



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, March 10, 2016

## Major Development

### Windstorm Knocks Out Power to Over 258,000 Customers in Northwest March 9–10

Powerful winds knocked out power to at least 258,451 customers in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia Wednesday night and into Thursday. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Thursday, 176,807 customers remained without power. Wind gusts of up to 67 mph were reported, downing trees and power lines. BC Hydro, the hardest hit utility with 135,000 customer outages, said all available crews were working to restore power. Puget Sound Energy (PSE), which reported 56,630 customer outages, said unsafe weather conditions would slow restoration efforts. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by utility. The “Affected” column shows the total count of customers who lost power at one point or another over the course of the storm for each utility. These outages may not have occurred concurrently and are not the same as peak outages.

Northwest Customer Power Outages			
March 9–10, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
Pacific Power	OR	29,000	2,346
Puget Sound Energy	WA	56,630	40,730
Seattle City Light	WA	14,721	10,611
Snohomish PUD	WA	18,000	18,000
Gray’s Harbor PUD	WA	5,100	120
BC Hydro	British Columbia	135,000	105,000
<b>TOTAL*</b>		<b>258,451</b>	<b>176,807</b>

\*Represent peak outages reported by utilities

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

Sources:

<https://www.pacificpower.net/ed/po/ooi.html>

[https://twitter.com/PacificPower\\_OR](https://twitter.com/PacificPower_OR)

<https://twitter.com/PSETalk>

<http://www.seattle.gov/light/sysstat/>

<https://twitter.com/SnoPUD>

<https://www.ghpud.org/index.php/current-outages/305-east-hoquiam-humptulips-quinault-outages>

[https://twitter.com/GHPUD?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/GHPUD?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

<https://www.bchydro.com/power-outages/app/outage-list.html>

<https://twitter.com/bchydro>

<http://www.kiro7.com/news/high-winds-cut-power-to-thousands/154481327>

<http://globalnews.ca/news/2569283/thousands-without-power-on-bcs-south-coast-following-wind-storm/>

[http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2016/03/pacific\\_power\\_1800\\_remain\\_with.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2016/03/pacific_power_1800_remain_with.html)

<http://www.cowichanvalleycitizen.com/news/371658951.html>

**Update: Over 13,000 Customers Remain without Power across South March 10 after Strong Thunderstorms Hit March 8–10**

Powerful thunderstorms pouring heavy rainfall across parts of the South since Tuesday knocked out power to at least 129,092 customers. Oncor, the hardest hit utility with 44,254 customer outages in Texas, restored power to over 31,000 affected customers by Tuesday evening. In Louisiana, flash flood warnings continue as more than 20 inches of rain have fallen in the hardest hit areas. Entergy Louisiana said the flooding had closed roads, preventing access to about 1,000 affected customers in Bienville, Lincoln, Webster parishes. The utility said it would restore power as soon as conditions were safe to do so. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by utility. The “Affected” column shows the total count of customers who lost power at one point or another over the course of the storm for each utility. These outages may not have occurred concurrently and are not the same as peak outages.

<b>South Customer Power Outages</b>			
March 8–10, 2016			
<b>Electric Utility</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Affected</b>	<b>Latest Reported</b>
Entergy Arkansas	AR	8,719	645
SWEPCO	LA/TX	10,738	1,530
Entergy Louisiana	LA	7,768	6,369
Southwest Louisiana Electric Membership Corporation	LA	5,783	1
Central Louisiana Electric Company	LA	1,269	418
Entergy Mississippi	MS	1,689	1,156
MLGW	TN	12,000	506
Oncor	TX	44,254	705
CPS Energy	TX	19,541	110
AEP Texas	TX	7,417	962
Magic Valley Electric Cooperative	TX	2,700	1
Austin Energy	TX	2,600	1
CenterPoint Energy	TX	3,525	763
San Bernard Electric Cooperative	TX	1,089	1
<b>TOTAL *</b>		<b>129,092</b>	<b>13,168</b>

\*Represent peak outages reported by utilities

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

Sources:

- <https://twitter.com/EntergyArk>
- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ar.aspx>
- <https://twitter.com/enteryla>
- <https://www.swepco.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
- <https://www.slemco.com/site.php?pageID=350>
- <http://outage.cleco.com/external/default.html>
- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/la.aspx? ga=1.31733566.1497457220.1456345079>
- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ms.aspx? ga=1.31733566.1497457220.1456345079>
- <http://azimuth.mlgw.org/OutageSummary.php>
- <http://stormcenter.oncor.com/external/default.html>
- <https://twitter.com/oncor>
- [http://outagemap.cpsenergy.com/CPSSStaticMapsEXT/CPSSStaticMapV2\\_EXT.html](http://outagemap.cpsenergy.com/CPSSStaticMapsEXT/CPSSStaticMapV2_EXT.html)
- <https://www.facebook.com/CPSEnergy>
- <https://twitter.com/austinenergy>
- <https://www.aeptexas.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
- <https://twitter.com/SWEPCoNews>
- <https://twitter.com/magicvalleyEC>
- <http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/>
- <https://www.sbec.org/>
- <http://valleycentral.com/news/local/thunderstorms-cut-power-to-6400-customers-in-hidalgo-county-and-starr-county>
- <http://www.accuweather.com/en/us/arkansas/weather-radar>
- <http://wreg.com/2016/03/09/hundreds-in-the-dark-as-heavy-rain-moves-through-the-city/>

## **AES's 175 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Reduced by March 9**

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 110 MW.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201603091515.html>

## **Report Alleges Tritium Leak into Biscayne Bay from FPL's 1,600 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Plant in Florida March 7 – County Mayor**

The Miami-Dade County Mayor released a report March 7 revealing that Florida Power & Light's (FPL) Turkey Point nuclear reactor's cooling canals were allegedly leaking tritium into the Biscayne Bay. In December 2015 and January 2016, water sampling was conducted, revealing tritium levels 215 times higher than normal ocean water levels. FPL is required to work in conjunction with the Miami-Dade Division Environmental Resources Management (DERM) to address and remediate water quality impacts as well as reviewing current operations and alternate design options for the plant's canal system.

<http://www.miamidade.gov/mayor/library/memos-and-reports/2016/03/03.07.16-Report-on-Recent-Biscayne-Bay-Water-Quality-Observations.pdf>

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/environment/article64667452.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Shell Reports Oil Sheen on Patricks Bayou from Its 316,000 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery March 10**

Royal Dutch Shell reported a slight oil sheen on Patricks Bayou from its Deer Park, Texas refinery, according to a community alerting network phone line. There were no additional details at this time.

Reuters, 9:09 March 10, 2016

### **Shell to Boost Hydrocracking Capacity at Its 100,000 b/d Scotford, Alberta Refinery March 10**

Royal Dutch Shell said it took the final investment decision for a debottlenecking project at the Scotford refinery, which is expected to increase its hydrocracking capacity by about 20 percent. The company said completion of the project is expected in 2016.

Reuters, 3:25 March 10, 2016

### **BP to Cut Rig Count by More than Half in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska – Local Media**

BP will reduce its active rig count in Alaska's Prudhoe Bay field from five to two, Alaska Dispatch News reported earlier this week. The company will remove two rotary drilling rigs and a coil drilling rig. The cutback, which will take place over the next few months, will negatively impact production at Prudhoe Bay, a BP spokesperson said.

Prudhoe Bay oil production has averaged 304,830 b/d so far this month, down from 3 percent a year ago

Reuters, 12:03 March 9, 2016

### **Canada's Pipeline Safety Act to Take Effect in June – Natural Resources Minister**

Canada's Natural Resources Minister confirmed this week the government will allow the Pipeline Safety Act, which enshrined a "polluter pay" principle on spill costs, to take effect in June as scheduled. It was passed last year before the election with broad support and could have been enacted earlier if the government chose. Under the Pipeline Safety Act, liability is unlimited in cases of an uncontrolled spill found to be a company's fault. In the event a company responsible is unable to pay, the law instructs the National Energy Board to recoup cleanup costs from other pipeline firms so long as the government of the day approves the move. Liability is capped at \$746 million for large pipelines if a company is found neither to be at fault nor to have acted negligently, and the law authorizes the NEB to order companies to set aside funding for their abandoned pipelines.

[http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/annualstatutes/2015\\_21/page-1.html](http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/annualstatutes/2015_21/page-1.html)

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=51366](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=51366)

### **U.S. Crude Oil Stockpiles Rise to Record for Fourth Week - EIA**

U.S. crude stockpiles last week rose to a record high for a fourth straight week, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. Crude inventories rose 3.9 million barrels in the week to March 4, in line with analysts' expectations, hitting an all-time high of 521.9 million barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 690,000 barrels, hitting another record high of 66.9 million barrels, EIA said.

Reuters, 11:07 March 9, 2016

### Enbridge Reports SRU Failure at Its Pittsburg Gas Plant in Texas March 9

Enbridge reported its Pittsburg gas plant experienced issues which resulted in a shutdown of equipment supporting the Sulfur Recovery Unit (SRU). The equipment was brought back online and into compliance as safely and quickly as possible. To mitigate emissions during the startup event, the thermal oxidizer was utilized.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=228907>

### Williams Delays Startup of Its 0.65 Bcf/d Constitution Pipeline from Pennsylvania to New York; FERC Establishes Environmental Review Timeline for 1.7 Bcf Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Expansion

Williams said Thursday it had delayed the start up of its 124-mile pipeline Constitution pipeline between Pennsylvania and New York to the second half of 2017 to ensure compliance with the environmental conditions of the pipeline's FERC Order. Williams said it adjusted the in service date from the fourth quarter of 2016 to reflect a rapidly closing environmental window to complete tree felling activities in New York prior to March 31. The company said it has cut nearly all trees it needed to in Pennsylvania for the project. Williams said it plans to start limited mainline construction in the summer of 2016, pending the receipt of permits, including a water permit from New York regulators. Separately, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Wednesday established the environmental review timeline for Williams' proposed 1.7 Bcf Atlantic Sunrise pipeline expansion in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. FERC said the environmental impact statement for Atlantic Sunrise will be available on October 21 and federal authorization is set for January 19, 2017. Williams said the target date for Atlantic Sunrise to enter service is the second half of 2017.

Reuters, 13:08 March 10, 2016

<http://constitutionpipeline.com/constitution-pipeline-updates-projected-in-service-date/>

## Other News

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### Sunoco Logistics Exports First Shipment of Ethane from Its Marcus Hook Terminal in Pennsylvania March 9

Sunoco Logistics said it exported its first shipment of Marcellus Shale ethane from its Marcus Hook terminal outside of Philadelphia on Wednesday, a milestone as it looks to transform the former refinery site into a petrochemicals hub. The shipment, bound for an INEOS facility in Rafnes, Norway, marked the first ever export of ethane from the U.S. The JS INEOS Intrepid was loaded with 257,000 barrels of ethane that had been delivered to Marcus Hook from western Pennsylvania through the Mariner East pipeline.

Reuters, 17:59 March 9, 2016

## International News

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Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 10, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	37.72	34.51	49.23
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	1.57	1.59	2.72

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***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](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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