



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, March 15, 2017

## Electricity

### Update: Power Restoration Efforts Continue March 15 after Snowstorm Hits Northeastern U.S., Canada

A winter storm producing rapid snowfall, high winds, sleet, and rain knocked out power to approximately 440,199 customers across the Northeastern U.S. and Nova Scotia, beginning late Monday. Wind gusts of up to 75 mph brought down trees and powerlines, contributing to the majority of outages. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, 54,082 customers remained without power. Dominion Virginia Power, the hardest hit utility with 98,600 customer outages, had restored power to 98 percent of impacted customers as of Wednesday morning, and expected the remaining customers to be restored by Wednesday evening. The table below shows the latest reported outages by utility.

Northeastern U.S. and Canada Customer Power Outages March 13–15, 2017		
Electric Utility	State	Latest Reported
DelMarVa Power	DE	9,454
National Grid	MA	8,811
Eversource	MA	178
DelMarVa Power	MD	931
Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative	MD	334
BGE	MD	418
Central Maine Power	ME	17,424
Emera Maine	ME	2,642
Eversource	NH	733
Unitil Energy Systems	NH	3,381
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	1,349
PSEG	NJ	2,528
Jersey Central Power and Light	NJ	44
Central Hudson	NY	7
National Grid	RI	1
Dominion Power	VA	5,422
Rappahannock Electric Cooperative	VA	27
Nova Scotia Power	Nova Scotia	398
<b>TOTAL*</b>		<b>54,082</b>

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

Sources:

- <http://www.delawareonline.com/story/weather/2017/03/14/delaware-snow-day-winter-storm-stella/99154302/>
- [http://www.bostonherald.com/news/local\\_coverage/2017/03/thousands\\_without\\_power\\_as\\_brunt\\_of\\_storm\\_hits](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/local_coverage/2017/03/thousands_without_power_as_brunt_of_storm_hits)
- <http://boston.cbslocal.com/2017/03/14/power-outages-blizzard-march-14-eversource-national-grid-massachusetts/>
- <http://www.wboc.com/story/34801343/wintry-mix-and-winds-knock-out-power-in-mid-atlantic>
- [http://www.somdnews.com/recorder/spotlight/smeco-works-to-restore-power/article\\_c55fc066-db95-5549-9a1b-fe2fe5c70bdf.html](http://www.somdnews.com/recorder/spotlight/smeco-works-to-restore-power/article_c55fc066-db95-5549-9a1b-fe2fe5c70bdf.html)
- <http://foxbaltimore.com/news/local/bge-works-to-restore-service-after-wintry-mix>
- <http://nj1015.com/ice-wind-gusts-knock-out-power-for-thousands-in-nj/>
- [http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/03/power\\_problems\\_from\\_blizzard\\_start\\_to\\_mount\\_in\\_nj.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/03/power_problems_from_blizzard_start_to_mount_in_nj.html)

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Snow-Noreaster-Forecast-New-York-New-Jersey-Connecticut-Travel-Subway-Total-Neighborhood-School--416101593.html>  
<http://www.dailyfreeman.com/general-news/20170314/storm-bears-down-snow-piles-up-driving-banned-in-some-counties-thousands-lose-power>  
<http://www.providencejournal.com/news/20170314/more-than-4000-without-power-in-ri-as-snow-begins-turning-to-rain>  
<http://wtvr.com/2017/03/14/storm-knocks-out-power-to-over-42000-in-central-virginia/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/dominionvirginiapower>  
<http://unitil.com/media-center/local-news-releases/restoration-efforts-ongoing>  
<https://twitter.com/eversourcenh>  
<https://twitter.com/emerae>  
<http://wgme.com/news/local/blizzard-conditions-knock-out-power-for-thousands-in-southern-maine>  
<http://www.nspower.ca/en/home/newsroom/news-releases/crews-make-significant-progress-with-restorations.aspx>  
Reuters, 9:24 March 14, 2017

### **Update: Entergy's 966 MW River Bend Nuclear Unit 1 in Louisiana Ramps Up to 80 Percent by March 15**

On the morning of March 14, the unit was operating at 56 percent after restarting on March 12. The unit was shut on March 10, from 11 percent, due to the closure of the main turbine control valves.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>  
<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2017/20170313en.html>

### **Solar Partners' 133 MW Ivanpah Solar Unit 3 in California Shut by March 14**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201703141515.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Syncrude Reports Fire Isolated, Controlled at Its 350,000 b/d Mildred Lake Oil Sands Upgrader in Alberta March 14**

Syncrude on Tuesday reported one worker was injured in a fire at its Mildred Lake upgrader near Fort McMurray in northern Alberta on Tuesday. Syncrude Emergency Services and Operations personnel isolated and controlled the fire within about four hours, the company said. Local emergency services posted a health advisory after the incident, saying a fire was reducing air quality in the nearby community of Fort McKay and asking people to stay indoors. The cause of the fire was under investigation, according to a spokesperson who added details would be released as soon as they were available. Syncrude is majority-owned by Suncor Energy and operated by Imperial Oil.

<http://www.syncrude.ca/our-news/featured-stories/2017/update-on-mildred-lake-upgrader-incident/>

Reuters, 20:26 March 14, 2017

### **Wolverine Pipe Line Announces Its 90,000 b/d Detroit Metro Access Pipeline in Service**

Wolverine Pipe Line Company on Wednesday announced its Detroit Metro Access Pipeline (DMAP) had been placed in service and the first commercial volume shipped on Monday, March 6. The approximately 34-mile, 16-inch pipeline connects to an existing Wolverine line enabling the company to deliver refined petroleum products from the Chicago area to consumers in Metropolitan Detroit. Construction of the DMAP was completed in January and final pre-operational testing was conducted last month. The final phase of DMAP, restoration of the right-of-way, will be completed this spring.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/wolverine-pipe-line-company-announces-detroit-metro-access-pipeline-is-in-service-300424069.html>

<http://wolverinepipeline.com/2016/01/wolverine-pipe-line-company-receives-mpsc-approval-for-detroit-metro-access-pipeline-project/>

### **PBF Reports Mechanical Failure at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery March 15**

PBF Energy reported a mechanical failure at its Delaware City, Delaware refinery on March 15, according to a State of Delaware pollution regulator filing. The facility exceeded its permit for sulfur dioxide, PBF said, adding that repairs had been made and the release had been stopped.

Reuters, 11:41 March 15, 2017

## **Chevron Continues Clean Up of 115 Barrel Oil Spill from Its Rangely Gathering System in Colorado March 14**

Clean up work was continuing on Wednesday after a 6-inch Chevron pipeline spilled approximately 115 barrels of crude oil in northwest Colorado on March 5. The leak was discovered by a Chevron consultant. According to the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's office, Chevron Pipeline Company responded to a crude oil release at a collection station on gathering line C-4 of the Rangely Gathering System in Rangely, Colorado on March 5. The line was shut down, and personnel were dispatched to contain and recover the oil, which pooled in a siphon dam located about a mile and a half away from Stinking Water Creek. A Chevron spokeswoman said the cause of the failure was under investigation.

<https://www.facebook.com/RioBlancoCountySheriffsOffice/posts/1839517452931868>

<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/03/14/latest-chevron-cleaning-up-4800-gallon-oil-spill/99174956/>

## **M2 Infrastructure, TransCanada to Build 6.2 Million Barrels of Additional Crude Oil Storage in Cushing, Oklahoma**

M2 Infrastructure on Wednesday announced it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with TransCanada Corporation to pursue construction of 6.2 million barrels of new crude oil storage at TransCanada's terminal in Cushing, Oklahoma. The new crude oil storage will be owned by M2 Infrastructure and operated by TransCanada. M2 Infrastructure has an option to build up to 20 million barrels of storage, which would be built in subsequent phases. The project and option to expand are subject to completion of definitive agreements between the parties and obtaining required approvals and land rights. Construction of the crude oil storage is expected to begin in late 2017.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/m2-infrastructure-transcanada-pursue-development-133000936.html>

Reuters, 10:29 March 15, 2017

## **U.S. Commercial Oil Stockpiles Fall by 237,000 Barrels March 10 – EIA**

U.S. commercial crude inventories fell by 237,000 barrels to approximately 528.2 million barrels during the week ending March 10, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Wednesday. Commercial crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 2.13 million barrels to approximately 66.5 million barrels, EIA said.

Reuters, 10:36 March 15, 2017

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Update: Hilcorp Lowers Pressure, Slows Fuel Gas Leak into Cook Inlet from Its Subsea Natural Gas Pipeline in Alaska**

Hilcorp Alaska on Monday lowered the operating pressure of a leaking, subsea natural gas fuel line in order to further reduce flow and minimize the volume of methane seeping into the Cook Inlet. Hilcorp estimates the leak has now been reduced to approximately 0.193–0.215 MMcf/d, down from 0.310 MMcf/d previously. The impacted 8-inch pipeline originates onshore and runs along the Cook Inlet seabed, supplying four Hilcorp production platforms with fuel for heat and power generation. The leak was first discovered and reported by Hilcorp on Tuesday, February 7 during a helicopter flyover, and is located in the Middle Ground Shoal oil and gas production field about 3.5 miles offshore, northwest of Kenai. A subsequent review of flow data from the pipeline revealed the leak actually began in December 2016. The company has said the impacted line must remain pressurized in order to prevent water infiltration, which could then freeze and rupture the line, potentially releasing residual crude oil trapped in the line from its previous use as an offshore crude oil production gathering line. The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has ordered the company to repair or shut the line by May 1. In a letter to state regulators dated Monday, February 20, Hilcorp Alaska said it did not anticipate deploying repair divers to fix the leak until at least mid-March due to sea ice and other adverse conditions impacting diver safety.

[http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/PPR/response/sum\\_fy17/170215201/17239903801\\_Hilcorp\\_Natural\\_Gas\\_Leak\\_From\\_8-inch\\_Pipeline\\_SITREP4.pdf](http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/PPR/response/sum_fy17/170215201/17239903801_Hilcorp_Natural_Gas_Leak_From_8-inch_Pipeline_SITREP4.pdf)

Reuters, 13:47 March 15, 2017

## ***Other News***

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Nothing to report.

## International News

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### East Libyan Forces Recapture Ras Lanuf, Es Sider Oil Ports March 14

East Libyan forces said they had regained control on Tuesday of the major oil ports of Ras Lanuf and Es Sider from a rival faction that seized them earlier this month. The ports are two of the largest in Libya, with a combined potential capacity of about 600,000 b/d, but both were badly damaged in previous rounds of fighting and were operating at a fraction of pre-conflict levels.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-oil-terminals-idUSKBN16L2TG>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 15, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	48.03	49.78	36.27
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.04	2.58	1.68

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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