



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, March 18, 2013

Electricity

Update: Entergy Addresses NRC's Concerns about Pressurized Thermal Shock at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant in Michigan

Entergy on Monday responded to a recent claim by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that the company's Palisades nuclear power plant is at risk of pressurized thermal shock, saying that the Palisades plant is a "safe and secure facility [and has a] license to operate...through 2031." Pressurized thermal shock could occur in a rare accident scenario in which a large amount of cold water has to be injected into the reactor, resulting in its rapid cooling, which could compromise the vessel's integrity, especially as it ages and becomes more brittle. The NRC has said that the Palisades reactor vessel will reach its "embrittlement limits" in 2017, and if operators don't take steps to address the issue before then, they will have to shut the reactor. Entergy said it will conduct all necessary tests and inspections during a refueling outage this fall, and that it will submit an updated evaluation to the NRC in spring 2014.

http://www.entergy.com/news_room/newsrelease.aspx?NR_ID=2686

<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1306/ML13067A241.pdf>

Update: FPL's 693 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Unit 3 in Florida Restarts by March 14, Ramps Up to 99 Percent by March 17

Turkey Point 3 is returning from an outage that began February 18, when operators shut the reactor due to a coolant pump leak. On March 12, with the turbine offline and undergoing testing at approximately 3 percent power, a turbine inlet pressure channel perturbation momentarily actuated a reactor trip.

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

Duke Energy's 1,100 MW McGuire Nuclear Unit 1 in North Carolina Shut by March 17

On the morning of March 16 the unit was operating at 25 percent.

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

FPL's 510 MW Point Beach Nuclear Unit 1 in Wisconsin Shut by March 18

On the morning of March 17 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Petroleum

Update: Enbridge Files with State Department to Nearly Double Capacity of Its 450,000 b/d Alberta Clipper Crude Oil Pipeline

The Department of State on Friday reported it will be preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the proposed Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership, Line 67 Capacity Expansion Project. Enbridge has applied to the Department for an amendment to their current Presidential Permit authorizing it to operate at a higher capacity the existing 36-inch Alberta Clipper crude oil pipeline (Line 67). The pipeline currently transports 450,000 to 500,000 b/d across the border from the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin to Enbridge's terminal in Superior, Wisconsin. Enbridge is now proposing to expand the volume transported in the Line 67 Pipeline to 880,000 b/d. The company had previously announced plans to expand capacity from 450,000 b/d to 570,000 b/d, as part of a project to expand capacity of the Lakehead System mainline between its origin at the border, near Neche, North Dakota, to Flanagan, Illinois. Pending all required approvals, the first increase in capacity is slated for completion in 2014, and the second, in 2015.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/supplemental-environmental-impact-statement-seis-and-to-conduct>

<http://www.enbridgeus.com/Delivering-Energy/Growth-Projects/>

<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/261774/>

Dakota Plains Announces 50,000 b/d Expansion Project at Its 30,000 b/d Williston Basin Transload Facility in North Dakota

Dakota Plains Holdings Inc. and joint-venture partner Petroleum Transport Solutions L.L.C. announced today that construction has begun on the Pioneer Project, which will expand a Williston Basin transload facility in New Town, North Dakota. The project, set to be completed in December, will accommodate unit trains carrying up to 120 tank cars and will increase oil throughput capacity from 30,000 b/d up to 80,000 b/d. Crude oil supplying the facility is currently sourced primarily from the Bakken shale in Montana, North Dakota, and Saskatchewan. The partnership will deploy 180,000 barrels of storage to start, with the expansion to 270,000 barrels built into the initial design.

<http://www.dakotaplains.com/investors.html>

SRU Electrical Malfunction Causes Flaring at Delek's 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery March 16

Delek U.S. Holding reported an electrical malfunction on the furnace of its No.2 sulfur recovery unit (SRU) at its Tyler refinery on Saturday caused excess sulfur dioxide emissions, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=180535>

Natural Gas

Field Bus Module Failure Shuts SRU at DCP Midstream's 70 MMcf/d Fullerton Gas Plant in Texas March 17

DCP Midstream reported that a field bus module failure during normal operations at its Fullerton plant on Sunday caused a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) to shut down on high temperature, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=180541>

DCP Midstream Reports Flaring at Its 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas March 16

DCP Midstream reported flaring at its Goldsmith gas plant on Saturday when operators restarted the B turbine, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=180532>

Natural Gas Well on Carrizo Oil and Gas' Yarasavage Pad in Pennsylvania Malfunctions During Fracking Operation, Spills 227,000 Gallons of Wastewater March 14

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/wyoming-county-well-malfunction-causes-spill-evacuation-1.1458575>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Waha Oil Shuts 120,000 b/d Pipeline Feeding Es Sider Export Terminal in Libya Due to a Strike at Gialo Oil Field March 17

Waha Oil Co. shut a 120,000 b/d pipeline in Libya due to a strike at its Gialo oilfield, according to the Oil Minister. The field feeds oil to a pipeline that runs to Es Sider export terminal.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-03-18/libya-s-waha-oil-output-cut-by-120-000-barrels-a-day-arusi-says.html>

Power Failure at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai'ichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan Keeps Three Fuel Storage Pools without Fresh Cooling Water for Hours March 18

Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) on Monday reported a power failure at its tsunami-damaged Fukushima Dai'ichi nuclear power plant left three fuel storage pools without fresh cooling water for hours. The reactors were unaffected and no other abnormalities were found. TEPCO said power will be restored to the cooling systems as soon as it determines the cause of the failure.

<http://www.wfaa.com/news/world/198797501.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices March 18, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	93.38	91.35	106.30
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.91	3.57	2.21

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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