



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

## ***Electricity***

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### **NRC Finds Backup Generator Violation at Dominion's Kewaunee Nuke in Wisconsin**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a violation notice to Dominion for an incident involving failure to promptly report and correct a fuel leak in an emergency backup generator at the facility. The NRC issued a yellow notice which indicates a finding of substantial importance to safety. The problem was first noticed in June of 2006 but was not reported or repaired until August. After testing, the faulty equipment, it was declared to have been inoperative for 51 days.

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070411/GPG03/704110671/1247/GPGbusiness>  
<http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=local&id=5199102>

### **NRC to Examine Safety Issues Stemming from Improperly Installed Valve at Fort Calhoun Nuke in Nebraska**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will meet with officials from the Omaha Public Power District to examine safety issues at the 502 MW facility. The issue in question is that a valve in the containment spray system was installed improperly and that fact went unnoticed for 454 days.

<http://www.wowt.com/news/headlines/6953387.html>

### **Entergy's 506 MW Vermont Yankee Nuke Reactor Ramps up to Full Power April 11**

Entergy completed maintenance on the nuclear reactor's feedwater system and offsite work on the transmission grid and ramped up to full power from 48 percent capacity on April 10.

Reuters, 07:26 April 11, 2007

### **Exelon Starts 1,170 MW Limerick 2 Nuke Reactor in Pennsylvania April 11**

The nuclear unit shut on April 9 to repair a seal on a coolant recirculation pump. The unit has restarted, however it was at only two percent of capacity as of 11 a.m. April 11, below the level to connect to the power grid. The company spokesperson declined to comment on when the unit will return to full output.

Bloomberg News, 11:40 April 11, 2007

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Hydrotreater Incident at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring Refinery in Texas April 10**

Alon reported that a problem with a diesel hydrotreater led to a problem with sulfur units that in turn resulted in flaring. There was no impact to the production.

OPIS, 07:37 April 11, 2007

Bloomberg News, 11:01 April 11, 2007

### **Valero's 82,000 b/d unit at Corpus Christi Refinery Conducts Emergency Flaring April 10**

The hydro-desulfurization unit began to conduct emergency flaring yesterday as it restarts from maintenance work started in March. The flaring is expected to continue through April 14.

Bloomberg News, 11: 52 April 11, 2007

### **Valero's Reports Emissions at 260,000 b/d Port Arthur Refinery in Texas**

According to a filing with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, a malfunction of a level control valve in a hydrocracking unit caused gas emissions on April 10. The event lasted for about 15 minutes.

Reuters, 08:36 April 11, 2007

## Natural Gas

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### Natural Gas Exporting Countries Opt for Joint Pricing Not a Cartel

Energy ministers from the leading natural gas producing nations agreed to collaborative efforts on pricing and other issues but decided against forming an OPEC-like organization. The decision reflects how conditions and practices in the natural gas market differ from the oil sector and a fear that this may spur development of alternative fuels. Oil Daily, April 11, 2007

### Seminole Energy Plans to Build 150-mile New Gas Pipeline in Nebraska

Seminole Energy Services announced it plans to file for a regulatory approval to build a natural gas pipeline serving the Central Nebraska market. The 150-mile pipeline will connect with interstate Trailblazer Pipeline. The Spring of 2009 is targeted for start-up. Reuters, 10:41 April 11, 2007

## Other News

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### EPA Announces Final Rule for Renewable Gasoline Fuels

On April 10, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its final rule to increase renewable fuels in gasoline. The rule requires use of 7.5 billion gallons of renewable fuels in the gasoline pool by 2012. In addition, the rule establishes blending credit provisions to provide refiners, blenders and importers greater flexibility when blending.

Oil Daily, April 11, 2007

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels/#rfs040907>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 11, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	61.96	64.40	69.03
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.97	7.46	6.99

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Surging LNG Imports Taxing U.S. Regasification Facilities

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, April 10, 2007, <http://intelligencepress.com/>

### EIA Says Weather and Rising Crude Oil Prices Will Boost Natural Gas Production, Demand and Prices

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

### Alta Gas Income Trust Plans Pipeline from British Columbia to Alberta

[http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story\\_id=49318](http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story_id=49318)

**Export License Extension Receives Conditional Support from Alaska Governor**  
<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6373839.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

**BENTEX Energy Report Finds Rockies Express Pipeline Will Cause Major Supply, Price Shifts**  
<http://www.bentekenergy.com/BENTEK/news.asp>

## Links

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***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](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

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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