



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, March 03, 2010

Electricity

Update: NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuke Unit in Nebraska at Full Power by March 3

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 2 the unit was operating at 84 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

PacifiCorp Shuts 335 MW Coal-fired Wyodak Power Plant in Wyoming by March 1

PacifiCorp shut the facility as a precaution after a scrubber malfunction, a spokesman said. The company expected to inspect the site's other two scrubbers.

<http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=12066255>

Update: NEVCO's Sevier Power 270 Gas-fired Power Plant in Utah, Instead of Previously-Planned Coal-fired Facility

NEVCO LLC's Sevier Power may construct a 270 MW gas-fired power plant in Sevier County, Utah, instead of a previously-planned coal-fired facility, according to a company official. "There is a lot of opposition to coal and lot more acceptance of natural gas," he said. The company expects to decide within the next month.

http://www.sltrib.com/business/ci_14500355

Petroleum

Fire Kills Two Workers at Holly Corp's 100,000 b/d Navajo Refinery in Artesia, New Mexico March 2

The fire occurred in an under-construction asphalt tank, Holly Corporation said in a release. The incident did not impact production.

http://www.hollycorp.com/press_release.cfm?id=336

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-03/navajo-oil-refinery-tank-fire-kills-two-workers-update2-.html>

Exxon Mobil Restarts SRU at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery by March 3

Exxon Mobil restarted a sulfur conversion unit (SRU) after a brief shutdown, a company spokesman said on March 3. The incident did not have any impact to production, he said.

Reuters, 11:53 March 3, 2010

Update: Citgo to Restart Crude Unit as Early as March 5 at 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery

Citgo reduced rates at its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois refinery after unspecified problems forced shut the crude unit late last week, trade sources said previously.

Reuters, 09:46 March 2, 2010

Shell Plans Work, Flaring at Scotford Oil Sands Upgrader in Alberta, Canada March 3-4

The company expected to perform maintenance for 24 hours, it said in an early-morning March 3 message. It was not clear if the incident would impact production, or operations at the adjacent, 100,000 b/d refinery.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-03/shell-performs-work-on-scotford-upgrader-in-alberta-update1-.html>

Mexico's Pemex Expects Cantarell Oilfield to Yield Average 463,000 b/d in 2010

The field produced 536,617 b/d in January 2010, the nation's Energy Ministry reported.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-02-25/pemex-production-fell-at-slowest-rate-in-25-months-update1-.html>

Reuters, 12:02 March 3, 2010

Update: Workers' Strike Ends at PdVSA's 320,000 b/d Isla, Curacao Refinery March 3—Restart Remains Unclear amid Political Concerns

The facility shut due to a power cut on March 1, and workers launched an indefinite strike shortly thereafter, news sources and a union leader said. The strike ended on March 3, but the refinery remained offline. Venezuela is considering abandoning the refinery, amid political concerns, PdVSA's President said on March 1.

Reuters, 12:06 March 2, 2010

Reuters, 12:07 March 3, 2010

DJN, 09:59 March 3, 2010

Somali Pirates Hijack Empty Saudi Oil Tanker and Crew in Gulf of Aden March 1

The pirates captured the 5,136 deadweight-ton "MT Al Nisr Al Saudi" oil tanker and its 14-member crew, a Kenyan official said. The ship was en route from Japan to Saudi Arabia, but was not carrying any crude, sources said.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21399

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8547140.stm>

Natural Gas

Statoil to Produce At Least 200,000 boe/d of Natural Gas in Marcellus Shale, U.S. Northeast after 2020

The company expects to produce at least 50,000 boe/d in 2012, and at least 200,000 boe/d after 2020, it said in a release.

<http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2010/Pages/02MarUSGas.aspx>

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21392

Other News

Train Car Leaks 30,000 Gallons of Ethanol in Iowa by March 2

A Union Pacific tanker car leaked about 30,000 gallons of ethanol after a protective cap fell off, officials and news sources said. Responders were cleaning the area, as of latest reports. The incident forced shut the affected rail line.

<http://www.amestrib.com/articles/2010/03/02/boone/news/doc4b8d2d52d9809539868736.txt>

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20100302/NEWS01/703029847>

Valero, API Plan 22 MMGal/Yr. Cellulosic Ethanol Pilot Plant in Georgia

The facility is designed to convert wood biomass into 22 MMGal/Yr. of cellulosic ethanol, a news source said. American Process Inc. (API) expects to produce the fuel at a cost of about \$1/gallon.

http://www.biofuels-news.com/industry_news.php?item_id=1820

Didion Ethanol Plans 10 MMGal/Yr. Expansion at Existing 40 MMGal/Yr. Courtland, Wisconsin Ethanol Plant

The Columbia County Board's planning and zoning committee unanimously approved the plans on March 2, a news source said. The company could break ground this summer; the work would take about one year.

<http://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/business/471605>

GreenField Plans 6.6 MMGal/Yr. Expansion at Existing 31.7 MMGal/Yr. Verennes Ethanol Plant in Quebec, Canada

The project would raise the site's capacity to 38.3 MMGal/Yr., according to a news source.

http://www.biofuels-news.com/industry_news.php?item_id=1828

Update: EPA to wait until 2013 to Roll out Regulations on Sources Emitting 50,000-75,000 Tons/Year of Greenhouse Gasses

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to focus on sources emitting more than 75,000 tons/year of greenhouse gasses, beginning in 2011, but does not expect to target sources releasing between 50,000-75,000 tons/year until at least 2013, the EPA's Administrator said on March 3.

Bloomberg News, 13:53 March 3, 2010

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices March 3, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	80.67	79.40	40.40
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.78	4.91	4.36

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Power Surge Knocks Out Electricity Briefly to nearly 10,000 Cowlitz PUD Customers in Washington March 2

http://www.tdn.com/news/local/article_4cb840d2-2654-11df-a6b1-001cc4c03286.html

Update: Entergy Continues Search for Source of Radioactive Tritium Leak at 563 Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vermont

<http://www.timesargus.com/article/20100302/NEWS/100309993>

Update: NRC Downgrades Safety Significance of June 2009 Valve Failure at Exelon's 2,452 MW Braidwood Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois

<http://www.morrisdailyherald.com/articles/2010/03/01/73139330/index.xml>

Federal Court Orders DOE to Pay Energy Northwest Nearly \$57 Million, Citing Delays in Yucca Mountain Nuclear Storage Project—Company Operates 1,107 MW Columbia Nuclear Power Plant in Washington

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/03/02/1092364/court-awards-energy-northwest.html>

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2010100302009>

Town Officials Seek Meeting with JCP&L to Discuss Weekend Explosion, Manhole Blowouts in New Jersey

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100302/COMMUNITIES/303020002/1005/news01/Morristown-officials-want-to-know-why-explosions-keep-blowing-manhole-covers-into-air>

ExxonMobil Reports No Operation Issues after Odor Complaints at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery March 2-3

Bloomberg News, 10:29 March 3, 2010

Alon Reports SRU Flaring at 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery by March 3

Bloomberg News, 13:58 March 3, 2010

Update: Citing Refinery Problems, Chilean-Owned ENAP Declares Force Majeure on Petroecuador Crude Delivery

Reuters, 12:40 March 3, 2010

Update: Mexico Reopens 274,000 b/d Coatzacoalcas Oil Port in Gulf of Mexico—1,006,000 b/d Cayo Arcas and 113,000 b/d Dos Bocas Ports Still Down on Harsh Weather March 3

Reuters, 11:15 March 3, 2010

Plan of National Iranian Oil Company is to Discover as Much as 500 Million Barrels of New Oil Reserves per Year from 2010-2015

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=88659

Maple Carpenter Creek Could Open New Montana Coal Mine by 2014—Company-Controlled Leases Contain 380 Million Tons of Coal Reserves

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9E6JEJ80.htm>

SRI International Receives \$4.5 Million DOE Project to Evaluate Viability of CO2 Capture Using Ammonium Carbonate-Ammonium Bicarbonate Process at Gasification Plants by March 3

<http://www.sri.com/news/releases/030310.html>

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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