



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 01, 2014

Electricity

Snow, Ice Storm Knocks Out Power to 33,000 NB Power Customers in New Brunswick March 31

NB Power crews worked through the night Monday to restore power to more than 33,000 customers knocked off line by a slow-moving spring storm bringing freezing rain, ice pellets, heavy snow, and high winds to New Brunswick. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Tuesday, 15,190 customers remained without power. The severe weather was causing ice-covered trees to fall on power lines, and high winds and freezing rain were knocking down power lines and poles in some locations. Due to the changing weather and challenging working conditions, some customers were expected to remain without power until Tuesday or longer.

<http://www.nbpower.com/Open/Outages.aspx?lang=en>

http://www.nbpower.com/html/en/about/media/media_release/2014/03-31-EN-restoration-update.html

FPL's 1,155 MW Seabrook Nuclear Unit 1 in New Hampshire Trips Offline Due to Electrical Issue April 1

Following the turbine shutdown and removal of the main generator from service in preparation for a refueling outage, Seabrook had a reactor trip and all control rods were fully inserted. The trip was caused by an electrical issue that caused 345 kV bus 6 to deenergize and power was lost to the Unit Auxiliary Transformers (UATs). The in-house busses transferred to the Reserve Auxiliary Transformer (RAT) supplies and the momentary loss of power to in-house bus 1 caused 2 reactor coolant pumps to trip, generating a 2 loop loss of flow reactor trip signal. The exact cause of the initialing electrical issue is being investigated. On the morning of March 31 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140401en.html>

Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reports Pressure Boundary Leak During Coastdown March 31

On March 31, with unit 2 coasting down, leakage was identified from the body of a one inch isolation valve associated with a control rod drive hydraulic control unit. The leakage is several drops per minute; attempts to isolate the leak have been unsuccessful. The cause and resolution of the leakage are being pursued.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140401en.html>

Update: Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York at Full Power by April 1

On the morning of March 31 the unit was operating at 50 percent, down from full power by March 30.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Restarts by March 31, Ramps Up to 18 Percent by April 1

By the morning of March 31 the unit had restarted and was operating at 1 percent. The unit shut by March 29 due to a turbine trip.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Transportation Safety Board of Canada Urges Faster Phase-out of Old Rail Tankers

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada reiterated on Tuesday the need for a fast phase-out of older oil-by-rail cars in light of last summer's oil train explosion in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, that killed 47 people. Regulators are focusing on DOT-111 tanker cars which are used to carry oil. New DOT-111s are being built to safer standards but the question is what to do with the large number of older ones. The U.S. Railway Supply Institute, representing tank car owners and lessors, had estimated in December that modification of the legacy tank cars could take 10 years but in February it suggested the time for addressing the highest risks could be shortened if crude and ethanol tank cars were modified first.

Reuters, 10:51 April 1, 2014

Natural Gas

Explosion, Fire Shut Williams Partners' 2.4 Bcf LNG Facility in Plymouth, Washington March 31

Williams Partners' liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in Plymouth, Washington was shut down Monday morning after an explosion and fire. The facility activated emergency procedures, which included notifying local authorities and completely evacuating all personnel. One employee was injured and four others were assessed by medical personnel and then released. Nearly all of the residents who were evacuated Monday as a precautionary measure following an incident have been allowed to return to their homes, the local incident command reported. Company officials' initial assessment of the incident determined it was not a natural gas pipeline rupture; rather, it occurred within the LNG storage facility. The company said it believes that only natural gas was released and it evaporated into the atmosphere. The two 1.2 Bcf tanks involved were about one-third full of LNG at the time of the incident. Company officials and emergency responders late Monday were conducting a visual inspection of the facility using remotely operated devices and were developing a plan for returning to the facility. The facility is owned by Williams Partners' subsidiary Northwest Pipeline LLC. A notice on Northwest Pipeline's website Tuesday morning indicated that there were not any flow restrictions to the laterals that intersect the Plymouth yard, and that Williams would not be accepting any nominations at the Plymouth LNG facility until further notice.

<http://co.williams.com/williams/news-media/plymouth-wa-update/>

http://www.northwest.williams.com/NWP_Portal/

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/03/31/williamspartners-natgaspipe-fire-idUSL1N0MS11N20140331>

Duke Energy, Piedmont Natural Gas Seek Proposals to Build 900 MMcf/d Natural Gas Pipeline into North Carolina

Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas this week will jointly issue a solicitation for proposals to build and operate a second major wholesale natural gas pipeline into North Carolina to meet growing demand for the fuel in the Carolinas and possibly surrounding states. Currently, North Carolina is served primarily by a single major wholesale interstate natural gas pipeline that runs through the state. A new pipeline would expand Duke Energy's and Piedmont's "access to competitive, secure, diverse and abundant supplies," and "enhance the reliability of future natural gas deliveries into the state," the solicitation says. The two companies seek an initial natural gas pipeline capacity of as much as 900 MMcf/d, with a target in-service date of late 2018. The companies expect to select a proposal by late 2014.

<http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2014040101.asp>

TransCanada's ANR Pipeline System Secures Long-Term Commitments for 2 Bcf/d of Natural Gas on Its Southeast Main Line

TransCanada Corporation on Monday announced its ANR Pipeline system secured almost 2 Bcf/d of firm natural gas transportation commitments on its Southeast Main Line (SEML) at maximum rates for an average term of 23 years. Approximately 1.25 Bcf/d will commence in 2014, with the remaining volume commencing in 2015. Through a series of open seasons and working directly with customers, ANR secured contracts on available capacity on the SEML to move Utica and Marcellus shale gas to points north and south on the system. This includes most recently securing 600 MMcf/d as part of a reversal project on the SEML system. This project will enhance existing bi-directional flow capability that will allow more natural gas to move south to the Gulf Coast, where markets are experiencing a resurgence of natural gas demand for industrial use, as well as significant new demand related to natural gas exports from recently approved liquefaction terminals.

<http://www.transcanada.com/news-releases-article.html?id=1823347>

DCP Midstream Reports Engine Shut, Flaring at Its 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas March 31

DCP Midstream reported the NR20 5# engine was shut down to investigate and repair an unusual noise. Mechanics repaired and restarted the NR20 engine causing flare pressure to drop and the flare event to end.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=196134>

Upton Reports Power Outage, Flaring at Its 112 MMcf/d Benedum Gas Plant in Texas March 30

Upton reported flaring due to a third party power outage during high wind conditions. The third party power provider was notified of the outage and assistance was requested to restore power to the facility.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=196101>

Southern Union Reports Flaring at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas March 30

Southern Union reported flaring of low pressure inlet gas due to not enough compression to handle the amount of gas coming into the plant. The inlet gas was backed out of the plant.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=196113>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Total Resumes Operations at Yemen's 60,000 b/d Block 10 Oil Field March 31

Total said on Monday it had resumed operations at Yemen's Block 10 oil field after it was shut due to strike action by workers this month. Block 10 is in the unstable region of Hadramout, where fighting between government forces and a big tribal confederation has continued since December 2013.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/132349/Total_Resumes_Operations_At_Yemen_Oil_Field#sthash.nsdjphz.dpuf

Kurdish Oil Exports on Hold Due to Repairs on Iraq's Kirkuk-Ceyhan Pipeline

Plans to resume oil exports from Iraqi Kurdistan were on hold due to ongoing repair work on a pipeline running from the Kirkuk oilfields to Turkey, the regional government said in a statement. Last month, the Kurdish Prime Minister said the region would begin exporting 100,000 b/d from April 1 using Iraq's official pipeline network as a "gesture of goodwill" to ease a dispute with the federal government in Baghdad.

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/oil-flow-turkey-and-iraq-halts-due-to-pipeline-problems.aspx?pageID=238&nID=64413&NewsCatID=348>

Reuters, 3:23 April 1, 2014

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 1, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	99.96	100.00	96.78
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.47	4.41	4.03

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

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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