



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, April 04, 2014

Electricity

Powerful Storms Knock Out Power to Over 73,000 Customers in Southern States April 3–4

A severe spring storm brought frequent lightning, tennis ball- and golf ball-sized hail, and straight line wind gusts up to 80 mph to parts of the South Thursday night and into Friday, knocking out power to 72,619 customers in Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. As of 3:30 PM EDT, approximately 23,532 customers remained without power in the affected service territories. Entergy Arkansas, which reported widespread and extensive damage including broken poles and downed power lines, said restoration could go into the weekend for the hardest hit areas of its service territory.

Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas Customer Power Outages			
April 3–4, 2014			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Entergy Arkansas	AR	51,373	17,895
SWEPCO	AR	1,632	1,330
SWEPCO	LA	931	8
Entergy Louisiana	LA	3,018	129
Beauregard Electric Coop Inc	LA	3,411	1,414
Entergy Mississippi	MS	10,250	2,750
SWEPCO	TX	2,004	6
TOTAL*		72,619	23,532

*Total outages represent only electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

http://stormcenter.entergy.com/article.aspx?NR_ID=234

<http://www.weather.com/tv/tvshows/americas-morning-headquarters/severe-weather-plains-southeast-20140403>

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ar.aspx>

http://stormcenter.entergy.com/article.aspx?NR_ID=232

<https://twitter.com/EntergyMS>

<http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=swepc>

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/la.aspx>

<http://www.becioutage.org/>

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ms.aspx>

Entergy's 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 in Arkansas Shut April 3

Entergy Corp. reported unit 2 automatically shut on Thursday from full power, possibly due to a lightning strike.

The exact cause remains under investigation and the plant was stable, the company said in a statement on Friday.

Arkansas Nuclear Unit 1 was not affected and was operating at full power.

Reuters, 8:56 April 4, 2014

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140404en.html>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramps Up to 83 Percent by April 4

On the morning of April 3 the unit was operating at 68 percent after restarting by March 31. The unit shut by March 29 due to a turbine trip.

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

PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Ramps Up to 83 Percent by April 4

On the morning of April 3 the unit was operating at 55 percent. The unit was reduced to 50 percent from full power by April 2.

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

Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by April 3

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 313 MW that began by March 31.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201404031515.html>

Petroleum

Update: ExxonMobil Reopens Baton Rouge Gasoline Terminal April 4 after Bad Batch Problem

ExxonMobil on Thursday reopened the racks at its Baton Rouge, Louisiana, gasoline terminal after it shut the facility March 26 because of problems involving more than 5 million gallons of unleaded regular gasoline. Two batches of bad fuel, totaling 120,000 barrels, produced at ExxonMobil in mid-March caused some Baton Rouge area drivers to experience problems with their intake and valve systems. ExxonMobil investigated and blamed the problems on an "atypical variation" in the fuel, though all of the gasoline produced met regulatory specifications, according to the Advocate. ExxonMobil said it did not observe this variation in batches currently produced

<http://world.einnews.com/article/198560945/SK8i8JhuNhQrENLE>

Crude Oil Storage Tank Spills 100 barrels into Big Sandy River Tributary in Kentucky April 3

Workers in eastern Kentucky were cleaning up an estimated 100 barrels of crude oil that spilled into a tributary of the Big Sandy River. The Pike County Emergency Management director said a landslide broke the piping off a storage tank sometime overnight, releasing the oil inside the tank into the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River. An environmental cleanup company was brought in, and WCHS-TV in Charleston, West Virginia, said officials believe the spill could be cleaned up with booms that float on the water and collect oil.

<http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/Crude-oil-storage-tank-spills-in-eastern-Ky-253804881.html>

Apache Corp. Oil Well Explodes During Routine Maintenance in New Mexico April 2

Four Mesa Well Servicing workers were injured in an oil well explosion near Loco Hills, New Mexico while conducting routine maintenance April 2 after a failed seal on an Apache Corporation-owned well created a pressure buildup of air and crude oil within the well, resulting in a blowout. The oil well was closed while authorities investigated the incident.

http://www.currentargus.com/ci_25475721/4-injured-oil-well-explosion-near-loco-hills

U.S. Coast Guard Report Faults Shell in 2012 Alaska Ship Accident

The U.S. Coast Guard blamed Shell Oil's "inadequate assessment and management of risks" for the December 31, 2012, accident in which the Kulluk, a large vessel customized to aid drilling and ensure safety in Alaska's icy Arctic waters, ran aground on the southeastern shoreline of Alaska's Sitkalidak Island after the towline broke in rough seas. The report issued Thursday cited "potential evidence of negligent conduct" and said that the accident was partly the result of Shell's desire to avoid tax assessments that would have kicked in if the vessel were still in Alaskan waters on January 1, 2013. The Coast Guard report criticized the plan to travel so close to the Alaskan islands. No one was injured but the damaged vessel was scrapped. Shell took a \$200 million tax write-off, according to the company's fourth-quarter earnings statement.

Reuters, 4:05 April 4, 2014

Update: Tesoro Says Operations Normal at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery April 4

Tesoro Corp. said on Friday operations were running normally at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California. The company had restarted a unit after repairs on Wednesday, according to a filing with state pollution regulators on Thursday.

Reuters, 11:08 April 4, 2014

Enbridge Targets May 1 for Start-up of Expanded 500,000 b/d Line 6B Oil Pipeline from Indiana to Ontario

Enbridge Inc. said on Thursday it was targeting May 1 for the start-up of its expanded Line 6B, which carries crude oil from Griffith, Indiana, to Sarnia, Ontario. The company's \$1.6 billion Line 6B replacement program will raise the capacity of the pipe to 500,000 b/d from 240,000 b/d, bringing additional supplies of Canadian crude to refineries in Michigan, Ohio, and eastern Canada. The company had an initial April 1 start-up date, with the delay coming as Enbridge dealt with technical issues with the existing pipe while filling the new line with oil.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=42811

Natural Gas

Update: Investigation Underway at Williams Partners' 2.4 Bcf LNG Facility in Plymouth, Washington Following March 31 Explosion

A team of third-party experts is conducting a post-incident investigation at Williams Partners' liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility near Plymouth, Washington. Williams has established a team to support the efforts to determine the cause, repair and restart the plant operations. Williams is cooperating with regulatory agencies involved in the matter. A preliminary assessment of the approximately 80-acre facility shows damage to equipment including piping, yard valves, a compressor station and an LNG tank. Personnel and authorities are assessing the extent of damage to the tank and have determined it is secure and not leaking. Damage also occurred to several structures on site including the control room and mechanic shop; access to buildings is limited pending clearance by structural experts. Although the cause of the March 31 explosion will not be known until the investigation is complete, preliminary evidence indicates that it originated within the fence line of the facility to the west of the LNG tanks in the central portion of the facility. Neither the full extent of the damage nor the time needed to make repairs is known at this time. Williams Partners' Northwest Pipeline natural-gas transmission system is operating; no interruptions to customers are expected based on the current supply/demand profile in the region.

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

DCP Midstream Reports Engine Shut, Flaring at Its 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas April 3

DCP Midstream reported engine no. 22 went down on JW low pressure. The operator attempted to restart the engine without success and a mechanic was called out to make repairs.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=196314>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Ukraine in Emergency Talks with European Neighbors Over Gas Imports

Ukraine was holding emergency talks with European neighbors on the possibility of importing natural gas from the West, following Russia's decision to nearly double its discounted gas tariff for Kiev this week, Prime Minister Arseny Yatseniuk said on Friday. Yatseniuk said one way to solve the problem was to reverse gas from European Union countries which would involve sending gas back down the pipelines used in the transit of Russian gas through Ukraine to Europe. Reverse gas flows from Europe to Ukraine could not go beyond 5 billion cubic meters (bcm) this year, which only represents about 8 percent of Ukrainian demand, according to Sberbank CIB. Poland has a reverse capacity of 1.5 bcm to Ukraine, while Hungary is able to send 3.5 bcm. Romania has the potential for 1.8 bcm, but there has been no firm agreement on its use.

Reuters, 9:21 April 4, 2014

Colombia's 110,000 b/d Bicentennial Oil Pipeline Shut Since February 20 Due to Rebel Attacks – Officials

Colombia's Bicentennial pipeline has been shut since February 20 due to nine separate rebel attacks and local communities' resistance to repair crews, after being completed last fall, sources said Thursday. The shutdown, which is not widely known, was disclosed Thursday by Orlando Hernandez, president of Bogota-based Agora Consultorias. According to Hernandez, the impact of the closure to Ecopetrol, which is the majority shareholder in the new line, has been an average deferment of 6,000 b/d in deliveries since the beginning of 2014.

<http://www.platts.com/latest-news/oil/cartagena/colombias-oil-transporting-bicentennial-pipeline-21424205>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 4, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	101.17	101.65	92.57
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.48	4.39	4.00

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

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. ET. 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