



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday, March 31, 2006

Electricity

Sumas 2 Power Plant Project in Washington State Killed

National Energy Systems announced that it will not pursue plans to construct a \$400 million gas-fired power plant in Washington State, near the Canadian border. The plant had been opposed by residents in Canada and was effectly killed when the Canadian National Energy Board failed to grant permission to construct a power line into British Columbia.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6508157

Update: Sempra Discards Plan to Construct 1,200 MW Coal-fired Plant in Nevada

As reported in EAD on March 30, Sempra announced that it was abandoning plans to construct a 600 MW coal-fired plant in Idaho. Sempra also announced that it was forgoing plans to construct a 1,200 MW coal-fired plant in Nevada. Sempra indicated that the change in plans was a strategic decision and did not result from opposition by state and local interests.

<http://powermarketers.net/contentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5BgkspoupSVgb%216%3C%22bfe1%5D>
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Update: Energy Northwest's 1,108 MW Columbia Nuclear Plant in Washington Operating at 100 Percent of Capacity

The 1,108 MW Columbia nuclear generating station in Washington was operating at full power by early morning on March 31, according to the daily report of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Energy Northwest had reduced output on March 28 to repair a leaking condenser.

Reuters, 07:31 March 31, 2006

Bloomberg, 11:07 March 28, 2006

http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/nuclear/page/at_a_glance/reactors/columbia.html

Update: Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant Returns to Full Power in New Jersey March 31

Exelon Corp's 605 MW Oyster Creek nuclear generating station in New Jersey was operating at 100 percent of capacity by early morning according to the daily report of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. On March 29, the company had reduced output to about 60 percent of capacity to repair a leaking valve on a reactor feed pump.

Reuters, 07:19 March 31, 2006.

Bloomberg, 12:37 March 31, 2006.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/nuclear/page/at_a_glance/reactors/oyster_creek.html

Petroleum

Murphy Sees Restart of Meraux Refinery in Louisiana by Mid-April

Murphy Oil Corp announced that repairs to its 125,000 b/d Meraux refinery in Louisiana, heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina last year, should be completed soon. The company anticipates that the restart of the refinery will be gradual and will begin about the middle of April. No estimate as to the volume of oil the refinery will initially process after the restart was available.

Bloomberg, 17:45 March 30, 2006.

BP Sees Gasoline Production at its 460,000 b/d Texas City Refinery Starting in Two Weeks

BP announced that gasoline production at its 460,000 b/d Texas City refinery, severely damaged by Hurricane Rita last year, will resume in two weeks. According to a company representative, the refinery is in a "pre-production" phase as units are made ready to be brought back on-line.

Reuters, 17:42 March 30, 2006.

Bloomberg, 13:53 March 31, 2006.

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 31, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	66.25	63.90	57.26
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	6.98	7.43	7.57
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Construction on 1,500 MW Prairie State Coal-fired Plant in Illinois Could begin Late this Year – But Significant Obstacles Remain

<http://powermarketers.net/content/inc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5Bgksropu%5BVgb%216%3C%22bfe1%5Dv>

Vermont Wind Project: Supported by One State Agency, Opposed by Another

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060329/NEWS/603290345/1004/NEWS03>

House Budget Committee Excludes ANWR from 2007 Budget Bill

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index March 31, 2006

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Ecuador Increases Assessments on Private Oil Company Revenues – Could Impede Investment

Oil Daily March 31, 2006

http://www.energyintel.com/PublicationHomePage.asp?publication_id=5

Natural Resource Defense Council Challenges Findings of National Council Study

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/7358829.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

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 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.

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