



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, March 19, 2010

## ***Electricity***

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### **Update: AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gen Sta. Unit 2 Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by March 18**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 136 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003181515.html>

### **Update: Entergy's 966 MW River Bend Nuke Unit 1 in Louisiana Reduced to 89 Percent by March 19**

The unit was removed from service to replace seals on a reactor feed-water pump. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 18 the unit was operating at full power.

Bloomberg News, 10:14 March 19, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

### **Update: Luminant's 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut March 18**

According to a filing with state regulators, the unit tripped due to a malfunction of the 'B condensate pump.'

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137219>

Reuters, 18:59 March 18, 2010

### **Salt River Project's 63 MW Dry Lake Wind Power Project in Arizona Announces Plans for 65 MW Expansion**

Salt River Project (SRP) announced plans recently to more than double the existing size of its Dry Lake wind energy project from a current capacity of 63 MW to a combined total of 128 MW. Dry Lake is Arizona's only wind farm and the company is currently pursuing permits for the expansion from the Navajo County planning commission.

<http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/2010/03/18/20100318wind-farm-arizona-dry-lake.html>

<http://www.srpnet.com/about/stations/drylakewind.aspx>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Ultraformer Shut at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery March 19**

In a filing to state regulators, BP reported it shut its No. 4 ultraformer at its Texas City refinery for unplanned repairs. The company estimates the unit will remain shut until April 3.

Bloomberg News, 12:01 March 19, 2010

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137103>

### **Tesoro's 96,860 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery Reports Compressor Problem March 18**

In a filing to state regulators, Tesoro said two compressors failed at its refinery in Wilmington, California, resulting in unplanned flaring of gases.

<http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/4667ad6ef11485e6882576eb00075de4?OpenDocument>

Bloomberg News, 03:22 March 19, 2010

## **Update: Crude Unit at Shell's 236,400 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery to Restart by End of March Following Fire in January**

Shell's Motiva Enterprises reported it expects to restart a crude unit at its Norco refinery by the end of March after the unit was shut by damage sustained during a January 22 fire at the plant. The company expects the unit to return earlier than previous estimates of April 2010.

Bloomberg News, 12:12 March 19, 2010

Reuters, 09:26 March 19, 2010

## **Update: North Dakota Governor Initiates Flow on Enbridge 161,000 b/d Crude Pipeline Expansion Project in North Dakota March 18**

North Dakota Governor Hoeven opened the valve on the new project which transports Bakken crude. Enbridge began the expansion and upgrade in 2007.

<http://www.kxnet.com/getArticle.asp?ArticleId=541174>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1913562120100319?type=marketsNews>

## **Federal Judge Approves Deal Requiring Bureau of Land Management to Suspend 61 Oil and Gas Leases in Montana to Determine if Industry Drilling Practices Contribute to Climate Change**

On March 18, a U.S District Judge in Missoula, Montana approved a settlement that requires the Bureau of Land Management to suspend 38,000 acres of oil and gas leases in the state, a total of 61 leases, so environmental reviews may take place. The issue in question is to determine how drilling machinery and industry practices are contributing to climate change. Environmentalists argue the industry uses inefficient technologies that could easily be updated and make for cleaner operations. The suspended leases will be subject to new environmental reviews before the suspension can be lifted.

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/nation/oil-and-gas-leases-on-38000-acres-in-montana-suspended-over-climate-change-88457687.html>

## **Pemex Announces Two 1 Billion Barrel Oil Discoveries in Sound of Campeche, Mexico, March 18**

Director General of Mexico's state oil company Pemex announced Thursday the company has made two large discoveries in the Sound of Campeche. Each of the discoveries has possible reserves of 1 billion barrels of oil equivalent (boe). According to the announcement; one of the discoveries has light crude, the other extra-heavy crude.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews.aspx?xmlpath=RSSFeed/HeadlineNews/Oil/6879224.xml>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1913562120100319?type=marketsNews>

## **Natural Gas**

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### **EPA Initiates Hydraulic Fracturing Study: Agency Seeks Input from Science Advisory Board**

The Environmental Protection Agency announced March 18 it will perform a comprehensive research study to investigate the potential adverse impact that hydraulic fracturing may have on water quality and public health. Hydraulic fracturing is a technique used to extract natural gas from dense shale formations. The EPA has not determined the final scope and design of the study and is seeking comments from its Science Advisory Board, an independent, external federal advisory board.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/ba591ee790c58d30852576ea004ee3ad!OpenDocument>

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/business/6919758.html>

### **Waha Gas Processing Plant in Texas Shut due to Power Loss March 18**

In a filing to state regulators, the plant reported the entire facility went offline due to an "unforeseen loss of purchased power." Power was restored to the facility later the same day.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeq/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137224>

## Other News

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Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 19, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	80.26	81.28	50.62
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.19	4.47	3.75

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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**Con Ed Reported 10,024 Customers without Power in New York the Evening of March 18**

<http://www.coned.com/sm/>

**Exelon Argues Cost of Installing Mandated Cooling Towers at its Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey Exceeds Value of Plant, Threatens to Shut Down the Facility**

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100318/ap\\_on\\_bi\\_ge/us\\_oyster\\_creek\\_shutdown\\_threat](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100318/ap_on_bi_ge/us_oyster_creek_shutdown_threat)  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/18/AR2010031801473.html>

**Update: Port Dolphin Energy LLC Signs Deal with Port Manatee, Florida to Build a Natural Gas Port and Associated Pipeline 28-Miles Offshore – Company Awaits Deepwater Port License Approval Prior to Construction**

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20100319/ARTICLE/3191011/-1/NEWSITEMAP>

**Nigerian Rebel Group Claims Attack on Shell Oil Facility in Niger Delta Region of Nigeria, Shell Investigating Reports Sees No Immediate Impact on Production March 18**

Dow Jones Newswire, 10:34 March 19, 2010

**Tank Explosion Reported at Rural Oil and Gas Storage Tank Installation Site in Wise County, Texas – Two Workers Injured**

<http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=12171069>

## Links

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***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](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](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)*