



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, April 18, 2008

Electricity

Hail Storm Cuts Power to 27,000 Oncor Customers in Texas April 17-18

As of 6 AM, April 18, only 5,000 remained without power.

<http://cbs11tv.com/weathernewsstories/friday.weather.forecast.2.703014.html>

Update: Avalanche Damage in Alaska Could Take Months to Repair, Officials Say Costly Diesel Generators to Make up For Lost Power

According to an Alaska Electric Light & Power representative, safety concerns will likely prevent access to the damaged transmission line for three weeks to a month with complete restoration taking at least three months. The affected line connects the Snettisham hydroelectric power station to Juneau, Alaska. The Snettisham station is the source of about 85 percent of the city's electricity. In the interim, generators will burn more than 2,000 b/d of diesel fuel to replace the flow from the downed power line.

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,351700,00.html>

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/04/18/alaska-avalanche.html>

http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5iHzVHmqHZ-vEPF0yfRRqwctRQy_AD9046NG01

http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/041708/loc_269314122.shtml

Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 82 Percent by April 18

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 17 the unit was operating at 92 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Luminant to Shut 591 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas April 18

According to a filing with state regulators, Luminant expected to shut the unit April 18 to repair a boiler tube leak. The company gave no timetable for the unit's return, but traders expected it back in a few days.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106518>

Reuters, 11:17 April 18, 2008

Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut April 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage on April 17.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200804171515.html>

FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuke Unit 1 in Ohio at Full Power by April 18

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 17 the unit was operating at 82 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Constellation's 1,140 MW Nine Mile Nuke Unit 2 in New York Ramps up to 30 Percent Power by April 18

During a restart following a refueling outage, a turbine tripped April 17 when the unit had reached 14 percent of capacity. Workers, kept the reactor powered, the unit had exited the outage and ramped up to 30 percent power by this morning.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN1830692220080418>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: Southern's 839 MW Farley Nuke Unit 2 in Alabama at Full Power by April 18

Workers reduced the unit's power on April 14 after a feedwater pump tripped. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 17 the unit was operating at 60 percent.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN1545626720080415>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

NRG Energy Restarts 749 MW Cedar Bayou Gas-fired Unit 2 in Texas

The unit had been shut since December because of load conditions and maintenance, according to NRG. The company began to restart the unit on April 12, and restored it to a low operating level by April 15. As of April 16, the unit was producing more than 600 MW of power.

Reuters, 16:18 April 17, 2008

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106494>

AEP to Restart 558 MW Welsh Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas April 17-19

According to a filing with state regulators, the company planned to restart the unit after a trip. The process should last two days, from April 17 to April 19.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106462>

New Jersey Considers New Nuclear Power Plant—Seeks to Curb Harmful Emissions

Governor Corzine's office issued a proposal April 17, asking officials to review the prospects of building a new nuclear power plant in the state. The plan also called for exploring other low-emission technologies. The proposal is part of the state's draft energy master plan, which will be debated in later public hearings.

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newjersey/ny-bc-nj--nuclearenergy0417apr17.0.885507.story>

DOE Announces 30 Inaugural Members of New Electricity Advisory Committee

The Committee will aid the Department of Energy's (DOE) efforts to plan, prioritize and modernize the United States' electricity delivery infrastructure. It will directly advise DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability. Among the issues it will consider are: deployment of smart grid technologies, research and development of energy storage technologies, renewable energy resource system integration, and new transmission infrastructure to ensure efficient electricity delivery.

<http://www.doe.gov/news/6158.htm>

Petroleum

Flint Hills to Idle SRU at 288,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery

According to a filing with state regulators, the company will shut the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) to repair supply piping to the tail gas treatment unit. The outage should last until Monday, April 21, but could stretch beyond that, the company said.

Reuters, 09:16 April 18, 2008

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=106498>

Earthquake Briefly Halts Marathon's Crude Oil Pipelines in Illinois April 18

The pipelines were shut for about an hour, according to the company. The earthquake did not impact Marathon's 213,000 b/d Robinson, Illinois refinery.

Reuters, 09:29 April 18, 2008

Bloomberg, 11:53 April 18, 2008

Leak Idles Kinder Morgan Carson-Wilmington, California Oil Pipeline on April 18

The pipeline links Kinder Morgan's Carson, California terminal and Tesoro's Wilmington, California refinery. It was carrying gasoil at the time of the shutdown. It is unclear whether production at the refinery could be impacted.

Bloomberg, 11:16 April 18, 2008

Update: ConocoPhillips Restarts 145,000 b/d FCCU at 238,000 b/d Bayway, New Jersey Refinery April 18

The company restarted its fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), trade sources said April 18. The unit shut April 17 due to an equipment malfunction.

Reuters, 09:36 April 18, 2008

Iraq to Accept Bids for Exploration and Production of Oil and Natural Gas Fields

For the first time since the ouster of Saddam Hussein, Iraq is seeking bids for oil and gas exploration. At least six giant southern Iraqi fields with a combined capacity of 1.71 million b/d of oil, and crude reserves of up to 43 billion barrels will be up for bids.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/16/AR2008041603115.html>

Rebel Group MEND Assaults Shell Oil Pipeline in Nigeria April 17—More Attacks on the Horizon, Group Says

Calling a fight “inevitable,” the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) said it would “step up” attacks on Nigerian oil facilities, and provide rebels with weapons to carry out assaults. The group claimed responsibility for a pipeline attack on April 17, and also said it supported an April 16 warning attack at a Chevron oil structure.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8673029.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Peruvian Oil Company Says Offshore Oil Reserves in Excess of 1 Billion Barrels

Petro-Tech Purana said its confirmed reserves offshore Peru total 1.132 billion barrels.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=60445

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nova BioSource Fuels' 60 Million Gallon/Year Biodiesel Refinery in Seneca, Illinois Begins Service March 31

As of April 11, the facility had produced 450,000 gallons of biodiesel, according to a company release.

<http://www.novaenergyholding.com/press/press.aspx>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 18, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	115.90	109.43	62.78
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	10.27	10.18	7.50
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: Winergy Power Boosts Capacity of Proposed Wind Farm in New York, From 300 MW to 940 MW

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/suffolk/ny-liwind175652972apr17.0.5225750.story>

Update: Kansas Governor Vetoes Bill, Continues Opposition to Sunflower Electric Power's Proposal for Two 700 MW Coal-fired Power Units in Kansas

Reuters, 15:25 April 17, 2008

Update: FERC Approves SG Resources Mississippi's Bid to Open One of Three Natural Gas Storage Caverns in Mississippi April 17

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

U.S. Department of Labor Cites Valero for 16 Safety Violations at 260,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery

<http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=e7fdcc332b345681&-session=TheDailyNews:42F942510a28800DD5Ggl17D10DF>

OPEC Quota Reduces Angola's Crude Exports by 1.7 Percent, but BP Says the Drop Will not Affect Its Production; Also BP has Plans to Boost its Angolan Crude Production from 140,000 b/d in 2007 to 200,000 b/d in 2008

Bloomberg, 05:48 April 18, 2008

Strikes at France's Fos-Lavera Oil Port Slows Four Oil Tankers—Separate Strike at Nantes Saint-Nazaire Impacts Nine Ships

Reuters, 12:36 April 17, 2008

Links

***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

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

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. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov