



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, March 03, 2016

Electricity

Update: DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Ramps Up to 75 Percent by March 3

On the morning of March 2 the unit was operating at 59 percent, reduced from full power on February 27.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: Entergy's 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 in Arkansas Restarts, Ramps Up to 20 Percent by March 3

The unit shut from full power on February 24.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: RRI Energy's 741 MW Ormond Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by March 2

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on March 1.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201603021515.html>

PG&E's 641 MW Colusa Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by March 2

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201603021515.html>

NRC Investigates Two Incidents at FirstEnergy's 1,260 MW Perry Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio February 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported on February 29 that it began conducting a special investigation at FirstEnergy's Perry nuclear power plant in Ohio after two separate incidences in February caused a manual shut down of the reactor due to an increase in temperature in the suppression pool, and caused a temporary loss of power to certain plant cooling equipment.

http://nuclearstreet.com/nuclear_power_industry_news/b/nuclear_power_news/archive/2016/03/01/nrc-investigates-two-hiccups-at-perry-npp-030102

Update: Entergy Reports Bird Excrement Likely Caused December 2015 Shutdown at Its 2,069 MW Indian Point Nuclear Plant in New York

Entergy Corp reported that the likely cause of the December 14, 2015 shutdown at its Indian Point nuclear plant was bird excrement that caused an electric arc between wires on a feeder line at a transmission tower. The plant safely shut down for three days following an electrical disturbance on outdoor high voltage transmission lines. Entergy told the Nuclear Regulatory Commission it was revising preventive maintenance for additional inspection and cleaning as well as installing bird guards on transmission towers.

Reuters, 13:46 March 3, 2016

Update: NTSB Report Finds Defective Rail Caused 2014 Oil Train Derailment in Lynchburg, Virginia

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on Wednesday issued a report that concluded the April 30, 2014 derailment of a CSX Transportation train carrying highly volatile crude oil in downtown Lynchburg was caused by a defective rail. The investigators added that the accident would not have occurred if CSX had time to implement recommendations identified through a rail failure working group, which were accepted two weeks before the accident. The NTSB said the defective rail had been discovered the day before the derailment and was scheduled for repair the day after the accident. Three of the derailed tanker cars in Lynchburg tumbled down an embankment into the James River; one ruptured, spilling almost 30,000 gallons of crude oil that either burned in a fiery plume or went into the river.

<http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/RAB1601.aspx>

http://www.newsadvance.com/work_it_lynchburg/news/report-lynchburg-oil-train-derailment-could-have-been-prevented/article_b81c3cfa-e095-11e5-8d3a-4323733baf51.html

Phillips 66 Reports Process Unit Upset at Its 336,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery March 3

Phillips 66 reported a process unit was stabilized after an upset at its Wood River, Illinois refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 4:06 March 3, 2016

Valero Reports Excess Opacity at Its 86,000 b/d Ardmore, Oklahoma Refinery February 24

Valero Energy Corp reported excess opacity at its Ardmore, Oklahoma refinery on February 24, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 12:29 March 3, 2016

CVR Reports Startup, Emissions at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery February 25, 26, March 1

CVR Energy Inc reported an unspecified startup on March 1, and excess hydrogen sulfide to the hydrocracker flare on February 25 at its Wynnewood, Oklahoma refinery, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The company also reported a malfunction and excess hydrogen sulfide to the north flare on February 26.

Reuters, 12:34 March 3, 2016

Tesoro Reports Unit Startup at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery March 2

Tesoro Corp reported an unspecified unit startup at its Martinez, California refinery on March 2, according to a filing with Contra Costa County Health Services.

Reuters, 10:53 March 3, 2016

DEP Reports Underground Tank Leaks 10,000 Gallons of Gas into Soil in North Dakota March 2

The North Dakota Department of Health announced March 1 that 10,000 gallons of premium gasoline leaked from an underground storage tank at a Bakken Oil Patch gas station along U.S. Highway 85 after gasoline was put into a Patriot Fuels LLC tank February 25. Officials are monitoring the site and requested that the company investigate the extent of the leak.

<http://www.wday.com/news/3960232-underground-tank-leaks-10000-gallons-gas-soil>

U.S. Crude Stocks Rise to New Record of Nearly 518 Million Barrels – EIA

U.S. crude inventories rose by nearly 10.4 million barrels in the last week to 517.9 million barrels, almost three times more than the 3.6 million-barrel increase expected by analysts. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 1.2 million barrels, hitting another all-time high, EIA said.

Reuters, 10:38 March 2, 2016

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Syria's Power Grid Gradually Returns after Going Offline for Unknown Reasons March 3 – State Media

Syria's electricity supply was gradually returning after it was cut across the country on Thursday, state media said. SANA news agency quoted the electricity minister saying that the network was returning and would be restored to its earlier capacity by midnight. It did not say what caused the cut. Blackouts have been frequent in the course of the five-year conflict, but it is rare for the whole country to be affected at one time. Previous power failures were blamed on rebel attacks targeting the electricity network.

Reuters, 9:05 March 3, 2016

<http://www.dw.com/en/syria-state-tv-power-failure-blankets-nation/a-19089592>

Nigeria to Break State Oil Company into 30 Units in Coming Weeks – Managing Director

Nigeria will break up its state-owned oil company into 30 independent companies within weeks in a bid to reform the unprofitable entity, the managing director said. Each company will have its own managing director and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp. (NNPC) should become profitable by the end of the year. The NNPC lost \$1.34 billion last year after being dragged down by its refining business and a drop in oil prices in the past 12 months. Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari has made it a priority to restructure the NNPC and rid it of the corruption that multiple probes have said is rampant.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-03-03/nigeria-to-separate-state-oil-company-into-30-units-in-weeks>

Update: Iraq-Turkey's Kirkuk-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline to Restart within Days – Genel CEO

An oil pipeline linking northern Iraq to Turkey which has been out of service since February 17 is expected to resume operations within a couple of days, the chief executive of Genel, one of the main oil producers in Iraqi Kurdistan, said. The Turkish government was reinforcing security measures on the pipeline and these changes should limit downtime of the pipeline over the course of this year, he said on Thursday.

Reuters, 5:16 March 3, 2016

Turkish Power Vessel to Supply 100 MW of Electricity to Zambia

Turkey's Karadeniz will in the next two weeks begin supplying Zambia with electricity from a power-generating ship as it looks to take advantage of chronic shortages in Africa, the company said on Wednesday. Karadeniz builds fuel oil- and gas-fired, floating power stations, which plug into and energize electricity grids after berthing. One of the firm's vessels docked this week at Mozambique's Nacala port, from where it will supply 100 MW of electricity for the next two years, power that will then be exported through the grid to neighboring Zambia. This is the second power ship Karadeniz has deployed to Africa after a 225 MW unit arrived in Ghana last year.

Reuters, 9:50 March 2, 2016

Russian Oil Producers Agree to Freeze Output in 2016 at 10.88 Million b/d – President

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday that domestic oil producers have agreed to keep this year's oil output in line with January levels of 10.88 million b/d. After months of falling world oil prices, a preliminary agreement was reached in Doha, Qatar in mid-February for Russia and several other major crude producers to freeze production, but until now Putin had not said publicly released his stance on the agreement.

Reuters, 9:23 March 2, 2016

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 3, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	34.51	31.30	50.38
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.59	1.79	2.84

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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