



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, April 11, 2013

Electricity

Update: Nearly 80,000 Customers Without Power in Central U.S. April 11

An early spring storm that began Tuesday continued to deliver ice, rain, heavy snow, and strong winds to the central United States through Wednesday night. Since the storm began, more than 200,000 customers have lost power primarily in southeastern South Dakota, southern Wisconsin, and eastern Missouri. As of 1:00 p.m. EDT Thursday, 78,540 customers were reported without power. Xcel Energy, which had more than 27,000 customers without power in South Dakota Thursday afternoon, said that adverse weather conditions were resulting in new outages. Some utilities reported additional outages were being caused as snow and ice falling from power lines was causing them to spring back and slap together. This can cause the lines to “burn down” and creates more downed power lines that have to be rebuilt.

Central United States Customer Power Outages			
April 9–11			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Westar Energy	KS	1,433	133
Alliant Energy – IPL	MN/IA	7,500	6,932
Xcel Energy – MN	MN	3,988	900
Ameren Missouri	MO	42,000	24,265
MidAmerican Energy	NE/IA/IL	2,439	2,439
Nebraska Public Power District	NE	4,000	119
Sioux Valley Energy	SD/MN	9,266	9,266
Southeastern Electric Coop	SD	2,712	1,885
Xcel Energy – SD	SD	67,800	27,160
Alliant Energy – WPL	WI	12,760	1,815
We Energies	WI	42,769	774
Wisconsin Public Service	WI	10,200	2,852
TOTAL*		206,867	78,540

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

Sources:

<https://www-11.westarenergy.com/outagemaps/outagetable.asp>

<http://www.alliantenergy.com/CustomerService/StormandOutageCenter/OutageSummary/index.htm>

http://www.wiscnews.com/news/local/article_b3625038-a244-11e2-9396-0019bb2963f4.html?comment_form=true

http://www.xcelenergy.com/Outages/Report_a_Problem/Outage_Map/Outage_Map

http://www.xcelenergy.com/About_Us/Energy_News/News_Releases/Xcel_Energy_continues_to_restore_power_in_South_Dakota

<http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=MO>

<http://ameren.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=1146>

<http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx>

<http://www.nppd.com/outages/>

<http://www.nebraska.tv/story/21942119/neb-utility-still-restoring-power-to-customers>

<https://ebill.siuvalleyenergy.com/oms/outageMap>

<https://www.facebook.com/svecoop>

<http://outages.sdrea.coop/>

<http://www.keloland.com/newsdetail.cfm/some-southeastern-electric-customers-without-power/?id=146408>

http://www.xcelenergy.com/Outages/Report_a_Problem/Outage_Map/Outage_Map

<http://www.alliantenergy.com/CustomerService/StormandOutageCenter/OutageSummary/index.htm>

<http://www.we-energies.com/outagemapext/default.html>

<http://fox6now.com/2013/04/11/we-energies-reports-3531-without-power-system-wide/>
<http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx>
<http://www.piercecountyherald.com/event/article/id/52485/>

Update: NRC Says No Increased Safety Risk with SCE Restarting Its 1,070 MW San Onofre Nuclear Unit 2 in California

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a preliminary “no significant hazards” recommendation April 10 regarding Southern California Edison (SCE)’s plan to restart Unit 2 at its San Onofre nuclear plant and run it at no more than 70 percent for five months. Unit 2 has been shut along with Unit 1 since January 2012 when operators discovered premature tube wear in the steam generators. NRC’s preliminary finding increases the likelihood that SCE can restart Unit 2 by June 1. The reactor can only restart if the NRC deems it can operate safely, and this is just one of the steps SCE must meet.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/nrc-staff-signals-no-hazard-with-san-onofre-run-at-lower-power-key-step-in-restart-bid/2013/04/10/2fa7ef38-a22f-11e2-bd52-614156372695_story.html
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/04/10/utilities-edison-sanonofre-idUSL2N0CX2P020130410?feedType=RSS&feedName=rbssEnergyNews&rpc=43>

Duke Energy Opens 620 MW Dan River Natural Gas Combined Cycle Power Plant in North Carolina April 10

Duke Energy started operations at its 620 MW Dan River Natural Gas Combined Cycle Station in Eden, North Carolina Wednesday. The project is part of the company’s plans to retire older, less-efficient coal plants and replace them with cleaner-burning natural gas-fueled units. The plant has almost double the capacity of older coal units that Duke Energy retired last year.

Reuters, 16:00 April 10, 2013

Petroleum

Update: Ruptured Portion of ExxonMobil’s 96,000 b/d Pegasus Crude Oil Pipeline is Larger than Originally Thought, Says Arkansas Attorney General

The Arkansas Attorney General said April 10 that the gash in ExxonMobil’s pipeline that ruptured on March 29 in Mayflower, Arkansas and spilled thousands of barrels of oil, is 22 feet long and 2 inches wide, “significantly larger” than initially thought. Operators shut the pipeline, which transports Canadian crude oil to Texas from Illinois, after discovering the spill. The company has already recovered 28,200 barrels of oily water. ExxonMobil has submitted an excavation and removal plan for the affected portion of the pipeline for review by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/science/article/Arkansas-AG-says-oil-pipeline-gash-22-feet-long-4424711.php>

Motiva Reports Leak at Its 236,400 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery April 10

Motiva Enterprises reported a leak in a pipeline at its Norco, Louisiana refinery on Wednesday. According to a filing with the National Response Center, there was a release of an unspecified amount of butadiene due to the leak.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1043580

Update: ConocoPhillips Delays Plans to Drill Exploration Wells in the Chukchi Sea off Alaska’s Arctic Coast

ConocoPhillips said April 10 that it would not drill in the Arctic waters off the coast of Alaska in 2014 due to the uncertainties of evolving federal regulations and permit requirements. The company previously said in March that it was on track to drill in the Chukchi Sea next year. This decision comes shortly after Royal Dutch Shell PLC also announced that it would not drill in Alaska’s Arctic seas after one of its drillship was grounded during a storm. ConocoPhillips said it was unsure whether it would be ready to drill by 2015.

Reuters, 19:09 April 10, 2013

<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/conocophillips-delays-2014-arctic-marine-drilling>

Plains Midstream, Keyera Announce Open Season on Agreement to Construct Western Reach NGL Pipeline System in Alberta

Plains Midstream Canada ULC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Plains All American, and Keyera Corp. announced Wednesday they have entered into an arrangement to solicit interest in the construction of a jointly-owned liquids pipeline system in northwest Alberta. The proposed pipeline system—the Western Reach Pipeline System—is anticipated to run from the Gordondale area of northwestern Alberta to Alberta's natural gas liquid (NGL) energy hub in Fort Saskatchewan. Keyera and Plains have begun an open season process seeking non-binding nominations for volumes to underpin construction. The companies said pipeline system will consist of two new-build pipelines, with one dedicated to a mixture of propane, butane and condensate, or NGL mix, and the other intended for segregated condensate service. The Western Reach Pipeline is expected to be approximately 570 kilometers long and will travel through the Deep Basin area of Alberta.

<http://www.keyera.com/titanweb/keyera/webcms.nsf/AllDocs/BB5ABE4AC36BA49587257B490077943C?OpenDocument>

Atlas Pipeline Reports Steam Boiler Malfunction Its 195 MMcf/d Midkiff Gas Plant in Texas April 10

Atlas pipeline reported that the steam boiler main fuel valve controller failed at its Midkiff plant on Wednesday. According to the filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, operators fixed the failed fuel valve controller, and the steam boiler was online quickly.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/occeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=181458>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Norwegian Official Says Oil Output Missed Forecasted Target for First Quarter 2013 due to Technical Problems at BP and Statoil Fields

The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate said April 11 that Norway's crude oil output fell 13 percent in the first quarter of 2013 to approximately 1.4 million b/d, missing the official forecast by 2 percent. This was partly due to technical problems in fields operated by BP PLC and Statoil ASA. The directorate previously projected Norway's oil and gas production to fall 5% in 2013, before rebounding and remaining at around the 2012 level until 2017.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/125695/Norwegian_Oil_Output_Misses_Target

Jordan and Iraq Sign Agreement to Build 1 Million b/d Oil Pipeline April 9

According to the Iraqi oil ministry, Jordan and Iraq signed an agreement Tuesday to build a double pipeline, which will supply Jordan with approximately 150,000 b/d oil and export Iraqi oil through Aqaba port. Work on the 1,680 kilometer pipeline, which will provide 1 million b/d and 258 MMcf/d of gas, is scheduled to begin before the end of the year and be operational by the end of 2017.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=39170

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 11, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	93.21	92.57	104.12
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.07	4.00	1.91

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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