



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Major Developments

Update: Thousands of Customers Still Without Power in Northeast

Central Maine Power expects outages to drop below 25,000 customers by this evening. The utility found almost 325 broken poles. Duke Energy still had 44,000 customers out when it last reported yesterday morning, expecting to have most of these customers re-energized by tonight. Some press reports indicate that Duke has only 5,000 customers still without power. Central Vermont Public Service reported 5,000 customers still out as of 7:00 AM today. Public Service of New Hampshire says it hopes to restore power to the last 2,000 customers still in the dark by the end of the day on Thursday. All other utilities in the areas affected by the storms in the northeast earlier this week report less than 1,000 customer outages each.

http://www.cmpco.com/news/archives/press_releases/2007/070419.html

<http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/104-04182007-1332670.html>

<http://www.wcax.com/global/story.asp?s=6393800>

<http://www.standard-freeholder.com/webapp/sitepages/content.asp?contentID=491000&catname=Local+News>

<http://www.cvps.com/documents/StormreleaseApril197am.pdf>

<http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2007041801.asp>

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20070418141>

Electricity

Aquila Seeking Approval to Build 300 MW Gas-fired Plant in Missouri

Aquila Inc. says the new plant is needed because the company's average residential customer uses as much as 58 percent more electricity than 25 years ago. If approved, construction on the proposed plant would begin in mid-2008 in Sedalia, Missouri.

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/070419/1449098.html?v=1>

AEP's 528 MW Welsh Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas Shut April 18

The unit is expected to be offline for a short time so that a leaking tube can be repaired. The company anticipates returning the unit to service sometime between April 19 and April 23 depending on the amount of repair work necessary.

Reuters, 07:44 April 19, 2007

Update: Entergy's 967 MW River Bend Nuke Unit Ramps Up to 85 Percent of Capacity

According to a report filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the company has increased the output from the plant to 85 percent up from 65 percent reported yesterday. The unit had been operating at a reduced output since April 9 so that the water boxes on a condenser could be cleaned.

Bloomberg News, 09:48 April 19, 2007

New York Governor Proposes Plan to Reduce State Electricity Consumption by 15 Percent by 2015

Governor Spitzer announced a plan to reduce electricity usage in the state by 15 percent by the year 2015. The plan calls for construction of "clean" power plants, conservation incentives to utilities, and developing legislation to facilitate construction of power plants that emit less pollution.

Bloomberg News, 12:23 April 19, 2007

FERC Approves Linden Transmission Line Upgrade to Boost Connection between New Jersey and New York

On April 19, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved a project by General Electric Co. to sign contracts with companies that have an interest in gaining access to the upgrade, the Linden VFT. GE will upgrade an existing transmission line running between Staten Island, New York and Linden, New Jersey. The project could be in service by 2009. Pepco Holdings Inc., Consolidated Edison Inc., and Cargill Inc. are among the companies that have agreed to acquire an interest in the line. The project is pending approval from the New York Independent System Operator.

Bloomberg News, 12:35 April 19, 2007

NRC Cites Low-level Safety Concerns at Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuke Station in Massachusetts

According to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) officials, workers at the nuke station need better plans and need to rigorously follow processes and procedures to deal with equipment problems such as the one that led to an unplanned reactor shutdown in March. Entergy has invested in improving the physical aspects of the station in the past year and now needs to focus on human performance.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8150528

Petroleum

Problem Reported at Valero's 160,000 b/d Lima Refinery in Ohio April 19

On April 19, Valero reported a problem at its 160,000 b/d refinery in Lima, Ohio. Although Valero did not identify the nature of the problem or the specific that was affected, traders in the area earlier had indicated that a problem occurred with an isocracking unit. Valero did report that the incident did not affect production.

Reuters, 12:37 April 19, 2007

Reuters, 11:37 April 19, 2007

Update: Production at Shell's 156,000 B/d Martinez Refinery in California Not Affected by Pipeline Rupture

According to a Shell spokesperson, the company does not expect any disruption or loss of productivity at the refinery and expects service to the pipeline to be restored within 24 hours. The 20-inch pipeline ruptured on April 17, spilling about 100 bbl of oil. The cause of the rupture is unknown.

Oil Daily, April 19, 2007

Valero Reports Incident at its 210,000 b/d Delaware Refinery Has no Impact on Production

According to a local environmental agency, soot was released earlier this week. A Valero representative was unable to provide additional information on the incident.

Bloomberg News, 10:11 April 19, 2007

Oil Price Drops Following Successful Restart of Canadian Export Line

The price of oil fell below \$62/bbl on the futures market on the news that the 490,000 b/d Enbridge Line 3 had been successfully restarted. The line had been shut since a leak was discovered on Sunday. The closing price for spot WTI also slipped below \$62/bbl.

Bloomberg News, 12:36 April 19, 2007

Canadian Oil Production Surged to Record Levels in February and March 2007

According to February data released this week by Statistics Canada, total oil production rose to new records of 3.432 million b/d in February and 3.623 million b/d in March this year. The surge was attributed to the partial return of the offshore Hibernia field, sharply higher production of bitumen and synthetic crude in Alberta, and primarily to the capacity expansion at the Syncrude plant in Alberta, which showed a 139,000 b/d rise to 356,000 b/d.

Oil Daily, April 19, 2007

Natural Gas

FERC Approves Rockies Express-West Pipeline

On April 19, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved the 796-mile line to carry up to 1.5 bcf/d of natural gas from the Rocky Mountain producing region to markets in the Midwest and Eastern portions of the country. The line is owned by Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, Sempra Energy, and ConocoPhillips. The line is expected to be in service in January 2008.

Reuters, 12:05 April 19, 2007

Other News

Update: 2007 Summer Energy Outlook Conference

Most presentations from the conference held on April 17, 2007 can now be viewed at the link below.

<http://www.ncsl.org/programs/energy/SummerEnergyConfAgenda407.htm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 19, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	61.92	63.87	71.91
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.55	7.95	7.72

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Energy Secretary Bodman Concerned about Potential Supply Disruptions from Geopolitical issues in Iran and Nigeria

Bloomberg News, 08:35 April 19, 2007

FERC Proposes New Rule to Gain Information from Intrastate Natural Gas Pipelines

Bloomberg News, 13:09 April 19, 2007

Coastal Oregon LNG Project to File With FERC in June

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, April 19, 2007, <http://www.intelligencepress.com>

Iraq's Oil Reserves Larger than Previously Thought; Production Forecast to Increase – IHS Analysis

http://www.upi.com/Energy/Briefing/2007/04/18/iraq_oil_reserves_production_to_increase/

NEI Trade Group Says World has Adequate Supplies of Uranium

Bloomberg News, 07:31 April 19, 2007

Walker River Piute Tribe Withdraws Permission for Shipments of Spent Nuclear Fuel along Rail Line to Yucca Mountain

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8147760

Texas Leads California in Wind Power Capacity

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8148801

Rising Costs Threaten FPL's Proposed 140 MW Offshore Wind Farm in New York

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8145690

150MW Wind Farm Possible for Rhode Island – According to Governor's Study

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8150380

Largest North American Solar Power Plant to Provide Electricity to Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada by End of 2007

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8146987

Beacon Power Signs Contract with Carter & Burgess to Design First 20-Megawatt Frequency Regulation Plant with Flywheel Technology

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/070419/20070419005543.html?v=1>

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>.

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