



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 22, 2016

## *Electricity*

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### **Minnesota Power Reports Power Restored to 10,000 Customers after Substation Trip March 22**

Minnesota Power reported a power outage affected about 10,000 customers for a brief period Tuesday morning in eastern Duluth and surrounding areas. A utility spokeswoman said the Colbyville substation tripped while maintenance was being performed, which affected a number of primary feeders. All customers had power restored within 45 minutes.

<http://outagemap.mnpower.com/external/default.html>

<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/3992171-power-restored-after-large-outage-eastern-duluth-surrounding-areas>

### **Dynegy's 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Shut by March 21**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201603211515.html>

### **Edison Mission Energy's 586 MW Sunrise Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by March 21**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201603211515.html>

## *Petroleum*

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### **Update: ExxonMobil Delays Restart Hearing for Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery to April 2**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District hearing board will now meet on April 2 to consider restart plans for the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) and electrostatic precipitator (ESP) at ExxonMobil's Torrance, California refinery. Last week ExxonMobil said a March 16 power interruption and two unplanned breakdowns affected critical restart activities at the facility and requested to delay the hearing, which had been scheduled for March 19. ExxonMobil needs district approval of its restart plan due to the fact that safe startup processes will violate air quality regulations until all units reach normal rates. The change in plans will further delay restart activities as well as ExxonMobil's planned sale of the refinery to PBF Energy. Upon successful restart, ExxonMobil must conduct a 35-day test period to ensure stable operations of the FCCU before PBF will close on the deal.

<https://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/docs/eads/ead031816.pdf>

<https://www.argusmedia.com/News/Article/?id=1207251>

### **Total Reports Unit Malfunctions at Its 225,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 21**

Total SA reported a sudden surge of acid gas overwhelmed the header and caused an upset at units 870 and 875 at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Units 865 and 866 were reduced to allow the acid gas from the surge to be processed at units 870 and 875. The refiner added that the affected units were not shut during the incident.

Reuters, 18:09 March 21, 2016

## **Chevron Reports Normal Operations after Process Unit Upset at Its 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery March 22**

Chevron Corp reported normal operations at its Richmond, California refinery after an unspecified process unit upset resulted in unplanned flaring, according to a filing with the California Emergency Management Agency. Reuters, 14:02 March 22, 2016

## **Alberta Energy Regulator Sets Permanent Steam Limits at CNRL's 110,000 b/d Primrose Oil Sands Project Following 2013 Bitumen Leak March 22**

The Alberta Energy Regulator said on Monday it was implementing additional requirements at Canadian Natural Resources Ltd's (CNRL) Primrose oil sands project in northern Alberta after concluding that excessive steaming caused a 6,648-barrel bitumen emulsion leak in 2013. The requirements include permanent limits on the company's allowable steam volumes used to extract bitumen from underground reservoirs, and a requirement that CNRL seek approval for each steaming cycle at its Primrose East site. CNRL has been operating under temporary steam restrictions since bitumen emulsion was discovered oozing to the surface from four locations beginning in May 2013.

<https://www.aer.ca/about-aer/media-centre/news-releases/news-release-2016-03-21>

Reuters, 16:27 March 21, 2016

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Canada's Environment Minister Approves Woodfibre LNG Export Project with Conditions in British Columbia March 18**

Canada's Environment Minister on Friday approved a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export project proposed by Woodfibre LNG in British Columbia, after an environmental review found the project was not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. The Environment Minister imposed numerous conditions on the project, including restrictions related to construction in or near fish habitat and additional consultation with Aboriginal groups. Woodfibre LNG hopes to build its LNG export terminal outside the city of Squamish, north of Vancouver. The next steps are for the proponent to obtain approvals and permits, including regulatory authorizations from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada

<http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?sessionId=8905c8d37d72c42972c58c37c9d6bb15d12b4a112c9b1a0cc8db2ec728613ac3.e38RbhaLb3qNe3aQaN90?mthd=tp&crtr.page=1&nid=1041579&crtr.tp1D=1>  
<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3539375/Latest-News/Canada-approves-Woodfibre-LNG-with-conditions.html>

## ***Other News***

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Nothing to report.

## ***International News***

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### **Engie's Doel, Tihange Nuclear Power Plants in Belgium Evacuates Non-Essential Staff, Increases Security Measures Following Airport, Metro Attacks March 22**

Staff not essential to operating the reactors at nuclear plants in Doel and Tihange, Belgium have been evacuated at the request of Belgian authorities, the plants' operator Engie said on Tuesday. An Engie spokesperson said key staff remained on site to continue operating the facilities, but added that the evacuations were part of a set of safety measures related to the high security alert following the deadly attacks Tuesday on the Brussels airport and a metro station. There has been an increase in military presence at the sites since the events of this morning, the spokesperson said. Belgium's Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC) spokesperson said that for the foreseeable future Belgium's nuclear plants will continue operating with staffing levels similar to weekend service to ensure that no unauthorized personnel could gain access to the plants. Engie owns and operates seven reactors in Belgium through its Belgian unit Electrabel.

Reuters, 12:02 March 22, 2016

[http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/654636/Belgium-s-Tihange-nuclear-power-planet-evacuated-after-Brussels-terror-attack](http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/654636/Belgium-s-Tihange-nuclear-power-plant-evacuated-after-Brussels-terror-attack)

## Iraq Exports First Ever Condensate Shipment March 20 – Oil Ministry

Iraq on Sunday exported its first ever shipment of condensates on a Panama-flagged vessel that sailed from Iraq's southern port of Umm Qasr on the Persian Gulf with a cargo of about 10,000 cubic meters, an Oil Ministry spokesman said. The next cargo will be shipped by the end of this month, the spokesman added. In November 2011, Iraq signed a \$17 billion deal forming a joint-venture with Shell to gather, process, and market produced condensates from three oil fields in the oil-rich province of Basra.  
Reuters, 10:31 March 20, 2016

## Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 22, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	41.40	36.27	45.95
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	1.76	1.68	2.84

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](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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