news.com/suspect-shot-killed-pursuit-incident-embattled-sabal-pipeline-marion-county/>
<http://www.sabaltrailtransmission.com/faq>
http://co.williams.com/gulf_coast/transco/

Update: Repairs to Hilcorp's Leaking Subsea Natural Gas Pipeline in Alaska Not Expected Until Mid-March

In a letter to state regulators dated Monday, February 20, Hilcorp Alaska said it did not anticipate deploying repair divers to fix a subsea natural gas pipeline leak in the Cook Inlet until at least mid-March due to sea ice and other adverse conditions impacting diver safety. The leak was first discovered on Tuesday, February 7, and is located in the Middle Ground Shoal oil and gas production field about 3.5 miles offshore, northwest of Kenai. Hilcorp gradually reduced pressure in the line in three phases to 165 pounds per square inch (psi) by Sunday, February 19, from 195 psi previously, reducing the leak rate to an estimated 210 – 310 Mcf/d. The company has said the impacted 8-inch fuel gas line must remain pressurized to prevent water infiltration, which could then freeze and rupture the line, potentially releasing residual crude oil trapped in the line from its previous use as an offshore crude oil production gathering line. In addition, the line provides fuel gas to four Hilcorp-operated production platforms for heat and power generation. Hilcorp was able to reduce the flow of fuel gas by halting water flooding operations on Platforms A and C and shut the power generator on Platform A. In a press release on Friday, February 24, Hilcorp indicated environmental consultants as well as calculations by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have concluded the leak poses a low risk to humans and the environment. Hilcorp is working closely with multiple state and federal agencies, and continues to assess alternatives to mitigate the risk to the environment, monitoring all pressures and flows in the line to ensure the leak remains stable. Divers have been briefed and are prepared to deploy as soon as conditions allow.

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/arc-wordpress-client-uploads/adn/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/24082013/2017-02-20-HA-Wilkins-Ltr-to-DEC-Merrell-re-Response-to-DEC-02-10-2017-L....pdf>

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/response/sum_fy17/170215201/170215201_index.htm

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/response/sum_fy17/170215201/17239903801_Hilcorp_Natural_Gas_Leak_From_8-inch_Pipeline_SITREP2.pdf

<https://www.adn.com/business-economy/energy/2017/02/24/hilcorp-repairs-to-leaking-gas-line-in-cook-inlet-not-expected-until-at-least-mid-march/>

Other News

OCC Issues New Directive to Curb Earthquakes in Oklahoma February 24

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) on Friday issued a wider directive limiting future increases in wastewater disposal underground in an effort to address a series of earthquakes that have occurred amid the shale boom. The directive will cover 654 wastewater disposal wells in the Arbuckle formation, the vast majority of which have already had volume restrictions, the OCC said on Friday. There are 71 wells included that were not under prior directives, OCC's spokesman said. Oklahoma has experienced a sharp rise in earthquakes in the past few years due to injection of saltwater, a normal byproduct of oil and gas drilling activities, into deep disposal wells. Directives issued by the state to curb wastewater disposal have yielded positive results, the OCC said on Friday. So far this year, Oklahoma has experienced an average of 1.38 earthquakes per day of magnitude 2.7 or higher, compared with 3.61 per day in 2016 and 5.39 per day in 2015. Operators have 30 days to make adjustments to comply with the new guidelines.

<http://www.occeweb.com/News/2017/02-24-17EARTHQUAKE%20ACTION%20SUMMARY.pdf>

Reuters, 16:39 February 24, 2017

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 27, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	53.99	53.97	31.55
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.48	2.12	1.77

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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