



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, March 14, 2013

Electricity

Update: Dominion to Close, Decommission Its 566 MW Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station in Wisconsin by May 7

Dominion Resources Inc. has told the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it will close and decommission its Kewaunee Power Station in Carlton, Wisconsin, on May 7 for economic reasons due to the low price of natural gas on the wholesale power market. Dominion first announced in April 2011 that it would seek to sell Kewaunee, but it was unable to find a buyer for the facility.

<http://www.jsonline.com/business/nuclear-plants-shutdown-set-for-may-7-rt9484l-197210631.html>

Update: Emergency Diesel Generator at 1,160 MW Wolf Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in Kansas Returns to Service March 14

According to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, operators completed repairs on the 'B' emergency diesel generator (EDG), tested it, and restored it to operable status on Thursday, after it experienced a loss of control power March 13. The 'A' EDG remains out of service for scheduled maintenance.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2013/20130314en.html>

Update: FPL's 693 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Unit 3 Remains in Stable Mode March 14 Following Turbine Inlet Pressure Malfunction

Florida Power & Light reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that Unit 3 of its Turkey Point nuclear power plant remains in stable mode following a turbine inlet pressure channel perturbation that momentarily actuated the reactor trip. Operators are currently investigating the cause of the perturbation.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2013/20130314en.html>

U.S. Approves 3 Solar, Wind Facilities in California and Nevada with Combined Capacity of 1,100 MW

The Obama administration on Wednesday approved two solar and one wind projects in the West, that combined will deliver 1,100 MW and will produce enough energy to power 340,000 homes. NextEra Energy Inc.'s 750 MW McCoy Solar Energy Project and EDF Renewable Energy's 150 MW Desert Harvest Solar Farm are both located in California's Riverside East Solar Energy Zone. They will both use photovoltaic solar panels. Duke Energy Corp.'s 200 MW Searchlight Wind Energy Project is located in Nevada, south of Las Vegas. In total, the administration has approved 37 renewable energy projects, including 20 solar facilities, eight wind farms, and nine geothermal plants.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/03/13/solar-us->

[idUSL1N0C5FT220130313?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/03/13/solar-us-idUSL1N0C5FT220130313?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-salazar-approves-three-renewable-energy-projects-in-california-and-nevada.cfm>

Update: LPG Pipeline Struck by Tugboat Near Bayou Perot in Louisiana Continues to Burn March 14

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, the fire caused by a 47-foot tugboat and crude oil barge colliding with a 19-mile liquid petroleum gas (LPG) pipeline March 12, decreased by about 30% by Wednesday evening. However, as of Thursday, the fire was still burning. The barge was holding 92,000 gallons of crude oil, and the tugboat was holding around 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel. There have been no reports of oil in the water surrounding the accident. Chevron Corp., which owns the pipeline, immediately isolated it, and officials are waiting for the LPG that remained in the pipeline to burn itself out. This could take "some time," the Coast Guard said.

<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/1722395/UPDATE-2-Coast-Guard-responds-to-allision-pipeline-fire-south-of-New-Orleans>

<http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/national/southern-us/21010091771952/la-pipeline-blaze-could-burn-until-thursday/>

EPA Cleaning Up 5,000 Barrel Oil Spill at Delek's 75,000 b/d El Dorado, Arkansas Refinery March 9

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Delek US Holdings Inc. (DK), are working to clean up a 5,000 barrel oil spill at Delek's 75,000 b/d El Dorado, Arkansas refinery. The EPA has already removed approximately 4,200 barrels of crude from the March 9 spill, and Delek said the spill has not affected delivery of crude to the refinery. The spill was caused by the failure of a pump that transports crude to an underground transmission line.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-03-13/refiner-delek-cleaning-up-5-000-barrel-spill-in-arkansas-bayou.html?cmpid=yahoo>

All Units Operating at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Despite Power Dips and Flaring March 13

Valero Energy Corp. said all units were operating at its Port Arthur refinery in Texas despite an electrical upset that led to power dips and caused flaring. Operators reacted immediately, bringing units to safe conditions to minimize impact. There was no impact to production.

Reuters, 15:42 March 13, 2013

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=180351>

Citgo Reports Coker Compressor Flaring at Its 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery March 13

Citgo Petroleum Corp. reported flaring from a coker unit compressor due to unknown causes at its Lake Charles, Louisiana refinery, according to filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 00:11 March 14, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1040895

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

North America Will Become a Net Energy Exporter by 2025 - Exxon

According to Exxon Mobil, North America may be able to export 15% of its natural gas output and 5% of oil by 2040 as the region's production surges and demand stalls. In its report, *The Outlook for Energy*, published Wednesday, Exxon said North America probably will become a net energy exporter by 2025, after importing 35% of its oil in 2010. Output of oil is projected to rise about 40% from 2010 to 2040, while energy consumption is expected to plateau and then decline within the same time period, the report said.

http://www.exxonmobil.com/corporate/files/news_pub_eo2013.pdf

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/03/13/4679858/exxon-north-america-to-become.html>

Update: South Sudan Orders Oil Companies to Restart Production

The South Sudanese Oil Minister said on Thursday that oil companies must restart production of crude oil for export through Sudan, now that the country has reached a deal on border security with Sudan. This comes after more than a year of the two countries engaging in a dispute over how much South Sudan should pay to transport oil through Sudanese pipelines to the Red Sea. Prior to the stand-still, South Sudan produced 350,000 b/d of output. The minister said he hoped that within a short amount of time oil will start to flow. He had previously said on Tuesday that production would start within three weeks.

Reuters, 11:34 March 14, 2013

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 14, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	92.83	91.19	105.78
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.72	3.57	2.13

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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