



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 22, 2011

Electricity

PG&E Reports More Than 27,000 Customers without Power in California March 22

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17673409?nclick_check=1

Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 81 Percent by March 22

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 21 the unit was operating at 57 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Ramped Up to 64 Percent by March 22

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 21 the unit was operating at 4 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York Reduced to 55 Percent by March 22

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 21 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Citing Nuclear Crisis in Japan, NRG and Toshiba Slow Work on Proposed 2,700 MW Nuclear Power Project in Texas

NRG Energy, Inc. and Toshiba Corporation are slowing work on their proposed nuclear power expansion in Texas – the two-unit, 2,700 MW South Texas Project – to allow time for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and other stakeholders to derive lessons from the nuclear disaster in Japan, the companies said on March 21. More specifically, the companies only plan to work on tasks related to licensing and securing a federal loan guarantee.

[http://phx.corporate-](http://phx.corporate-ir.net/External.File?item=UGFyZW50SUQ9ODY0MjB8Q2hpbGRJRD0tMXxUeXBIPtM=&t=1)

[ir.net/External.File?item=UGFyZW50SUQ9ODY0MjB8Q2hpbGRJRD0tMXxUeXBIPtM=&t=1](http://phx.corporate-ir.net/External.File?item=UGFyZW50SUQ9ODY0MjB8Q2hpbGRJRD0tMXxUeXBIPtM=&t=1)

NRC Officials Have "High Degree of Confidence" in Safety of U.S. Nuclear Power Operations: NRC Executive Director for Operations

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110321/ap_on_re_us/us_us_japan_nuclear/print

NRC to Review Indication of Inadequately-Lubricated Pump at Ameren's 1,125 MW Callaway Nuclear Power Plant in Missouri

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) began a special inspection at Ameren's Callaway nuclear power plant to identify the circumstances surrounding an oil sample taken on February 8 indicating that an auxiliary pump might have been inadequately lubricated, the NRC said on March 21. The pump may not have been able to run for a sufficient length of time to meet its safety function during an accident scenario. The pump is used to supply water to the plant's steam generators during some accident conditions. The NRC also plans to review the licensee's response to the event and its evaluation of the operability of the pump.

<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1108/ML110800604.pdf>

Update: EDP Renewables' Horizon Wind Energy Plans 99 MW Timber Road II Wind Farm in Ohio

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/horizon-wind-energy-invests-approximately-175-million-in-paulding-county-ohio-118427009.html>

Petroleum

Update: Allied Fighters Continue Strikes as Gadhafi Loyalists Battle Rebels in Libya March 21-22

Fighting "should recede in the next few days" in Libya, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said on March 22, as pro-Gadhafi fighters continued to battle rebels throughout the North African nation, according to multiple news and official sources. The United States expected to cede control of the mission shortly but it remained unclear, as of latest reports, which nations or organizations would be in charge. At least two of Libya's six major oil terminals – Zuetina and Tobruk – were under rebel control, as of March 21. To read more about combat operations in Libya, please click on any of the links below.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-22/allies-control-of-airspace-in-libya-puts-qaddafi-s-ground-forces-at-risk.html>

<http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2011/03/22/libya-live-blog-satellite-images-appear-to-show-destruction-of-mosque/?hpt=T1>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/22/us-libya-idUSTRE7270JP20110322>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/23/world/africa/23libya.html?hp>

BOEMRE Approves First New Deepwater Exploration Plan since Deepwater Horizon Disaster March 21

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) approved Shell's plan to drill three exploratory wells in the Auger field, offshore Louisiana, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and BOEMRE Director Michael R. Bromwich announced on March 21. The news marked the Department's first approval of a deepwater exploration plan since the Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill. An exploration plan describes all exploration activities planned by the operator for a specific lease or leases, including the timing of these activities, information concerning drilling vessels, the location of each planned well, and other relevant information necessary to meet safety standards. Once a plan is approved, additional new applications for permits to drill can be issued. BOEMRE's authorization followed the completion of a site-specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) for deepwater oil and gas exploration.

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/Interior-Approves-First-Gulf-of-Mexico-Deepwater-Exploration-Plan-with-Post-Deepwater-Horizon-Environmental-Review.cfm>

Shell Reports Leak, Shutdown at 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery March 21

Shell shut the debenzenizer 2 column due to a leak on associated piping, the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152266>

BP Shuts Hydrotreater for Unscheduled Work at 264,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery by March 21

BP shut the unit for unscheduled work, a source familiar with the refinery's operations said on March 21. The company reported a unit upset and a release at the Carson facility on March 19, but it was unclear if that report was referring to the hydrotreater shutdown or a separate event.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201103211654dowjonesdjonline000351&title=bp-shuts-hydrotreater-unit-at-carsoncalifrefinery-source>

<http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/24a7f2fa1e1d8a2c88257858004cc12b?OpenDocument>

Update: After Weekend Rupture, Buckeye Restarts Sections of 2,000 Barrels/Hour, 10-Inch, Ohio-to-Pennsylvania Diesel Pipeline March 21

Buckeye Partners LP restarted sections of its 10-inch, Mantua, Ohio-to-Coraopolis, Pennsylvania ultra-low-sulfur diesel pipeline on March 21, the company said, one day after a rupture forced shut the line. The line broke near Midland, Pennsylvania. Buckeye restarted parts of the line east of the rupture, along with segments to the north and west of Aurora, Ohio. The company expected to repair the rupture and resume service within one week along the section of the line that delivers diesel to Coraopolis and the Pittsburgh area.
Reuters, 23:19 March 21, 2011

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Rail Cars Carrying Coal Derail in Bismarck, North Dakota March 18

Some 10 to 15 rail cars carrying coal derailed and spilled an unspecified quantity of coal in Bismarck, North Dakota on March 18. No injuries were reported.

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/46072/group/homepage/>

Japanese Earthquake/Tsunamis

Update: Overheating Storage Pond Disrupts Workers Efforts to Restore Power, Restart Cooling Systems at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in Japan March 22

Workers connected electrical cables to all six reactor buildings at the earthquake-and-tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant by late on March 21 – and returned power to the control room at reactor No. 3 by late on March 22 – but equipment damage and problems with a storage pond disrupted responders' efforts to return electricity to the site's cooling systems, multiple news and official sources reported. More specifically, the storage pond at reactor No. 2 began ejecting steam by late on March 22, forcing workers to attempt to cool the reactor building with water. That setback followed Tokyo Electric Power's announcement that seawater had caused more damage than previously thought to the facility's reactors No. 1 and 2. The company continued to evaluate reactors No. 3 and 4, but said it would not be able to replace the damaged parts at reactor No. 2 until March 23, at the earliest. The facility, meanwhile, was still releasing radiation from an unclear source, as of latest reports.

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/asiapcf/03/22/japan.nuclear.reactors/index.html?hpt=C2>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/22/us-japan-quake-idUSTRE72A0SS20110322>

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/22/world/asia/22japan.html?_r=1&hp

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/23/world/asia/23japan.html?hp>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-12814871>

Update: JX Nippon Oil & Energy Restarts 270,000 b/d Refinery as Japanese Government Authorizes Crude Oil Release from Privately-Controlled Reserves March 21

JX Nippon Oil & Energy restarted its 270,000 b/d refinery in Yokohama and the Japanese government approved the release of approximately 58.1 million barrels of oil from privately-controlled reserves on March 21, news and official sources reported. Six Japanese refineries, representing 1.4 million b/d of capacity, went offline in the immediate aftermath of the March 11 earthquake and tsunamis. Three refineries, representing 620,000 b/d of capacity, remained shut, as of latest reports. A fuel tanker, meanwhile, arrived over the weekend in the hard-hit city of Sendai. The vessel was carrying petrol, light oil, and kerosene.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL3E7EB2HO20110322>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/22/us-japan-oil-reserves-idUSTRE72L1BW20110322>

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/4438623c-53c3-11e0-a01c-00144feab49a.html#axzz1HL6E9zTj>

<http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/business/news/20110322p2g00m0bu035000c.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices March 22, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	103.62	98.62	80.86
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.99	3.90	4.01

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

TVA Plans to Construct about Five Miles of 161-kV Electric Transmission Line in Kentucky

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/tva-seeks-comments-on-proposed-ky-transmission-project-118441109.html>

Juhl Wind Completes Construction at 19.8 MW Danielson Wind Power Project in Meeker County, Minnesota by March 22

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/juhl-wind-inc-announces-completion-of-construction-for-the-danielson-wind-project-in-central-minnesota-118422774.html>

Underground Fire Leads to Manhole Cover Explosions in Toledo, Ohio March 19 – Firefighters Discover Burning Toledo Edison-Owned Insulation

<http://www.foxtoledo.com/dpp/news/local/Fire-forces-manhole-covers-to-explode>

Worker Burned in Explosion at Eagle Energy Co.-Operated Oil Rig in Woods County, Oklahoma March 19

<http://newsok.com/oil-rig-explosion-burns-worker/article/3550378>

Kulczyk Oil Ventures Says Itheria Prospect in Syria Could Contain 777 Million Barrels of Oil Equivalent – Bashaer Prospect in Syria Could Hold 107 Million Barrels of Oil Equivalent

http://www.kulczykoil.com/en/press_releases_2/artykuly/substantial_prospective_resource_identified_on_syria_block_9/

Fan Failure Leads to Upset, Unit Shutdown at Aker Gas Plant in Texas March 21

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152268>

Iraq Plans November Auction for 12 Blocks That it Says Hold at Least 29 Tcf of Non-Associated Natural Gas

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=105334

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>

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