



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 04, 2014

Electricity

Update: Nearly 23,000 Customers Remain Without Power March 4 in Texas, Mid-South After Winter Storm March 2-3

Severe winter weather moved across Texas and the Mid-South on Sunday and into Monday, bringing snow and ice that caused trees to fall on power lines, knocking out power to more than 135,000 customers across the area. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Tuesday, utilities in impacted states reported 22,991 customers remained without power. Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLGW), the hardest hit utility, said that it would take several days to get power fully restored. Entergy Arkansas said the majority of customers in Poinsett would be restored by late today and others in the hardest-hit areas by late Wednesday. AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) said it expected the Texarkana area to be restored by 7:00 p.m. CST tonight and the Longview area is noon CST on Wednesday.

Texas and Mid-South Customer Power Outages			
March 4, 2014			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Entergy Arkansas	AR	27,604	6,054
Entergy Mississippi	MS	13,000	815
Memphis Light, Gas and Water	TN	55,000	10,570
Nashville Electric Service	TN	4,755	316
Knoxville Utility Board	TN	3,237	2
Cumberland Electric Member Corp	TN	2,861	37
AEP SWEPCO	TX	16,415	4,614
Oncor	TX	13,000	583
TOTAL*		135,872	22,991

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

Sources:

- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ar.aspx>
- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ms.aspx>
- <http://azimuth.mlgw.org/OutageSummary.php>
- <http://www.nespower.com/OutageMap/default.aspx>
- https://www.kub.org/wps/portal/Customers/Home/SafetyAndOutages/OutageMap!/ut/p/b1/04_Sj9S1NDM1Mzc3s9SP0I_KSyzLTE8syczPS8wB8aPM4i2NXA08jL0NPP19QiwMPL0MTHwMPFyMDNzN9XOjHBUBOk7CHg!!/
- <http://cemc.org/outagemap.asp>
- <http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=swepeco>
- <http://stormcenter.oncor.com/default.html>
- http://www.mlgw.com/news/news_cresrespondtowinterweather2014
- <https://twitter.com/SWEPCoNews>
- <https://twitter.com/EntergyMS>
- <https://twitter.com/EntergyArk>
- <http://www.tylerpaper.com/TP-Breaking+Silent/195698/8000-smith-county-oncor-customers-still-without-power#.UxT0qONdVlw>
- <http://www.ketknbc.com/news/ice-storm-leaves-thousands-of-east-texans-without>

Ice, Freezing Rain Knock Out Power to Over 51,000 CenterPoint Energy and Entergy Texas Customers in Texas March 4

A wintry mix that included freezing rain and ice hit the Houston area this morning, leaving over 39,000 CenterPoint Energy customers without power. As of 3:30 p.m. EST, CenterPoint reported 5,519 customers remained without power. Entergy Texas said nearly half an inch of ice had accumulated in the Houston area leaving 12,055 customers without power today as of 3:30 p.m. EST.

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Ice-freezing-rain-and-sleet-grip-Houston-5286932.php?cmpid=bn>

<http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/index.html>

<https://twitter.com/CNPalerts>

<https://twitter.com/EntergyTX>

Update: ERCOT Breaks March Demand Record March 3, Grid Conditions Improve as Temperatures Increase

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) said peak demand Monday morning reached 54,549 MW, exceeding ERCOT's previous March peak demand record, set in 2002, by more than 11,500 MW at a time many generators were beginning their spring maintenance outages. Hourly demand figures remained above the previous record the entire day. However, electric use over the peak periods was lower than what could be expected during temperatures like those seen in most of the ERCOT region this week, and it remained low enough to prevent an energy emergency on the ERCOT grid. Peak demand this morning was about 4,000 MW lower than Monday as temperatures began to climb in some parts of Texas.

http://www.ercot.com/news/press_releases/show/26604

MISO Asks Operators to Stop Unnecessary Transmission and Generation Maintenance to Avoid Power Shortages March 4, Request Lifted Hours Later

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), at 6:15 a.m. EST this morning, asked utilities to stop unnecessary transmission and generation maintenance to avoid power shortages because frigid temperatures were driving up demand and some plants were already shut for forced outages. The request was initially effective through 1:00 p.m. EST. However, by 10:00 a.m. EST today, MISO had terminated the request and said all suspended transmission, generation, and computer maintenance in the affected area could resume. Previously scheduled transmission and generation outages was also allowed to proceed as planned

<https://www.misoenergy.org/MarketsOperations/Notifications/Pages/ConservativeOperationsTermination20140304094400.aspx>

<https://www.misoenergy.org/MarketsOperations/Notifications/Pages/ConservativeOperationsInitiate20140304061702.aspx>

Constellation's 1,120 MW Nine Mile Point Nuclear Unit 2 in New York Shut March 4

Constellation's Nine Mile Point unit experienced a hot shutdown from full power due to a loss of uninterruptible power supply.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140304en.html>

PPL's 1,105 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Shut Due to Inoperable Secondary Containment March 4

PPL's Susquehanna plant experienced a cold shutdown when secondary containment drawdown testing surveillance failed to meet acceptance criteria due to maximum flow rate exceeding the allowable value. Secondary containment drawdown testing was being performed on reactor building zone 1 and zone 3 with zone 2 HVAC shutdown.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140304en.html>

Entergy's 730 MW Palisades Nuclear Power Plant in Michigan Has Piece of Metal Lodged in Reactor, Does Not Pose Risk

Workers discovered a piece of metal from a broken impeller blade lodged in the reactor vessel during the plant's scheduled refueling and maintenance shutdown, which began January 19. The metal is 5-inches by 12-inches long and wedged into the reactor vessel between the vessel wall and the flow skirt, inside the vessel, an Entergy spokesperson said. Efforts to remove the metal have proved unsuccessful. At this point, Entergy plans to leave it in place, saying it does not pose a safety risk. The spokesperson did not have any information about when the metal piece might have broken off the impeller, which has been replaced. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is aware of the issue and its on-site inspectors are monitoring the situation, an NRC spokesperson said.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/03/piece_of_metal_reactor_lodged.html

Update: Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois at Full Power by March 4

On the morning of March 3 the unit was operating at 56 percent, up from 22 percent by March 2. The unit was restarted by February 28 after shutting by February 10.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: La Paloma Generating Company's 260 MW La Paloma Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by March 3

The unit returned from a planned outage that began by March 2.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201403031515.html>

Dynergy's 325 MW Unit 3 and 325 MW Unit 4 Shut at Morro Bay Power Gas-fired Plant in California by March 3

The units entered unplanned outages.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201403031515.html>

North Carolina Regulators Cite Five Additional Duke Power Plants for Storm Water Violations After Dan River Coal Ash Spill

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources announced Monday that five additional Duke power plants were issued formal notices of violation for lacking required storm water permits after a massive spill on February 2 at the company's Dan River Steam Station that coated 70 miles of the Dan River in coal ash. The permits are required to legally discharge rainwater draining from its plants into public waterways. The five new violations are against Belews Creek Steam Station, Cliffside Steam Station, Lee Steam Electric Plant, Roxboro Steam Electric Power Plant, and Sutton Steam Electric Plant. Two other violations were issued Friday against the Dan River Steam Station, the site of the spill. Duke has 30 days to respond to the state.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/mar/03/north-carolina-cites-power-plants-icoal-ash-spill>

http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=2d86ccbf-d447-45fb-98a8-55bc55513c69&groupId=14

Selkirk Cogen Partners, LP's 345 MW Selkirk Power Plant in New York May Close by September 1

The Selkirk Cogen plant could potentially shut down in the fall if its owners cannot negotiate a new land lease. The plant recently filed documents with the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) to shut down the gas-fired power plant by September 1. Officials with Selkirk Cogen Partners, LP said the filing is required by the PSC to warn regulators that the plant may have to be shut if a new lease cannot be negotiated. The filing can be rescinded at any time.

<http://www.timesunion.com/business/article/Selkirk-power-plant-may-close-5285859.php>

NRG Solar, Boeing Begin Construction on 25 MW Dandan Solar Facility in Guam February 4

NRG Energy, Inc., through its subsidiary NRG Solar LLC, and the Boeing Company, started construction on Dandan, Guam's first solar power plant. Dandan will generate 25 MW (AC), enough clean energy to offset consumption of almost 2 million barrels of fuel oil and diesel. Energy generated will be sold to the Guam Power Authority, the island's sole electric utility, under two 25-year power purchase agreements that will help Guam achieve its renewable energy goals by 2015.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=121544&p=irol-newsArticleNRG&ID=1905693>

Petroleum

Enbridge to Undertake \$7 Billion Line 3 Replacement Program on Its Canadian and U.S. Mainline System from Alberta to Wisconsin

Enbridge Inc. and Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P. on Monday announced they have received shipper support for a \$7 billion investment in their Canadian and U.S. mainline system running from Edmonton, Alberta to Superior, Wisconsin. The Line 3 Replacement (L3R) Program will complement the existing Line 3 segment replacement program and include all remaining segments of Line 3 between Hardisty, Alberta, and Superior. The L3R Program is targeted to be completed by the second half of 2017. Mainline shippers have agreed to support surcharges on all barrels moving on the mainline to provide an appropriate return on the additional capital required. It will be subject to customary regulatory approvals. Under the L3R Program, all segments of the line between Hardisty and Superior will be replaced with new pipe using the latest available high-strength steel and coating technology. Line 3 is a 1,031 mile, 34-inch diameter pipeline that has been in operation since 1968.

<http://www.enbridge.com/MediaCentre/News.aspx?yearTab=en2014&id=1814235>

Natural Gas

Regency Reports AGC Shut Due to Ice Build-up at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas March 3

Regency reported extremely cold local temperatures caused ice to build up between the injection compressor and wellhead tubing causing the acid gas compressor (AGC) to shut down six times on high-pressure alarms at the injection tubing. Acid gas was routed to the flare and external heat (steam) was applied to the injection line to remove the ice build-up. Several start-ups were made until the injection system was determined to be clear of ice.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=194897>

Regency Reports Main Air Pressure Transmitter Freezes at Its 70 MMcf/d Eustace Gas Plant in Texas March 3

Regency reported the main air pressure transmitter to the sulfur plant (PT3901) froze off, generating a cascade of events which included but were not limited to the following: over pressuring reaction furnace, closing acid gas feed valve to sulfur plant, and shutting down both incinerators. The throughput was curtailed by shutting in local wells until frozen equipment could be addressed and emissions brought back into permit allowable range.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=194896>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 4, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	105.34	101.37	89.73
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	6.70	6.22	3.54

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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