



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, March 04, 2010

## ***Electricity***

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### **Exelon's 802 MW Three Mile Island Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Shut March 4**

Operators shut the unit to fix small leaks on two reactor coolant pumps, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 3 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmt-pmnews-tmi-3-3-2010.0.5883025.story>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **SCE Postpones Restart of 1,070 MW San Onofre Nuke Unit 2 in California**

Southern California Edison (SCE) shut the unit for refueling and other work in late September, but expected to restart it by late December, a news source said. The source did not say why the unit had failed to restart for so long, but did say that operators delayed the restart last week after issues during testing, according to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0225637020100302?type=marketsNews>

### **Aging Workers at Issue as Nuclear Power Sector Faces Labor Shortfall**

Companies have proposed, or are considering, some 18 commercial nuclear power projects, and the prospect of a labor shortfall—driven by an aging workforce—could pose problems for those plans, according to a news source. To maintain its current workforce, the U.S. nuclear power industry could need to hire up to 25,000 more workers over the next five years, the Nuclear Energy Institute said.

<http://www.dailyfinance.com/story/nuclear-power-industry-faces-critical-labor-shortage/19374206/>

### **Update: Tenaska Aims to Start 730 MW Coal-fired Taylorville Energy Center in Illinois by 2014**

The facility would employ Integrated Gasification Combined-Cycle (IGCC) technology and a Carbon Capture and Storage System (CCS), according to a project website. Tenaska aims to begin construction this year, and open the plant by 2014, a news source said.

<http://www.sj-r.com/breaking/x776893962/Tenaska-projects-construction-start-this-year>

<http://www.cleancoalillinois.com/tec.html>

### **Update: BP to Break Ground on Multiple U.S. Wind Farms in 2010 and 2011**

BP plans to begin construction at the end of the first quarter, 2010, on its planned 124.5 MW Goshen North wind farm in Idaho, according to a news source. The company expects to open the facility later in the year, according to a news source. Separately, BP plans to break ground in 2011 on its planned 200 MW Golden Hills I wind farm in Oregon, and its 250 MW Cedar Creek II wind facility in Colorado.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=a.YxazQFCR1k>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **BP Reports Coker Unit Upset at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery by March 4**

The company was returning the unit to normal operations, as of March 4, it said in a filing with state regulators. Reuters, 11:24 March 4, 2010

### **Grizzly Oil Sands Plans 11,300 b/d Oil Sands Project at Algar Lake, Alberta**

The company plans to open the site in two, 5,000 b/d phases, and operate it at an average 10,000 b/d capacity over 30 years, according to a news release. It expects to receive approvals within 12 to 18 months, and begin production 18 months after that.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/preview/phoenix.zhtml?c=82681&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1398819>

### **Pemex Discoveries Account for 74.9 Percent of Mexico's O&G Production in 2009**

Mexico's Pemex found enough proven oil and gas reserves in 2009 to replace 74.9 percent of its output, up from 72 percent in 2008, the state-run company said on March 3.

Reuters, 16:03 March 3, 2010

### **Iraq Boosts Oil Production to Postwar Best of More than 2.62 Million b/d in February 2010—Energy Intelligence Briefing**

The increase came amid calmer weather and fewer pipeline attacks, Energy Intelligence Briefing said.

<http://www.energyintel.com/#latest>

### **Terrorists Seek to Attack Oil Tankers along Malacca Strait—Singapore Navy**

The Singapore navy has "received indication" that a terror group with possible links to al-Qaeda is looking to attack oil tankers along the Malacca Strait, it said in an advisory. The Malacca Strait stretches 600 miles, from Malaysia to Sumatra. More than 90,000 vessels traverse it per year—about 15 million b/d moved through it in 2006. Should it shut down, almost half of the world's vessels would need to find alternate paths, according to the Energy Information Administration.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-04/terror-group-plans-attack-on-oil-tankers-shipping-group-says.html>

### **Toyota Tsusho Corp. Plans 450,000 b/d, 870-mile South Sudan-to-Kenya Oil Pipeline**

The line would connect South Sudanese oil producers to the Lamu port along Kenya's Indian Ocean coast, news sources said. Toyota Tsusho Corp. would operate the line for 20 years, and then cede control to the South Sudanese and Kenyan governments.

[http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/Resource-Wars/2010/03/04/Toyota-proposes-Sudanese-oil-pipeline/UPI-41221267713191/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2010/03/04/Toyota-proposes-Sudanese-oil-pipeline/UPI-41221267713191/)

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-03/toyota-proposes-1-5-billion-southern-sudan-pipeline-update1-.html>

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Williams Launches Open Season for Planned 420,000 Dth/d Expansion along Transco Natural Gas Pipeline in U.S. Northeast March 4**

A unit of Williams Partners L.P. launched a binding open season for the "Northeast Supply Link" expansion project along its Transco natural gas pipeline system in the U.S. Northeast, it said in a release. The link would deliver 420,000 Dth/d of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania to customers in New York and New Jersey. Pending approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Williams expects to open the project's first, 120,000 Dth/d phase in 2012, and its second phase in November 2013.

<http://www.williamspl.com/profiles/investor/ResLibraryView.asp?ResLibraryID=36599&GoTopage=1&Category=1800&BzID=1296>

### **Repsol's Canaport, New Brunswick LNG Terminal May Double Natural Gas Exports to U.S. New England Region in Winter 2010-2011**

Repsol YPF SA may deliver an average 800 MMcf/d of natural gas, via pipeline, to the U.S. Northeast next winter, up from 400 MMcf/d this winter, a company official said. The plans come as suppliers struggle to keep pace with increasing customer demand along a limited regional pipeline system.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-03-04/canaport-plans-to-double-winter-lng-shipments-to-new-england.html>

## Other News

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### DOE Files Motion to Withdraw Yucca Mountain, Nevada License Application March 3

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) filed a motion with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to withdraw the license application for a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain with prejudice, it said in a release. <http://www.energy.gov/news/8707.htm>

### Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future to Hold First Meeting March 25-March 26

On Thursday, March 25th and Friday, March 26th, the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, co-chaired by former Congressman Lee Hamilton and former National Security Advisor General Brent Scowcroft, will hold its first meeting in Washington, D.C, the Department of Energy (DOE) said in a release. At the direction of President Obama, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu established the Blue Ribbon Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of policies for managing the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle and to provide recommendations for developing a safe, long-term solution to managing the Nation's used nuclear fuel and nuclear waste. <http://www.energy.gov/news/8702.htm>

### After Two-Week Shutdown, Patriot Coal Reopens Federal No. 2 Mine in West Virginia by March 3

Patriot Coal Corp. shut the mine on February 18 after "the detection of explosion levels of methane and oxygen," a news source said. The company implemented its "enhanced ventilation plan... following approval from the U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety & Health Administration," it said in a release. <http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2010/03/01/daily51.html>  
<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=216060&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1398578&highlight=>

### Update: Range Fuels Receives \$80 Million USDA Loan Note Guarantee for Planned 20 MMGal/Yr. Cellulosic Ethanol Plant in Soperton, Georgia

The company expects to begin production in the second quarter of 2010, at a rate of less than 10 MMGal/Yr., according to its website and news releases. The site is permitted to produce 100 MMGal/Yr. of ethanol, but is expected to generate far less product—about 20 MMGal/Yr.—at full operation. The plant will initially use wood from nearby timber operations, and eventually process leftover wood residue. <http://www.rangefuels.com/range-fuels-closes-on-80-million-loan-guaranteed-by-u.s.-department-of-agriculture.html>  
<http://www.rangefuels.com/our-first-commercial-plant.html>  
[http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/lut/p/s.7\\_0\\_A/7\\_0\\_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2010/03/0095.xml](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/lut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2010/03/0095.xml)

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 4, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b>			
\$/Barrel	80.25	77.45	43.91
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b>			
\$/Million Btu	4.76	4.91	4.43

Source: Reuters

**OwnEnergy, Horn Wind Complete 51 MW Windthorst-1 Wind Power Project in Texas by March 4**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ownenergy-and-horn-wind-complete-development-of-windthorst-1-wind-farm-86329987.html>

**ACC Okays APS' Sun Program for Arizona March 3—APS Plans to Invest in 100 MW of Turn-Key Photovoltaic Power Plants across State**

[http://www.aps.com/main/news/releases/release\\_582.html](http://www.aps.com/main/news/releases/release_582.html)

**Update: NRC Gives SCE Six Months to Ease Workers' Fears in Reporting Safety Concerns at 2,254 MW San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant in California**

[http://www.mercurynews.com/news/cj\\_14504311?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/cj_14504311?nclink_check=1)

**S4 Energy Solutions LLC Plans Plasma Gasification Facility at Waste Management's Columbia Ridge Landfill in Oregon**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/s4-energy-solutions-announces-plasma-gasification-project-86259507.html>

**Valero Reports Gas Oil Hydrotreater Unit Malfunction at 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 3**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=136563>

**Update: TransCanada to Survey Montana Oil Producers for Interest in On-Ramp along Planned 435,000 b/d, 30-inch, 1,300-mile, Alberta-to-Illinois Keystone Oil Pipeline**

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/article\\_4aa7057a-049f-11df-95fc-001cc4c03286.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/article_4aa7057a-049f-11df-95fc-001cc4c03286.html)

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/TransCanada+shrugs+delay/2605424/story.html>

<http://www.kulr8.com/news/local/86290922.html>

**Gasoline Truck Overturns in North Carolina, Shutting Highway Segment February 28—Tanker Was Carrying 9,000 Gallons, at Time of Incident**

[http://www.montgomeryherald.com/articles/2010/03/03/news/top\\_stories/doc4b8e4302848ea452224941.txt](http://www.montgomeryherald.com/articles/2010/03/03/news/top_stories/doc4b8e4302848ea452224941.txt)

**Update: PdVSA's 320,000 b/d Isla, Curacao Refinery Could Remain Offline for Weeks due to Compressor Problems—Facility, Supplier Sources**

Reuters, 08:57 March 4, 2010

**Militant Group Attacks Non-Producing, Shell-Owned Oil Flow Station in Niger Delta, Nigeria March 2**

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gHJyop68FyJkZy4mhXIgmHhzZRvwD9E762RO1>

**Militant Group Claims Attack on Eni-Owned Oil Pipeline in Nigeria by March 4**

Bloomberg News, 14:20 March 4, 2010

**Update: After Weekend Earthquake, Chile's 116,000 b/d Bio Bio Oil Refinery Could Remain Offline for One Month—AES Corp Expects Electric Power Units to Restart within 10 Days**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6224Z820100303>

[http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100303-708285.html?mod=WSJ\\_World\\_MIDDLEHeadlinesAmericas](http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100303-708285.html?mod=WSJ_World_MIDDLEHeadlinesAmericas)

**Compressor Trips Multiple Times at Waha Gas Plant in Texas March 4**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=136568>

## Links

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***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](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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