



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday, April 20, 2007

Electricity

Update: Allegheny Files Application for New Transmission Line in Virginia

As part of pursuing its proposed Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line (TrAIL), Allegheny Energy, Inc. has filed an application with the Virginia State Corporation Commission to build the Virginia segment of the 210-mile, 500 kV transmission line. Targeted for completion in 2011, the line will extend from Southwestern Pennsylvania through West Virginia to Northern Virginia. Independent experts have indicated that should the line not be in operation by 2011, blackouts in the area could result.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8155960

Dominion Proposes Two Virginia Projects: New Power Line and New Generators at Ladysmith Power Station

Dominion Virginia Power filed two separate applications with the Virginia State Corporation Commission on April 19 for new generating units and a high-voltage transmission line. The proposal includes the addition of two 150-megawatt, natural gas-fired electric generating units at its Ladysmith Power Station and a 65-mile, 500,000-volt transmission line through Warren, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Fauquier, Prince William, and Loudoun counties. At the Ladysmith facility, Dominion plans to add two 150 MW peaking units. The state review is expected to take about a year, which would mean the new units at Ladysmith would probably come online by August 2008

<http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2007/042007/04202007/277448?rss=local>

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8155641

American Cities Considering Mini-Energy Districts

Concerned about aging and unreliable electric transmission systems, a number of U.S. mayors are considering creating new micro grid districts, where neighboring entities band together to produce their own electric power. Such "Energy Independence Districts" would include businesses, government buildings and office buildings jointly designing and creating their own electrical system that uses the energy efficiently, based on their needs, and use the electric grid only as a backup. Communities that have already created special districts to provide innovative energy systems include Sacramento, Austin, Chicago, and Walt Disney World.

http://www.boston.com/news/local/connecticut/articles/2007/04/19/cities_looking_to_mini_energy_districts_to_ensure_reliable_power/

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070420/BUSINESS/70420011>

EPCOR's 495 MW Genesee Coal-fired Unit 3 in Alberta Back in Service April 20

The unit had been shut since April 18.

Reuters, 08:23 April 20, 2007

Entergy's 1,266 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit Reduced to 65 Percent of Capacity in Mississippi April 20

On April 19, the unit was operating at 98 percent of capacity.

Reuters, 07:23 April 20, 2007

OPG's 516 MW Pickering Nuke Unit in Ontario Restarting April 20

Reuters, 10:41 April 20, 2007

OPG's 535 MW Lennox Oil and Gas-fired Unit 1 in Ontario Shut April 19

Reuters, 10:41 April 20, 2007

International Power's 632 Coletto Creek Coal-fired Unit in Texas Restarting April 20

Reuters, 10:41 April 20, 2007

Sempre's 322 Elk Hills Gas-fired Unit in California Shut April 19

Reuters, 19:12 April 19, 2007

Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut April 17

Reuters, 19:12 April 19, 2007

AES' 225 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut April 19

Reuters, 19:12 April 19, 2007

AES' 495 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 8 in California Shut April 16

Reuters, 19:12 April 19, 2007

Petroleum

Approximately 90 Workers at BP's 460,000 B/d Texas City Refinery Sent to Hospital Suffering from Eye Irritation and Nausea –Cause Remains Unidentified

BP reported that the workers, who were repairing and upgrading the refinery's Pipestill 3B unit, which hasn't operated since Hurricane Rita in 2005, reported feeling ill at 9:30 p.m. on April 19 and were taken to area hospitals. All have been released as of the morning of April 20. BP says that monitoring teams have sampled the immediate and surrounding areas but failed to find evidence of a release or leak. No evacuation was ordered, and the refinery continues to operate normally.

Reuters, 08:28 April 20, 2007

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 09:40 April 20, 2007

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070420/bp_illness.html?.v=1

ExxonMobil Reports Exchanger Leak at its 562,000 b/d Baytown Refinery in Texas April 19

The incident caused some light heating oil to be sent into a steam system and that resulted in a small amount of volatile organic compounds being released.

Bloomberg News, 12:02 April 20, 2007

Update: Traders Report Production Cut at Shell's 156,000 b/d Martinez Refinery Due to Pipeline Shutdown

On April 19, Shell indicated that the shutdown of the ruptured 20-inch line had no impact on refinery operations. However, on April 20, traders in the area were cited by Reuters as saying that an increase in gasoline prices in the area was a result of a cut in production at the refinery stemming from the pipeline problem.

Reuters, 13:51 April 20, 2007

SRU Problem at ConocoPhillips' 216,000 B/d Sweeny Refinery in Texas Results is Slowing Several Units

The sulfur recovery unit was shut today due to a tube failure in a waste heat boiler. The malfunction which occurred in the SRU on April 19 will necessitate reducing operations of some 17 units at the refinery for a period of two to three weeks. According to a Reuters story, during the slow down, repairs will be performed on a faulty waste heat boiler. Among the units affected by the slow down are: the fluid catalytic cracker, the delayed coker, and the hydrotreater.

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 06:28 April 20, 2007

Reuters, 08:36 April 20, 2007

Citgo Restarts 120,000 b/d Crude Unit at its Lake Charles Refinery in Louisiana April 20

Reuters reports that according to a source in the area, Citgo successfully restarted a 120,000 b/d crude distillation unit at its 425,000 b/d Lake Charles refinery in Louisiana on April 20, 2007. The unit had been undergoing unplanned maintenance since early last week. Traders in the area had anticipated that the unit would be back in service about four days earlier.
Reuters, 12:20 April 20, 2007

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Flooding at Cigar Lake Uranium Mine in Canada Linked to Blasting at Mine

The CEO of mine owner Cameco recently indicated that the Company may bear some responsibility in the accident that occurred in October last year causing the mine to flood and subsequently shut down. The mine produces approximately 10 percent of the world's supply of uranium. As a result of the accident, the mine may be closed for as long as three years.

Bloomberg News, 02:11, April 20, 2007

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 20, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	64.38	63.63	71.96
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	7.42	7.93	7.95
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

New York PSC Plans Review of Retail Electric and Natural Gas Access Programs

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, April 20, 2007, <http://intelligencepress.com/>

Public Service Enterprise Considering New Nuke Reactor in New Jersey

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8154597

Shell Plans for Port Arthur Expansion May be Curbed Due to Rising Costs, Regulatory Hurdles in U.S. and Competition from Offshore Refinery Projects

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 11:25 April 20, 2007

Transocean Says Oil-Rig Ship Attacked by Militants off Nigeria

Bloomberg News, April 20, 2007

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

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

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