



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, March 14, 2011

Electricity

Winds Knock Out Power to More than 150,000 Customers in Oregon March 13

Wind storms cut power to an estimated 150,953 customers in Oregon on March 13, multiple news and company sources reported. About 30,000 customers remained without electricity, as of latest reports. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

Oregon Customer Power Outages March 13 – 14, 2011			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Pacific Power	OR	74,000	10,783
Portland General Electric	OR	49,000	7,670
Emerald People's Utility District	OR	12,000	7,000
Lane Electric	OR	6,500	600
Springfield Utility Board	OR	5,200	1,200
Eugene Water & Electric Board	OR	3,000	1,500
Consumers Power	OR	1,253	1,253
TOTAL*		150,953	30,006

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

Sources:

Pacific Power: <http://www.pacificpower.net/ed/po/ooi.html> , <http://kdrv.com/news/local/206918>

Portland General Electric: http://www.portlandgeneral.com/safety_outages/outages/outage_updates/outage_list.aspx , <http://www.ktvz.com/news/27184353/detail.html>

Emerald People's Utility District: <http://www.registerguard.com/web/updates/26002178-55/power-eugene-tree-highway-crews.html.csp> , <http://kezi.com/news/local/206935>

Lane Electric: <http://www.registerguard.com/web/updates/26002178-55/power-eugene-tree-highway-crews.html.csp> , <http://kezi.com/news/local/206935>

Springfield Utility Board: <http://www.kval.com/news/local/117919314.html>

Eugene Water & Electric Board: <http://www.registerguard.com/web/updates/26002178-55/power-eugene-tree-highway-crews.html.csp>

Consumers Power: http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/article_67765c50-4dd2-11e0-b4b9-001cc4c002e0.html

Update: PPL's 1,105 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 99 Percent by March 14

PPL shut the unit on March 4 to conduct valve maintenance, the company said previously. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 13 the unit was operating at 88 percent.

<http://stage2.mediaroom.com/pplweb/index.php?s=12270&item=27119>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuclear Unit in Nebraska Shut by March 13

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 12 the unit was operating at 98 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 3 in Alabama at Full Power by March 13

The unit ramped down from full power on the morning of March 11 to 70 percent power by March 12, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported. The unit returned to full power by March 13, according to the NRC. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

FPL's 565 MW Duane Arnold Nuclear Unit in Iowa Ramped Up to 93 Percent by March 13

The unit ramped down from full power on the morning of March 11 to 66 percent power by March 12, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported. The unit ramped up to 93 percent power by March 13, according to the NRC.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Luminant Reduces 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas March 11

Luminant reduced the unit after “electrostatic precipitators (ESP) transformer rectifier control sets A-20 and B-20 tripped,” the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the company expected to resume normal operations.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151898>

After Brief Shutdown, AEP to Restart 721 MW Pirkey Coal-Fired Power Plant in Texas March 12-16

The plant shut “due to primary air heater problems” on March 12-16, American Electric Power (AEP) said in a filing with state regulators. The company expected to restart the unit on March 12-16, it said in a separate filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151901>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151902>

Update: Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by March 12

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201103121515.html>

Update: After January 20 Fire, PacifiCorp Resumes Normal Operations at 520 MW Chehalis Gas-Fired Power Plant in Washington

The fire damaged a transformer on plant grounds. PacifiCorp restored partial generation at the plant on Sunday, January 23, and resumed normal operations on February 15, the company said last week.

<http://www.pacificpower.net/about/nr/nr2011/cppbisafc.html>

Petroleum

Update: Pro-Gadhafi Forces Re-Capture Two Libyan Oil Towns over Weekend – Fighting Sparks Fire at Ras Lanuf

Forces loyal to Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi allegedly captured two oil towns - Ras Lanuf and Brega - over the weekend, and the fighting at Ras Lanuf sparked a large storage tank fire that continued to burn on March 13, multiple news and official sources reported. The head of Libya's National Oil Co. asked Italy's Eni SpA to help douse the flames. All of Libya's major oil ports and most of its oil production remained offline, as of latest reports. The nation typically produces 1.6 million b/d and exports about 1.3 million b/d. Output has slid to approximately 500,000 b/d.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/14/us-libya-oil-factbox-idUSTRE72D5LE20110314>

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/03/13/1582750/libya-seeks-italys-help-with-fire.html>

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=25972

<http://www.thenational.ae/news/worldwide/africa/qaddafis-troops-capture-oil-town-of-brega>

Update: BP to Restart FCC at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery March 12-14

BP expected to restart the gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit on March 12-14, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The unit suffered an upset on March 11, according to an earlier filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151888>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151899>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFWEN946120110311>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-12/bp-to-resume-output-at-texas-city-refinery-after-process-upset.html>

Market Factors Lead Producers to Transport More North Dakotan Crude by Rail

North Dakota's oil producers are transporting a growing quantity of oil by rail, according to state and company officials, in a bid to sell crude to markets that are not connected to the state by pipeline. The state produced nearly 343,000 b/d of oil in December 2010; of that, some 65,000 b/d was transported via rail. BNSF could, with new facilities, move as much as 730,000 b/d by rail, a company official said.

http://www.canadianbusiness.com/markets/market_news/article.jsp?content=D9LUG0RG0&page=2

Update: Iraq Fixes Bomb-Damaged Oil Pipeline, Resumes Crude Deliveries to Turkey March 14

A bomb attack forced shut the pipeline on March 9. The line typically delivers just over 500,000 b/d.

http://www.canadianbusiness.com/markets/market_news/article.jsp?content=D9LV1A1G1

Natural Gas

Update: County Board Repeals Prior Approval of Leucadia National's Planned 120-Mile Gas Pipeline in Oregon – Line Associated with Company's Proposed Oregon LNG Terminal

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners voted last week to repeal its prior authorization of the pipeline. The line would serve Leucadia National Corp's planned LNG terminal in Warrenton, Oregon.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=25971

Explosion Forces Shut Amine Steam Boiler at Midkiff Gas Plant in Texas March 12

An "internal explosion" forced shut an amine steam boiler and triggered flaring at the Midkiff gas plant in Texas on March 12, according to a filing with state regulators. The incident led to emissions events at the Boyd compressor station, the A IO compressor station, and the Driver compressor station on March 12-13, according to separate regulatory filings.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151905>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151906>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151908>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151907>

Other News

Coal-Carrying Train Cars Derail near Thedford, Nebraska March 10

Some 52 coal-carrying train cars derailed near Thedford, Nebraska on March 10, spilling an unspecified quantity of coal and disrupting local rail traffic. Crews aimed to reopen the affected lines by 12 PM on March 11.

<http://www.chadrad.com/newsstory.cfm?story=21029>

Flooding Leads Patriot Coal to Evacuate, Shut River Edge Underground Coal Mine in West Virginia March 7

The flooding occurred in a sealed, mined-out portion of the mine, the company said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The company aimed to restart production this week.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9LSKL582.htm>

JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE/TSUNAMIS

Update: Fuel Rods Exposed at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Reactor No. 2 in Japan March 14 – Partial Meltdowns at Two of Facility's Other Reactors

Workers failed several times to inject seawater into the core of reactor No. 2 at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in Japan, the company said on March 14, causing water levels to drop dangerously low within the reactor's containment vessel and almost fully exposing its fuel rods. Last week's 8.9-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunamis apparently damaged the cooling systems at three of the facility's reactors – Nos. 1, 2, and 3 – and partial meltdowns had presumably already occurred at reactors 1 and 3, as of March 14. The crisis at reactor No. 2, however, was considered far more serious, because the fuel rods had been at least partly-exposed for several hours. That exposure raised concerns that the containment vessel could crack or explode, or cause fuel to melt through the vessel. Vent problems were hampering workers' efforts to inject seawater into reactor No. 2, as of latest reports. Workers were able to inject seawater into reactor Nos. 1 and 3, but structures surrounding both of those units exploded over the weekend. Those explosions, however, were thought not to have damaged either reactor's core. The emergency prompted widespread evacuations around the facility; at least 22 people had sustained radiation contamination, as of March 14. According to the White House, the United States has sent a Disaster Assistance Response Team to Tokyo, which includes people with nuclear expertise from the Departments of Energy and Health and Human Services as well the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC members are experts in boiling water nuclear reactors and are available to assist their Japanese counterparts.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/15/world/asia/15nuclear.html?hp>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/14/world/asia/japan-fukushima-nuclear-reactor.html?hp>

Reuters, 12:09 March 14, 2011

<http://www.energy.gov/news/10173.htm>

Update: Earthquake Halts Nearly 1.4 Million b/d of Japanese Refining Capacity

Last week's 8.9-magnitude earthquake either forced offline or led companies to shut more than 25 percent (nearly 1.4 million b/d) of Japan's refining capacity, according to a document belonging to one of the nation's refiners. At least two of the affected refineries – JX Holding Inc.'s 145,000 b/d Sendai facility and Cosmo Oil's 220,000 b/d Chiba site – were damaged by post-earthquake fires. The fire continued to burn at the Chiba location, as of March 14. It was not clear if the earthquake and/or subsequent tsunamis damaged the remaining refineries, or if companies had halted operations for precautionary reasons. The widespread shutdowns had, by March 14, led at least two Japanese refiners to begin shopping for imports of multiple oil products, industry sources said. Separately in Japan, only one of the nation's 11 oil terminals remained shut on March 14, according to industry sources.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=25980

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFTKZ00681720110314>

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Oil/8652509>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/14/japan-terminal-oil-idUSL3E7EE1FE20110314>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 14, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	100.36	105.27	81.28
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.90	3.70	4.47

Source: Reuters

**Thieves Have Stolen Copper Wiring from Five Northeast Georgia Substations in 2011:
Athens Banner-Herald**

<http://www.cbsatlanta.com/news/27158269/detail.html>

**Update: TransCanada Directs NPPD to Postpone Transmission Work in Nebraska
Associated with Proposed Canada-to-Gulf Coast Keystone XL Oil Pipeline Project – NPPD
Expected to Finish Work in October 2012, Instead of May 2012**

<http://www.nebraska.tv/Global/story.asp?S=14243073>

**Fire Continues to Burn at SM Energy-Owned Oil Well near Arnegard, North Dakota
March 10 – Leak Led to Fire on March 7**

<http://www.willistonherald.com/articles/2011/03/11/news/doc4d7a4f96ccc9a351605623.txt>

**Storage Tank Leaks Estimated 23,000 Gallons of Jet Fuel from Crowley Marine Services-
Owned Tank Farm near Aniak, Alaska March 7-8 – Partially Open Valve Possibly to
Blame for Leak**

<http://www.adn.com/2011/03/10/1748628/jet-fuel-spills-from-tank-near.html>

**Iraq May be Short-Staffed as it Seeks to Protect Oil Installations from Terrorist Attacks:
Iraqi Security Official**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/13/us-iraq-oil-police-interview-idUSTRE72C34Q20110313>

**Hyperdynamics Corporation's Oil-and-Gas Concession Offshore Republic of Guinea
Contains Best Estimate of 3.7 Billion Barrels of Potentially Recoverable Unrisked
Prospective Oil Resources**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/hyperdynamics-announces-results-of-independent-resource-evaluation-of-deep-water-portion-of-offshore-republic-of-guinea-concession-117924519.html>

Steam Leak Forces Operators to Shut SRU at Keystone Gas Plant in Texas March 13-14

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151904>

**Upset Triggers SRU Shutdown at Pittsburg Gas Plant in Texas March 11 – Operators
Restarting SRU Later on March 11**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151891>

**Amerada Hess to Fix Leaking Flange at Seminole Gas Processing Plant in Texas
March 14-17**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151553>

**Operators to Shut Incinerator for Repairs at Fandango Production Facility in Texas
March 14-19 – Facility Removes H₂S, CO₂ from Natural Gas, Converts H₂S to SO₂**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=151571>

Levantine Basin Offshore Israel Could Contain 120 Tcf of Natural Gas: Noble CEO

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=105058

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>

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov