



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, April 13, 2016

Electricity

AES's 498 MW Alamitos Gas-fired Unit 5 and 495 MW Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Shut by April 12

The units entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201604121515.html>

AES's 175 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Reduced by April 12

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 125 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201604121515.html>

BHE Renewables' 310 MW Solar Star Unit 1 in California Reduced by April 12

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 144 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201604121515.html>

Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 83 Percent by April 13

On the morning of April 12 the unit was operating at 97 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

JCP&L Plans to Trim Trees along 3,400 Miles of Power Lines in 2016 to Help Enhance Reliability

Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L) is continuing its 2016 tree trimming program to help maintain proper clearances around electrical equipment and help prevent tree-related damage. The work is part of JCP&L's approximately \$28 million tree trimming program scheduled for this year along some 3,400 miles of JCP&L lines across its 13-county service area in northern and central New Jersey. During April, forestry contractors are doing tree work in 70 New Jersey municipalities.

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/newsroom/news_releases/jcp-l-plans-to-trim-trees-along-3-400-miles-of-power-lines-in-20.html

Xcel Planning a 600 MW Wind Farm in Eastern Colorado

Xcel Energy announced Tuesday it plans to build Colorado's largest wind farm in the eastern part of the state, with enough turbines to generate 600 MW of electricity. A company official said more details would come in May.

Reuters 17:31 April 12, 2016

ConEdison Development Dedicates 118 MW Alamo 5 Solar Power Plant in Texas April 12

ConEdison Development on Tuesday dedicated the 118 MW Alamo 5 solar power plant in Uvalde, Texas, about 85 miles west of San Antonio. CPS Energy will buy the power from the solar facility.

Reuters, 16:46 April 12, 2016

<http://www.coneddev.com/>

Update: CDU, Coker Repairs at LyondellBasell's 263,776 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery to Take 6 Weeks – Sources

Repairs to the small crude distillation unit (CDU) and a fire-hit coking unit at LyondellBasell Industries' Houston refinery are expected to take six weeks to complete, Gulf Coast market sources said on Tuesday. A fire and a leak have hobbled the refinery since Friday, cutting production to between 110,000 and 120,000 b/d, or 41 and 45 percent of capacity, according to the sources. The 120,000 b/d CDU, called Unit 536, was shut on Monday night because of a leak from its attached 91,000 b/d vacuum distillation unit (VDU). Market sources initially thought the CDU would be shut only several days to repair the VDU leak. But with the 42,000 b/d coker out for about six weeks to repair extensive damage from a Friday morning fire, the decision was made to shut Unit 536 for the longer period. Both the VDU and the coker refine residual crude from Unit 536. The refinery will boost production on the 147,000 b/d CDU while Unit 536 is shut, sources said.

Reuters, 17:52 April 12, 2016

Shortcuts Led to February 2015 Chemical Release at Shell's 145,000 b/d Puget Sound, Washington Refinery – Regulator

Shell Puget Sound Refinery allegedly took shortcuts in shutting down and decontaminating its east flare system, leading to the release of chemicals on Feb. 20, 2015, the Northwest Clean Air Agency (NWCAA) said in a release on Tuesday. Hazardous chemicals released include hydrogen sulfide, dimethyl sulfide, mercaptans, and benzene, the NWCAA found after a yearlong investigation. The regulator mailed a notice of the violation to Shell on April 8, which gives the refiner 30 days to respond before the agency determines a penalty.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=51745

<http://www.nwcleanair.org/documents/04-12-2016ShellNOVNewsReleaseFINAL.pdf>

Update: Phillips 66 Reports Unit Startup Upset at Its 336,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery April 12

Phillips 66 on Tuesday reported a "unit startup upset" at its Wood River refinery, according to a filing with state regulators. The refinery is returning to normal operations following the restart of TransCanada's Keystone crude oil pipeline on Sunday. Since April 4, rates at the refinery were reduced and two units were shut due to supply issues stemming from the Keystone pipeline closure on April 2.

Reuters, 04:09 April 13, 2016

Shell Pipeline Resumes Flows on 375,000 b/d Zydeco Pipeline After Partial Shutdown for Unspecified Repairs April 11

Shell Pipeline Company on Wednesday morning resumed flows on a portion of its 375,000 b/d Zydeco crude pipeline between Houston and Port Neches, Texas, after shutting the line for over 24 hours for an unspecified repair, according to shipper notices. Shell voluntarily shut the line around 11:30 PM EST on April 11 after finding a small quantity of unknown liquid near the pipeline in the Mont Belvieu, Texas area, according to a notice sent to shippers on Tuesday. Shell completed an investigation and made appropriate repairs to allow the pipeline to resume safe operations on Wednesday morning, according to a second shipper notice sent to shippers on Wednesday morning. The pipeline, which is also referred to as the Ho-Ho system, transports crude from Houston, Texas to Houma, Louisiana.

Reuters, 10:25 April 13, 2016

North Dakota Oil Output Dips Slightly to 1,119,100 b/d in February

North Dakota's oil output fell 3,000 b/d in February, far less than expected as producers brought some wells online to generate cash, the state's energy regulator said on Wednesday. The state's roughly 11,000 active wells pumped about 1,119,100 b/d in February. The state reports production on a two-month lag and final numbers are slated to be released on Friday. The decrease was far less than the dip of roughly 30,000 b/d each during December and January amidst the oil price drop.

Reuters, 09:31 April 13, 2016

HollyFrontier Reports Emissions at Its 70,300 b/d Tulsa East, Oklahoma Refinery April 12

HollyFrontier reported excess hydrogen sulfide from flares no. 1 and 2 at its Tulsa East refinery Tuesday, according to a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 12:47 April 13, 2016

CVR Energy Reports Emissions at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery April 11–12

CVR Energy reported excess hydrogen sulfide at the new north flare on April 12, and excess opacity at a fluid catalytic cracking unit regenerator on April 11, according to a filing with state regulators.
Reuters, 12:41 April 13, 2016

Natural Gas

Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Signs Project Agreements for Its Proposed 3.6 Bcf/d Natural Gas Pipeline in Northern British Columbia

TransCanada Corporation today announced that its Prince Rupert Gas Transmission project has signed project agreements with the Takla Lake First Nation and McLeod Lake Indian Band, bringing the total number of project agreements signed on the project to 11. Prince Rupert Gas Transmission is proposing to construct and operate (subject to required regulatory and commercial approvals) a 900-kilometre (540-mile) natural gas pipeline to deliver natural gas from a point near Hudson's Hope to the proposed Pacific NorthWest LNG facility at Lelu Island, off the coast of Port Edward, near Prince Rupert. The pipeline will have the capacity to transport 2 billion to 3.6 billion cubic feet of gas per day.

www.princerupertgas.com

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/prince-rupert-gas-transmission-signs-130000414.html>

Other News

The Largest U.S. Coal Company Files for Bankruptcy April 13; Peabody Says It Will Continue Operations During the Process

Peabody Energy, the world's largest private-sector coal producer, filed for bankruptcy on Wednesday in a U.S. court, citing 'unprecedented' industry pressures and a sharp decline in the price of coal. The company said it will continue to operate while in bankruptcy, while working to reduce debt and improve cash flow. In addition to plummeting coal prices, the company cited weakness in China's economy, overproduction of domestic shale gas, and ongoing regulatory challenges as reasons for its declining prospects. The bankruptcy filing comes less than three months after a similar filing from Arch Coal, the country's second-largest miner, which followed bankruptcy filings from Alpha Natural Resources, Patriot Coal, and Walter Energy.

Reuters, 14:01 April 13, 2016

<http://money.cnn.com/2016/04/13/news/companies/peabody-coal-bankruptcy/index.html>

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/amid-prolonged-industry-downturn-peabody-energy-takes-major-step-to-strengthen-liquidity-and-reduce-debt-through-chapter-11-protection>

New Energy Investors Planning 13 MMGal/Yr. Cellulosic Ethanol Plant in Spiritwood, North Dakota

New Energy Investors said Monday that plans for a cellulosic ethanol plant at the Spiritwood Energy Park Association industrial park are underway. A company executive said the plant would process corn stover, corn stalks, and leaves removed from the field after the grain is harvested and wheat straw to produce ethanol and lignin. When operational, the plant will produce about 13 million gallons of ethanol and 90,000 tons of lignin each year. The current timeline estimates the engineering work and financing could be complete by the spring of 2017, followed by groundbreaking in June 2017 and beginning operation in late 2019.

<http://www.jamestownsun.com/news/local/4007406-cellulosic-ethanol-plant-planned-spiritwood>

International News

Nigeria Restarts 210,000 b/d Port Harcourt Refinery at Reduced Rates by April 13 – NNPC

Nigeria has restarted the 210,000 b/d Port Harcourt refinery at reduced rates, a spokesman for state oil firm NNPC said on Wednesday. "Production is between three and five million liters daily," the spokesman said. The NNPC halted crude flows to its refineries in Kaduna, Port Harcourt, and Warri around mid-January after the key pipelines feeding the plants were attacked. The refineries were then shut down a few days later. Work resumed at the Port Harcourt refinery last week.

Reuters, 05:53 April 13, 2016

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 13, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	41.65	37.69	51.90
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.94	1.90	2.54

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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