



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, April 16, 2014

Electricity

Update: DTE and Consumers Energy Report Nearly All Customers Have Power Restored in Michigan April 16

As of 8:00 a.m. EDT, today, 1,000 DTE Energy customers remained without power in Michigan after several waves of thunderstorms moved across the state Saturday afternoon and into Sunday, and high winds affected the region on Monday. DTE Energy reports that more than 150,000 customers had lost power since Saturday due to the storms. DTE had expected most of the affected customers to be restored by the end of the day Tuesday or early Wednesday. More than 149,000 Consumer Energy customers had been affected since the beginning of the storms on Saturday. As of 4:00 p.m. EDT, today, 128 Consumers Energy customers remained without power.

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/outagemap>

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/News.aspx?id=7153&year=2014>

<https://www.facebook.com/dteenergy?sk=wall>

https://twitter.com/DTE_Energy/

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>

Blackout Leaves 12,000 Toronto Hydro Customers without Power in Ontario April 15

Much of Toronto's west end experienced a major blackout on Tuesday night, leaving 12,000 Toronto Hydro customers without power. Most customers reported losing power around 9 p.m. CDT and had it restored shortly before 11 p.m., according to Toronto Hydro. Officials from Hydro One, which operates transmission lines that supply power to Toronto Hydro's service territory, said late Tuesday that crews were still working on the system, but they did not know what may have caused the outage. Hydro One earlier said the blackout was due to a problem in its transmission system.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/toronto-hydro-tuesday-blackout-no-word-yet-on-cause-1.2611664>

<https://twitter.com/TorontoHydro>

<https://twitter.com/HydroOne>

http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/04/15/toronto-power-outage-2014_n_5156674.html

Minnesota Power Files for State and Federal Permits to Build 500 kV Great Northern Transmission Line from Manitoba to Minnesota

Minnesota Power this week applied to state and federal regulators for permits to build the 500 kV Great Northern Transmission Line from the Minnesota-Manitoba border to an electric substation on the Mesabi Iron Range in Minnesota. Minnesota Power filed a route permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) and also applied for a Presidential Permit from the U.S. Department of Energy for the international interconnection at the U.S.-Canadian border. The Great Northern Transmission Line will deliver emission-free hydroelectricity generated by Manitoba Power to Minnesota Power customers and the upper Midwest. The new transmission line will facilitate the delivery of at least 750 MW of energy into the U.S. beginning in 2020. Minnesota Power, which will have majority ownership of the project, will utilize the Great Northern Transmission Line to deliver to its service area 250 MW from Manitoba Hydro.

<http://investor.allete.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=840401>

DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Shut April 16

DTE Energy Co. said it shut the unit Wednesday morning to replace one of the two main transformers. The transformer wasn't working properly after the restart from a February refueling shutdown. On the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at 83 percent as it continued to ramp up from the refueling outage.

<http://www.bnd.com/2014/04/16/3164740/fermi-2-nuclear-plant-shuts-for.html#storylink=cpy>

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

OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Unit in Nebraska Powering Up April 16 After Air Conditioning Problem

The unit is powering back up today after it started to shut down to repair a broken air conditioner. Tuesday at 3 p.m. CDT, an alarm indicated trouble with the control room's air conditioning system, according to an event report filed with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The backup air conditioner was down for maintenance. Plant rules call for a shutdown if the control room air conditioning will be out of service for six hours or more, so the OPPD began powering down around 6 p.m. A few hours later, having fixed the air conditioner, OPPD stopped the shutdown process and started bringing the unit back up to full power.

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

Update: Southern's 1,152 MW Vogtle Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Reduced to 25 Percent by April 16

On the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at 34 percent after restarting by April 14. Unit 1 was manually tripped on April 12 in response to loop 1 outboard main steam isolation valve failing shut. The unit trip occurred as the unit was returning from a planned refueling outage.

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

http://www.marketwatch.com/story/upgrades-to-plant-vogtle-unit-1-enhance-the-production-of-low-cost-carbon-free-electricity-2014-04-15?reflink=MW_news_stmp

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramps Up to 96 Percent by April 16

On the morning of April 15 the unit was operating at 87 percent, up from 69 percent on April 14.

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

Update: AES's 336 MW Alamosa Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by April 15

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began by April 14.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201404151515.html>

Petroleum

Eighty-Eight Oil's 80,000 b/d Oil Train Terminal in Wyoming Begins Operations April 15

Eighty-Eight Oil, LLC on Tuesday unveiled its new unit train facility located on the BNSF railway at Fort Laramie, Wyoming. The multi-grade facility is the first rail transloading terminal capable of loading multiple types of crude oil. The facility includes three rail loop tracks capable of holding one train each as well as the required tankage for unit train loading operations.

http://www.starherald.com/news/local_news/wyoming-oil-train-terminal-up-and-running/article_44f1b699-4595-53c1-a45b-804f579a2747.html

Continental Resources Reports 560 Barrel Production Fluid Leak from Pipeline in North Dakota

Continental Resources reported that a pipeline leaked about 560 barrels of production fluid near Medora into dry drainage, with some reaching flowing drainage. Approximately 100 barrels were recovered April 12 while inspectors remained on site to test the water and soil.

<http://www.ndhan.gov/data/mrNews/2014-04-12-Pipeline%20Prod%20Water%20Leak-FINAL.pdf>

1,100 Gallon Fuel Spill Reported during Rail Truck Transfer at Calumet's 14,500 b/d San Antonio, Texas Refinery

About 1,100 gallons of fuel spilled April 11 as the refinery was transferring jet fuel to a rail truck. Authorities reported that less than 100 gallons of the spilled fuel leaked into the San Antonio River April 12.

<http://www.ksat.com/news/fuel-from-southside-plant-spills-into-sa-river/25449818>

Valero Reports Operations Back to Normal after Upset at Its 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery April 15

Valero Energy Corp. reported a hydrocracker unit upset caused by a plugged cooler at the East plant of its refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Tuesday. The cooler heat exchanger, which caused emissions, was isolated from the process and the hydrocracker unit later returned to normal operations, the filing said.

Reuters, 17:04 April 15, 2014

LyondellBasell Reports Flaring at Its 273,433 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery April 16

LyondellBasell Industries reported flaring at its Houston, Texas, refinery, according to a notice posted on a community information phone line early Wednesday.

Reuters, 6:12 April 16, 2014

Total Reports Equipment Shutdown at Its 225,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 15

Total reported the shutdown of equipment within an unspecified "unit 855," which led to emissions on Tuesday at its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The flare gas recovery was over supplied with process gases due to the equipment shutdown, resulting in flaring, the filing said. An investigation was underway and the refinery claimed affirmative defense for the incident, the report added.

Reuters, 19:03 April 15, 2014

Valero Reported Compressor Trip at Its 132,000 b/d Benicia, California Refinery April 15

Valero Energy Corp. reported a compressor trip at its refinery in Benicia, California, according to a notice with the California Emergency Management Agency on Tuesday. The report did not specify the unit the compressor was associated with.

Reuters, 16:40 April 15, 2014

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

U.S. EPA Releases White Papers in Study to Regulate Methane and VOC Emissions from Oil and Gas Industry April 15

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday released for external peer review five technical white papers on potentially significant sources of emissions in the oil and gas sector. The white papers focused on technical issues covering emissions and mitigation techniques that target methane and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The EPA will use the papers, along with the input it receives from the peer reviewers and the public, to determine how to best pursue additional reductions from these sources.

<http://www.epa.gov/airquality/oilandgas/whitepapers.html>

U.S. DOE Offers Draft \$4 Billion Loan Aid Plan for Renewable Energy

The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a draft loan guarantee solicitation Wednesday for innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency projects located in the U.S. that avoid, reduce, or sequester greenhouse gases. When finalized, the solicitation is expected to make as much as \$4 billion in loan guarantees available to help commercialize technologies that may be unable to obtain full commercial financing. The Renewable Energy and Efficient Energy Projects Loan Guarantee solicitation is intended to support technologies that are catalytic, replicable, and market ready. Within the draft solicitation, DOE has included a sample list illustrative of potential technologies for consideration. While any project that meets the eligibility requirements is eligible to apply, DOE has identified five key technology areas of interest: advanced grid integration and storage; drop-in biofuels; waste-to-energy; enhancement of existing facilities; and efficiency improvements. Once the solicitation is finalized, the DOE's Loan Programs Office (LPO) will be accepting applications in three areas

<http://www.energy.gov/articles/departments-energy-issues-draft-renewable-energy-and-efficient-energy-projects-solicitation>

Iraq Approves Daewoo's Contract to Develop Zubair Oilfield

Iraq's cabinet on Tuesday approved a \$588.8 million oilfield service contract with South Korea's Daewoo Engineering & Construction for the development of the Zubair oil field, the cabinet said in a statement. Under the contract, Daewoo E&C will handle engineering, procurement, and construction work for a gas separation facility at the giant Zubair oilfield in Iraq's south, whose output is forecast to reach 850,000 b/d in 2017. Zubair's current production is at 320,000 b/d.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/132584/Iraq_Approves_SKoreas_Daewoo_5888M_Oilfield_Contract#sthash.Fa42tEED.dpuf

Update: Tanker Starts Loading Crude at Libya's Hariga Port April 16

The tanker Aegean Dignity started loading about one million barrels of crude oil at Libya's eastern port of Hariga for the first time in nearly nine months, a state oil company official said on Wednesday. The tanker arrived on Tuesday after a federalist group agreed to re-open the port last week. Arabian Gulf Oil Co., a subsidiary of state National Oil Corp., was able to raise output at its main oilfield, Sarir, to 50,000 b/d as a result.

Reuters, 7:23 April 16, 2014

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 16, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	103.45	102.93	88.15
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.67	4.56	4.23

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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