



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 18, 2017

Electricity

Update: Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois at Full Power by April 18

On the morning of April 17 the unit was operating at 83 percent, reduced from full power on April 16.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Enel Starts Construction on Its 300 MW Red Dirt Wind Farm in Oklahoma April 18

Enel S.p.A., through its subsidiary Enel Green Power North America, Inc., on Tuesday announced it has started construction of its Red Dirt wind farm in Kingfisher and Logan Counties, Oklahoma. Once completed, Red Dirt will be able to generate approximately 1,200 GWh of renewable energy annually—equivalent to the energy consumption needs of more than 97,000 U.S. households—while avoiding the emission of about 860,000 tonnes of CO₂ each year. The energy and renewable energy credits from Red Dirt will be sold under two long-term agreements—one with T-Mobile US, Inc. for 160 MW and the other with the Grand River Dam Authority for 140 MW. The facility is expected to enter into service by the end of 2017.

<https://www.enel.com/en/media/press/d201704-enel-starts-construction-of-300-mw-red-dirt-wind-farm-in-united-states.html>

Petroleum

Update: Motiva Repairing Shut Hydrocracker at Its 237,700 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery April 18 – Sources

Motiva Enterprises on Tuesday was continuing repairs on the shut hydrocracker at its Norco, Louisiana refinery, sources familiar with plant operations said. The 40,000 b/d hydrocracker was shut on Monday to repair a leaking valve. Motiva's co-owners, Royal Dutch Shell Plc and Saudi Aramco, are scheduled to divide their three refineries, along with terminals, distribution, and marketing networks, on May 1 as part of a negotiated breakup of the 19-year joint venture. Shell will own the refineries in Norco and Convent, Louisiana, after that date. Aramco will take the Motiva name along with a 603,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas, refinery.

Reuters, 13:51 April 18, 2017

Update: Hydrocracker at Motiva's 235,000 b/d Convent, Louisiana Refinery Shut into July – Sources

Motiva Enterprises plans to keep the heavy oil hydrocracker at its Convent, Louisiana refinery shut into July for repairs to piping in the unit, sources familiar with plant operations said on Monday. The 45,000 b/d hydrocracker, called the H-Oil Unit, has been shut since March 3 after cracks were discovered in the unit's piping welds, the sources indicated. The decision was made in part because it is expected to take two months to obtain replacement piping, according to the sources. A company spokeswoman declined on Monday to discuss the status of the H-Oil Unit, which has not run at full capacity since being heavily damaged in an August 11 fire.

Reuters, 18:55 April 17, 2017

Pasadena Refining Reports Flaring at Its 112,229 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery April 18

Pasadena Refining System Inc. (PRSI) reported flaring at its Pasadena, Texas refinery on Tuesday, according to a community information line. PRSI is a subsidiary of Brazil's state-owned oil company, Petrobras. The refinery is located along the Houston Ship Channel in Texas.

Reuters, 16:13 April 18, 2017

Total Reports Leak during Unit Shutdown at Its 225,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 18

Total reported a jet fuel leak from a pressure safety valve occurred on Tuesday at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery during a scheduled unit shutdown, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The filing said that thermal expansion caused pressure to build at unit 805, resulting in a pressure safety valve leaking jet fuel. Upon discovery of the leak, an exclusion zone called for at the unit and control valve was opened to relieve the pressure in the line.

Reuters, 15:24 April 18, 2017

California State Lands Commission Begins Decommissioning Process for Venoco's Offshore Oil Platform April 17

The California State Lands Commission on Monday said it received documents from Venoco, LLC relinquishing its interests in the South Ellwood Field leases, including Platform Holly and the Goleta Beach Pier leases, located in offshore waters near Santa Barbara County. Platform Holly has not produced since May 19, 2015, when an onshore, underground line owned by Plains All American Pipeline spilled more than 120,000 gallons of crude into the ocean. The line, which transported oil produced by Holly, remains shut down and there is no estimate for when it might reopen. The Commission said it will develop a plan for the costly process of plugging 32 wells in the South Ellwood Field, removing Platform Holly and decommissioning the Goleta Beach Pier, a process expected to take three years.

http://www.slc.ca.gov/About/News_Room/2017/04-17-17.pdf

<http://www.scp.org/news/2017/04/17/70870/california-offshore-oil-platform-to-be-decommissio/>

British Columbia Officials Report Cleanup Efforts Underway after Gear Oil Spill from Ferry into Kootenay Lake April 15

Western Pacific Marine's Kootenay Balfour Ferry on Saturday was reported to be leaking gear oil while stationed near the Balfour Ferry Terminal, according to the British Columbia Ministry of Environment. The approximately 106–132 gallon spill initially resulted in a rainbow sheen, with some concentrated areas of oil extending over 1,300 feet from the spill site, the Ministry said, adding that no oiled or distressed wildlife has been reported. The most concentrated areas of gear oil near docked vessels was recovered on Saturday, though a light silver sheen remained on Sunday. Pea-size globules of oil continue to leak from under the vessel, though these are being captured by the booming in place, the Ministry said. The Interior Health Authority issued a Public Service Announcement cautioning recreational users to avoid a 1,300 foot stretch of shoreline next to the Balfour Ferry Terminal. There are drinking water intakes nearby, though the Ministry said they are out of the range of impact. As the responsible party, Western Pacific Marine has developed an incident action plan to clean up the spill including hand raking shoreline areas containing vegetation and woody debris and utilizing a series of river and absorbent boom, as well as absorbent pads to manage the spill.

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/spills-environmental-emergencies/spill-incidents/kootenay-lake-ferry-incident>

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/MediaCentre/NewsReleases/Documents/Caution%20for%20recreational%20water%20users%20near%20the%20Balfour%20Ferry.pdf>

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/b-c-health-officials-urge-caution-after-ferry-spills-gear-oil-into-kootenay-lake>

Natural Gas

Alaska Gasline Files with FERC to Develop Alaska LNG Project April 17

The Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC) on Tuesday filed an application to obtain a Natural Gas Act Section 3 permit with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for its Alaska LNG project. The project is an integrated gas infrastructure development with three major components—a gas treatment plant located at Prudhoe Bay, an 800-mile pipeline to Southcentral Alaska with up to five offtakes for in-state use, and a natural gas liquefaction plant in Nikiski to process 20 million tons of LNG per year for export. AGDC said FERC will soon publish a schedule for the environmental review process, which outlines the agency's estimated timeline for developing a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and issuing a final EIS. AGDC estimated the draft EIS would take about 12 months and an additional six month to complete the final EIS. After FERC issues the environmental reports, the agency will decide whether to issue an order that would authorize AGDC to construct the Alaska LNG project. AGDC has targeted a 2023-2025 in service date for the project.

https://agdc.us/news-calendar/newsroom/?open_this=1562

Reuters, 9:43 April 18, 2017

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Iran Launches New Phases of Its South Pars Offshore Natural Gas Project

Iran on Sunday launched phases 17 through 21 of its \$20 billion South Pars offshore natural gas project located in the Persian Gulf. Each of the new phases—17 through 21, with phase 19 having two parts—produces 28 million cubic meters a day, the Oil Minister said, adding that production at the underwater field has increased to 570 million cubic meters. Iran shares the gas field with Qatar, which produces more than 590 million cubic meters per day from the field and plans to increase production by 10 percent by 2022. Iran targets exporting 50 million cubic meters a day of gas to neighboring Iraq once that country can arrange for a letter of credit to finance the purchase, according to the Oil Minister.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/149215/Iran_Boosts_GasOutput_Capacity_With_New_Projects_at_Giant_Field

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 18, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	52.62	53.01	39.69
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.06	3.15	1.72

Source: Reuters

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/weekly/>

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

<https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/weekly/>

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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