



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, April 09, 2015

Electricity

Storms, Strong Winds Knock Out Power to Over 10,000 ComEd Customers in Illinois April 9

Storms with wind gusts up to 65 mph knocked out power to over 10,000 ComEd customers in Illinois Thursday morning. A spokeswoman said the company has added staff in anticipation of more storms Thursday afternoon. As of 4 p.m. EDT, 103 ComEd customers remained without power.

<https://www.comed.com/layouts/comedsp/outagemap.aspx>

<https://twitter.com/ComEd>

<http://www.myfoxchicago.com/story/28751591/severe-thunderstorms-warmer-temps-moving-into-chicago>

PJM Asks FERC to Delay Annual Capacity Auction for Final Ruling on Capacity Performance Proposal to Ensure Reliability

PJM Interconnection yesterday filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to delay its annual capacity auction, slated to open May 11, until the commission issues a decision on PJM's Capacity Performance proposal. Capacity Performance is a "pay-for-performance" initiative intended to ensure the reliability of electric power supplies and to move the cost impacts of failing to perform from consumers to generators. Capacity Performance would encourage generators to invest in upgrading equipment, firming up fuel supplies and adapting to use different fuels. Generators that exceed performance commitments would be rewarded with funds collected from generators that underperform. Customers would benefit from lower risk of power supply shortages, greater efficiency and lower operating costs.

Reuters, 13:07 April 8, 2015

Duke Energy Reports Small Hairline Fault in Reactor Head at Its 900 MW Harris Nuclear Power Plant in North Carolina to NRC April 8

Duke Energy Progress has told the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) it found a hairline fault in the reactor head of the Shearon Harris nuclear plant in North Carolina during its current outage for refueling. Duke said the unit is in a safe and stable condition. The plant was already shut down for the refueling and the fault was discovered during a regular inspection of the reactor. A Duke spokesman said the fault will be repaired while the plant is out of service for refueling.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/blog/energy/2015/04/duke-energy-reports-small-hairline-fault-in.html?ana=yahoo>

<https://www.duke-energy.com/power-plants/nuclear/harris.asp>

TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 3 in Alabama Reduced to 75 Percent by April 9

On the morning of April 8 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

PG&E's 407 MW Helms Hydro Unit 2 in California Shut by April 8

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201504081515.html>

SunEdison to Construct Three New Solar Power Plants Totaling 262 MW in Utah

SunEdison, Inc. today announced it signed agreements to construct and install three new utility-scale solar power plants in southern Utah with a total capacity of 262 megawatts DC. PacifiCorp will purchase the electricity through three 20-year power purchase agreements. The three solar power plants are located in Iron County in southern Utah, and include the 63 MW DC Granite Mountain Solar West plant, the 100 MW DC Granite Mountain Solar East plant, and the 99 MW DC Iron Springs Solar plant. Construction of the power plants is expected to begin in the fall of 2015 with commercial operations expected in 2016.

<http://investors.sunedison.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=106680&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2033426>

U.S. Navy, Hawaiian Electric Planning 50 MW Solar PV Project in Oahu, Hawaii

The U.S. Department of the Navy plans to lease about 380 acres of land at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in West Oahu to Hawaiian Electric Co. to develop a 50 MW solar energy system. The large photovoltaic system would be developed in two phases, with phase one covering up to 169 acres and producing up to 20 MW of power and phase two covering up to 211 acres and generating up to 30 MW of electricity. The power generated by both phases of the project would be pumped into Hawaiian Electric's grid under a power purchase agreement between the utility and the Navy.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2015/04/08/navy-hawaiian-electric-planning-major-solar-pv.html?ana=yahoo>

Petroleum

U.S. DOE Buys 4.2 Million Barrels of Oil to Replenish Strategic Petroleum Reserve

The U. S. Department of Energy announced today the award of contracts for delivery of crude oil to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. BP Products North America, Inc., will deliver 2,197,500 barrels and Noble Americas will deliver 2,000,000 barrels to the Reserve's Bryan Mound site in Freeport, Texas. Deliveries are expected to be completed by July 31, 2015. The awards are repurchasing crude oil sold during a 2014 test sale, using \$239.2 million funds from the sale. The Department is required by law to buy back petroleum products within one year of completion of a test sale to the extent funds are available from the sale. Funding from the test sale was also used to establish the Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve in 2014. Presently, the Reserve holds 691 million barrels of crude oil in four storage locations in Louisiana and along the Texas Gulf Coast.

<http://energy.gov/fe/articles/contracts-awarded-repurchase-oil-strategic-petroleum-reserve>

ExxonMobil Rejects USW Proposal for Its 344,600 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery; Offers 6-Year Pact

ExxonMobil Corp rejected a contract offer from the United Steelworkers (USW) local chapter representing hourly workers at the company's Beaumont, Texas, refinery and renewed its offer of a six-year contract, a union official said on Wednesday. ExxonMobil has been campaigning for a longer agreement with the Beaumont workforce, offering first a five-year agreement and then a six-year pact. Sources have told Reuters ExxonMobil wants a longer pact to avoid work stoppages if it expands the Beaumont refinery into the nation's largest, possibly reaching 850,000 b/d by the end of the decade. ExxonMobil has told the union the offer will remain on the table through April 19. Previous similar proposals have been rejected by the USW. The contract for USW members at the Beaumont refinery expired on February 1, but workers have remained on their jobs on a 24-hour rolling extension of the previous contract.

Reuters, 22:22 April 8, 2015

Western Refining Says Its 122,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery Shut Due to Power Outage April 9

Western Refining said its El Paso refinery in Texas shut due to a power outage early Thursday morning. The company said it was checking all units and would begin a slow restart once that process was completed.

Reuters, 10:03 April 9, 2015

Valero Reports Malfunction at Its 86,000 b/d Ardmore, Oklahoma Refinery March 30

Reuters, 15:42 April 8, 2015

HollyFrontier Reports Excess Carbon Monoxide Emissions from Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit at Its 70,300 Tulsa East, Oklahoma Refinery April 6

Reuters, 15:46 April 8, 2015

CVR Reports Shutdown, Excess Hydrogen Sulfide Flaring at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery March 31

Reuters, 15:48 April 8, 2015

ConocoPhillips has U.S. Approval to Export Ultra-Light Oil

ConocoPhillips received U.S. government approval to export ultra-light domestic oil, a company spokesman said on Wednesday. If processed in a stabilizer, which removes natural gas liquids (NGLs) but does not make motor fuels, condensate qualifies as an exportable refined product and can be shipped out without violating the U.S. crude export ban, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. ConocoPhillips has three stabilizers in the Eagle Ford shale in South Texas with a combined capacity of 135,000 b/d.

Reuters, 18:54 April 8, 2015

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 9, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	50.74	49.08	102.93
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.67	2.60	4.56

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