



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, April 01, 2011

Electricity

Update: After March 30-31 Storms, More than 43,000 Customers Remain without Power in Florida April 1

Some 23,186 Progress Energy customers and about 20,000 Tampa Electric customers in Florida remained without power on April 1, the companies reported, after storms cut electricity to more than 415,000 customers on March 30-31, news and company sources reported. To see a full list of affected utilities, please see yesterday's Energy Assurance Daily.

<http://www.progress-energy.com/shared/outages/fla/default.aspx>

<http://www.tampaelectric.com/outagemap/>

FPL's 1,155 MW Seabrook Nuclear Unit 1 in New Hampshire Shut by April 1

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 31 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/>

Update: PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 2 in California Ramped Up to 35 Percent by April 1

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) shut the unit on March 26 after the "loss of the 2-1 main feedwater pump," the company said previously in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of March 31 the unit was not operating.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110328en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Duke's 325 MW Morro Bay Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Reduced by March 31

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 180 MW by March 31.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201103311515.html>

Competitive Power Ventures Plans 663 MW Gas-Fired Power Plant in New Jersey

Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) expects to be ready to break ground on the plant, or CPV Woodbridge Energy Center, in the summer of 2012. The company plans to open the project in 2015.

http://www.cpv.com/press_detail.php?p_id=40

Progress Energy to Retire 170 MW W.H. Weatherspoon Coal-Fired Power Plant in North Carolina in Fall 2011

Progress Energy Carolinas expects to retire the facility after it operates during this summer's period of high electricity demand, the company said on April 1. Progress had previously planned to shutter the plant by 2017.

<http://progress-energy.com/aboutus/news/article.asp?id=25922>

Dominion Virginia Power to Convert Three 63 MW Coal-Fired Power Plants in Virginia to Run on Biomass – New Units to Each Generate 50 MW of Electricity

Dominion Virginia Power plans to convert its coal-fired power stations in Altavista, Hopewell, and Southampton County, Virginia to run on biomass, the company said on April 1. The stations could begin burning biomass in 2013. Each converted unit would produce 50 MW of electricity. The existing stations each generate 63 MW of power.

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=976>

Petroleum

NYMEX Oil Futures Rise to Two-and-a-Half-Year High as Fighting Continues in Libya March 31

Crude oil for May delivery surged \$2.45 to \$106.72 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) yesterday, marking the highest close since September 2008. The surge came as pro-Gadhafi forces re-captured the important oil town of Ras Lanuf in Libya.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/oil-surges-to-end-quarter-at-two-and-a-half-year-high-on-libya/2011/03/31/AFp35tBC_story.html

Leak Forces Shut 45,000 b/d Hydrocracker at Valero's 287,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 31

A seal leak forced shut the unit on March 31, a company spokesman said.
Reuters, 15:28 March 31, 2011

Update: After Extended Shutdown, Alon Restarts 53,000 b/d Paramount, California Refinery by April 1

The company shut the Paramount facility in December 2010 to integrate its operations with a separate Alon refinery in Bakersfield, California.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201104011054dowjonesdjonline000312&title=refinery-status Exxon-restarts-torrance-refinery-units>

Reuters, 01:41 April 1, 2011

Statoil Discovers Oil on Skrugard Prospect in Offshore Norway – Prospect Contains Between 150-250 Million Recoverable Barrels of Oil Equivalent

Statoil, along with partners Eni Norway and Petoro, discovered an estimated 150-250 million recoverable barrels of oil equivalent (boe) on the Skrugard prospect in the Barents Sea, offshore Norway, Statoil said on April 1. Statoil said the license could contain a further upside of up to 250 million barrels, for a potential total of 500 million boe.

<http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2011/Pages/01AprSkrugard.aspx>

Natural Gas

Update: Rupture along Enbridge-Owned Condensate Oil-and-Natural Gas Pipeline near Cameron, Louisiana Forces Shut Associated Production Platform, Halts Traffic along Calcasieu Ship Channel March 30-31

An Enbridge-owned, 12-inch, condensate oil-and-natural gas pipeline was ruptured during a dredging operation within the Calcasieu Ship Channel on March 30, halting traffic along the channel, leading Enbridge to declare force majeure, and forcing shut a related production platform, according to multiple company, news, and official sources. A helicopter was dispatched on March 31 to assess the extent of pollution, but the aircrew did not observe any visible signs of condensate oil pollution in the water, the U.S. Coast Guard said. The ruptured pipeline – a gathering line that delivers gas and condensate into Enbridge's 650 MMcf/d, 36-inch, 325-mile Stingray pipeline system – was still offline, as of latest reports. The Stingray pipeline and the remainder of the gathering system, however, remained in service, a company spokeswoman said.

<http://www.d8externalaffairs.com/go/doc/425/1053915/>

<http://apps.enbridgeus.com/ENotices/NoticeEntryPage.aspx?selnoticecode=stry201190.17428>

<http://apps.enbridgeus.com/ENotices/NoticeEntryPage.aspx?selnoticecode=stry201190.101450>

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2011/04/01/No-pollution-seen-at-Louisiana-pipeline/UPI-68531301657127/

<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201103311545dowjonesdjonline000483&title=us-coast-guardoffshore-oilgas-pipeline-ruptured-in-louisiana>

<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201103311545dowjonesdjonline000483&title=us-coast-guardoffshore-oilgas-pipeline-ruptured-in-louisiana>

Leaks Lead El Paso's Tennessee Gas to Declare Force Majeure along Sections of U.S. Gulf Coast-to-U.S. Northeast Natural Gas Pipeline System April 1

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company declared force majeure for multiple segments along its U.S. Gulf Coast-to-U.S. Northeast Natural Gas pipeline system, the company said in an online posting. The company did not expect the incident to impact scheduled volumes, according to the posting.

<http://tebb.epenergy.com/ebbmastertpage/Notices/NoticesAutoTable.aspx?code=TGP&name=Tennessee%20Gas%20Pipeline%20Company%20-%20Notice%20Text&status=Notice&sParam1=TGP&sParam2=D&sParam4=137237&sParam9=D&details=Y>

Southern Union Company Opens 820,000 MMBtu/d, 483-Mile Expansion along Florida Gas Transmission Natural Gas Pipeline in Alabama and Florida April 1

Southern Union Company today opened an 820,000 MMBtu/d expansion – dubbed the Florida Gas Transmission Company (FGT) Phase VIII Expansion project – along its natural gas pipeline system in Alabama and Florida, Southern said in a release. The project included approximately 483 miles of new pipeline and 213,600 horsepower of additional mainline compression.

<http://www.southernunionco.com/press/040111.htm>

<http://www.panhandleenergy.com/phaseviii.asp>

St. Louis Natural Gas Pipeline LLC Plans 200 MMcf/d, 20-Inch, 11-Mile Natural Gas Pipeline in Missouri

St. Louis Natural Gas Pipeline aims to open the pipeline by the fall of 2012, but an in-state utility – Laclede – has so far denied St. Louis Natural's bid to link the line with Laclede's pipeline system.

http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/article_794a9b88-9056-567b-b777-ca2a27a3f34e.html

NGS Energy Opens 8 Bcf Cavern at Leaf River Natural Gas Storage Facility in Mississippi April 1

NGS Energy, L.P.'s Leaf River Energy Center LLC opened the first 8 Bcf cavern at its natural gas storage facility in Taylorsville, Mississippi on April 1. Leaf River expects to open an additional cavern in 2012. The facility's FERC certificate allows for a total of four caverns with approximately 32 Bcf of capacity and the capability to inject up to 1 Bcf/d and withdraw up to 2.5 Bcf/d.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/leaf-river-energy-center-commences-commercial-operations-119049929.html>

<http://www.ngsenergy.com/leafriver/>

Other News

Obama Highlights Public-Private Partnership Intended to Help Large Companies Incorporate Electric Vehicles, Alternative Fuels, and Fuel-Saving Measures into Daily Operations

President Obama today planned to highlight the National Clean Fleets Partnership, a public-private partnership intended to help large companies reduce diesel and gasoline use in their fleets by incorporating electric vehicles, alternative fuels, and fuel-saving measures into their daily operations. The Partnership announced today the commitments of five of its charter members: AT&T, FedEx, PepsiCo, UPS, and Verizon. Their planned current and near-term petroleum reduction strategies will result in the deployment of over 20,000 advanced technology vehicles and annual petroleum displacement in excess of 7 million gallons.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/04/01/fact-sheet-national-clean-fleets-partnership>

Cargill to Reopen Newly-Purchased, Planned 115 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant in Fort Dodge, Iowa

Tate and Lyle, the plant's previous owner, abandoned the project two years ago. Cargill expects to begin operations within 18 to 24 months.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110401/BUSINESS01/104010349/-1/GETPUBLISHED03WP-CONTENT/Cargill-reopen-idled-ethanol-plant-Fort-Dodge>

Update: Normal Gasoline Supplies to Resume in Earthquake-Ravaged Northern Japan around Mid-April: Petroleum Association of Japan

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/01/japan-oil-idUSL3E7F11CS20110401>

Update: Workers Discover Radioactive Groundwater near Reactor Building at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan March 30

Workers discovered radioactive iodine-131 at levels 10,000 times the legal limit in groundwater near a reactor building at Tokyo Electric Power's earthquake-and-tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan on March 30, the company said on March 31. A spokesman, however, said later that the reading could have been erroneous. The company, meanwhile, continued its fight today to prevent four of the facility's six reactors from melting down, according to multiple news and official sources. Tokyo Electric Power said last week that it planned to shutter Reactors 1, 2, 3, and 4 at the plant, but Japan's Prime Minister said yesterday that Reactors 5 and 6 should also be decommissioned.

<http://www.tepco.co.jp/en/press/corp-com/release/index-e.html>

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703712504576234023964205358.html?mod=WSJ_hp_MIDDLEN_exttoWhatsNewsSecond

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-31/japan-reviewing-water-tests-showing-iodine-at-10-000-times-limit.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/03/16/world/asia/reactors-status.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/01/world/asia/01japan.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 1, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	106.80	104.41	84.39
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.32	4.27	3.93

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Snow Storm Cuts Power to Nearly 25,000 PSNH Customers in New Hampshire April 1 – Less than 2,000 Customers Remain without Power

<http://www.psnh.com/outage/outagemap.aspx>

<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=April+Fools+storm+knocks+out+power+to+thousands&articleId=e56d3c30-57c3-4849-ac3d-fce9c6e86951>

Storm Knocks Out Power to 13,733 National Grid Customers and More than 7,700 NStar Customers in Massachusetts April 1

http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2011/04/snow_expected_t_1.html

Cleco Power to Bring Online 35 MW Gas-Fired Unit 4 at Teche Power Station in Baldwin, Louisiana April 1

<http://investors.cleco.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=82212&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1544914&highlight=>

EPA Proposes to Grant Petition Submitted by New Jersey Regulators to Reduce SO2 Emissions by 81 Percent over Three-Year Period from Reliant's Portland Generating Station in Northampton County, Pennsylvania

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/93ad99b7380a28e285257864005851a1!OpenDocument>

Federal Judge Rules that U.S. Government Broke Law by Authorizing and Financially Supporting Sunflower Electric's Planned 895 MW Coal-Fired Power Plant in Kansas by March 31

<http://www.kansascity.com/2011/03/31/2767164/court-ruling-could-delay-sunflower.html>

Valve Snag Triggers Hydrogen Sulfide Release at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas by April 1

DJN, 12:00 April 1, 2011

Unplanned Flaring at ExxonMobil's 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery April 1-2

Reuters, 11:47 April 1, 2011

Truck and Semi-Trailer Crash into Fuel Tanker Truck along Highway 2 in Nebraska, Spilling Unspecified Quantity of Fuel March 30 – Tanker Thought to be Hauling 8,500 Gallons of Diesel and Unleaded Fuel

<http://www.journaldemocrat.com/newsnow/x1626572201/Tanker-on-fire-Highway-2-closed>

Workers Strike to Blame as Total Halts Oil Production in Gabon April 1 – Company Produced 67,000 b/d in Gabon during 2010

Reuters, 09:22 April 1, 2011

Dominion East Ohio Seeks State Authorization to Accelerate Previously-Approved Pipeline Infrastructure Replacement Program along Natural Gas Pipeline System in Ohio – Company to nearly Double Program Spending to More than \$200 Million/Year

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/dominion-east-ohio-proposes-acceleration-of-pipeline-replacement-program-generating-more-jobs-tax-revenues-118989464.html>

Update: FERC Gives Environmental Authorization for Dominion's Proposed 484,260 Dth/d, 20-, 24-, and 30-Inch, 110-Mile, West Virginia-to-Pennsylvania Natural Gas Pipeline Project by April 1 – Company to Open Appalachian Gateway Project by September 2012

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

<http://www.dom.com/business/gas-transmission/appalachian-gateway/index.jsp>

Unspecified Problem Leads to Flaring at Keystone Gas Plant in Texas March 31 – April 1

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152719>

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

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. EST. 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