



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, April 20, 2009

## ***Electricity***

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### **Storms Knock Out Electricity to About 53,000 Customers in Texas over Weekend**

Storms cut electricity to about 25,000 Oncor Electric Delivery customers on Friday and approximately 28,000 CenterPoint Energy customers on Saturday, according to multiple reports.

<http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=98d3d612196b850a>

<http://cbs11tv.com/local/spring.storms.west.2.987799.html>

### **Snow Storm Cuts Power to About 44,000 Customers in Colorado April 17**

Snow knocked out power to 30,000 Xcel Energy customers and 14,000 Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA) customers in Colorado on April 17, sources said. About 1,700 IREA customers and 2,000 Xcel Energy customers remained in the dark, as of latest reports.

<http://www.examiner.com/x-219-Denver-Weather-Examiner~y2009m4d19-Denver-begins-recovery-from-major-spring-storm>

[http://www.denverpost.com/technology/ci\\_12179139](http://www.denverpost.com/technology/ci_12179139)

[http://www.examiner.com/a-1970276~2\\_000\\_in\\_Evergreen\\_still\\_without\\_power\\_after\\_storm.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1970276~2_000_in_Evergreen_still_without_power_after_storm.html)

<http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=114049&provider=top&catid=188>

### **Sempra's 1,250 MW Mesquite Gas-fired Power Plant in Arizona Shuts, Restarts by April 17-18**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by April 17, and returned to full power by April 18.

<http://www.semprageneration.com/mesquite.htm>

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904181515.html>

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904171515.html>

### **NRG Energy Shuts, Plans Restart of 893 MW Limestone Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas April 17-20**

NRG Energy shut the unit to fix a boiler tube leak on April 17-19, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company planned to restart the unit from April 19-20, according to a separate filing

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122947>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122980>

Reuters, 10:04 April 20, 2009

Reuters, 18:52 April 17, 2009

### **Reliant's 775 MW Ormond Beach Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut by April 19**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by April 19.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904191515.html>

### **Fire Forces Shut Xcel Energy's 598 MW Allen S. King Coal-fired Power Plant in Minnesota April 18**

Xcel Energy shut its 598 MW Allen S. King coal-fired power plant in Minnesota after a conveyor belt caught fire, a spokesman said. The fire occurred about 2:35 PM on April 18 in one of the facility's main conveyor belts that feeds coal into the plant. Crews contained the blaze before 4 PM. Xcel shut the plant because the fire "affected the main way we feed coal into the plant," according to the spokesman. The facility will remain offline "for a few weeks" as workers perform repairs and other scheduled work, the spokesman said.

[http://www.twincities.com/portal/allheadlines/ci\\_12175119?loopback=1](http://www.twincities.com/portal/allheadlines/ci_12175119?loopback=1)

Bloomberg News, 10:24 April 20, 2009

### **Luminant to Shut 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas April 20**

Luminant expected to shut the unit today, April 20, to repair a boiler tube leak, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company did not say when it would return the unit to service, but the filing indicated that the repairs would last about 8 hours.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122987>

Reuters, 09:57 April 20, 2009

### **Update: Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Ramped Up to 96 Percent by April 20**

Operators slowed the unit late last week for condenser maintenance. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 19 the unit was operating at 34 percent.

Reuters, 08:29 April 20, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by April 18**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904181515.html>

### **Luminant's 591 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas Trips by April 17—Company Plans Restart April 18**

Luminant suspected the shutdown occurred after a lightning strike grounded a transmission line, forcing offline the transmission protection bus, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company planned to restart the unit on Saturday, April 18.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122965>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122967>

Reuters, 10:08 April 20, 2009

### **Calpine's 525 MW Sutter Gas-fired Unit in California Curtailed, Ramped up by April 17-18**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit ramped up from an unplanned curtailment of 264 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904181515.html>

### **AES's 498 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Shut by April 17**

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904171515.html>

### **Watson Cogeneration's 423 MW Gas-fired Unit in California Reduced by April 18**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 231 MW by April 18.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904181515.html>

### **OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 2 in Ontario Shut by April 20**

Reuters, 11:54 April 20, 2009

### **Update: OPG Restarts 475 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 1 in Ontario by April 17**

The unit went offline on April 13.

Bloomberg News, 18:30 April 17, 2009

### **Xcel Plans 164 MW Expansion at 1,137 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in Minnesota**

Xcel plans to boost Prairie Island's capacity by 164 MW and install 35 dry cask storage containers for spent nuclear fuel, according to a news source.

[http://www.twincities.com/allheadlines/ci\\_12172664](http://www.twincities.com/allheadlines/ci_12172664)

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Delek to Restart 58,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery after November 2008 Explosion**

Delek plans to begin restarting the facility as soon as tomorrow, and expects it to be fully operational in three weeks, the company said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. A fire and explosion killed one worker and forced shut the refinery on November 20, 2008.

DJN, 12:16 April 20, 2009

Bloomberg News, 17:07 April 17, 2009

### **Shell Returning Coker to Normal Rates after Snag at 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery April 17-20**

A plugged overhead line caused the coker flare to trip away from the flare gas recovery system, triggering flaring on April 17, Shell said in a filing with state regulators. Operators reduced the coker to prevent additional flaring, according to a spokesman. Workers resolved the incident and began returning the coker to planned rates, he said.

Reuters, 09:45 April 20, 2009

Bloomberg News, 13:49 April 19, 2009

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122971>

### **NATO Forces Thwart Somali Pirates in Assault on Norwegian Oil Tanker April 18**

Somali pirates assaulted the 80,000-tonne MV Front Ardenne oil tanker in the Gulf of Aden on April 18, but NATO forces thwarted the attack, officials said.

Reuters, 06:25 April 19, 2009

## ***Natural Gas***

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Nothing to report.

## ***Other News***

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### **Update: Renew Energy to Shut or Sell 130 MMGal/Yr. Jefferson, Wisconsin Ethanol Plant by End of May**

Renew Energy told state regulators that it planned to shut or sell its 130 MMGal/Yr. Jefferson, Wisconsin ethanol plant by the end of May, according to a news source. The company declared bankruptcy in January 2009.

<http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-state.php?Id=474&yr=2009>

<http://www.brownfieldnetwork.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=B4F2799D-5056-B82A-D0887220B8BD1EFF>

### **EPA Says Greenhouse Gases Pose Threat to Public Health, Welfare**

Greenhouse gases—carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride—contribute to air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said in a proposed finding April 17. The EPA's proposed findings were a response to a 2007 directive from the U.S. Supreme Court. The conclusions, now subject to public review, marked the first time that the federal government said it could use the Clean Air Act to require power plants, cars and trucks to reduce emissions of climate-changing pollutants. The EPA cautioned that its proposal did not include any regulations.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jbtRZWd2aArVab\\_f4DS-ok4bnaxOD97KF2JG1](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jbtRZWd2aArVab_f4DS-ok4bnaxOD97KF2JG1)

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/0EF7DF675805295D8525759B00566924>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 20, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	46.25	50.20	115.90
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.47	3.59	10.27

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### **National Grid Reports 16,151 Customers without Power in New York April 20**

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

### **Transformer Station Snag Cuts Power to 9,000 Hydro Ottawa Customers and 5,700 Hydro One Customers in Ottawa, Canada April 20**

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/ottawa/story/2009/04/20/ot-090420-power-out.html>

### **SCS Energy Plans Coal-fired Power Plant in New York—Facility Would Capture CO2 Emissions for Storage beneath the Ocean Floor**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/18/business/energy-environment/18clean.html?\\_r=1&ref=business&pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/18/business/energy-environment/18clean.html?_r=1&ref=business&pagewanted=all)

### **Update: Virginia Supreme Court Rejects Environmental Challenge to Dominion Virginia Power's Proposed 585 MW Coal-fired Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center**

[http://www.tricities.com/tri/news/local/article/high\\_court\\_rejects\\_coal\\_plant\\_challenge/23114/](http://www.tricities.com/tri/news/local/article/high_court_rejects_coal_plant_challenge/23114/)

### **NPPD Plans 80 MW Wind Farm near Bloomfield, Nebraska and 42 MW Wind Farm near Crofton, Nebraska**

<http://www.kmeg14.com/global/story.asp?s=10199165>

### **Biofuels Power Plans Multi-fueled Houston Clean Energy Park in Texas—Facility Would Burn Biofuels, Biomass, Natural Gas and Solar Energy, Generating up to 50 MW of Power by 2010**

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/front/6380763.html>

### **BioEnergy Power LLC Plans 27 MW Biomass-fired Power Plant in Indiana**

<http://www.nwi.com/articles/2009/04/19/business/business/doc0f3e61c86f50ba7b8625759b006ddf22.txt>

### **Update: County Planning Commission Recommends Rejection of Proposed Zone Change for MinnErgy LLC's Planned 55 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant near Eyota, Minnesota**

[http://news.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews\\_story.asp?z=2&a=395068](http://news.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews_story.asp?z=2&a=395068)

### **Local Electric Unions Ratify Contract to Avoid MidAmerican Energy Strike in Iowa April 17**

[http://www.kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=10207010&nav=menu83\\_2](http://www.kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=10207010&nav=menu83_2)

**Tanker Truck Overturms, Spills about 10,000 Gallons of Heating Oil into Storm Drain, Creek in Massachusetts April 20**

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking\\_news/2009/04/tanker\\_spills\\_1.html](http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2009/04/tanker_spills_1.html)

**Enerplus Resources Fund Delays Plans for Planned 10,000 b/d Kirby Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Citing Economy**

<http://business.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20090417.wenerplus0417/BNStory/Business/home>

**Indonesia Expects to Begin Production Next Year at Planned 30,000-40,000 b/d Offshore Bukat Block**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=75217](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=75217)

**Iraqi Oil Exports Average 1.8 Million b/d in First Quarter 2009, or at Least 200,000 b/d Short of Budgetary Target**

Reuters, 10:34 April 20, 2009

**Update: Floating Storage Accounts for About 100 Million Barrels of Oil Worldwide, as Demand Lags Behind Sellers' Forecasts—Total**

Reuters, 10:54 April 20, 2009

**Update: Rebel Group “MEND” Releases British Oil Worker in Nigeria by April 19—Group Had Held Worker Hostage since September 2008**

Bloomberg News, 19:42 April 19, 2009

**SCOT Plant Shutdown at Eustace Gas Plant in Texas April 19-20**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122985>

**Turbine Shutdown at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas April 18-19**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122977>

**Solution Cooler Leak at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas April 17**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122969>

**Acid Gas Compressor Leak at Waha Gas Plant in Texas April 17**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=122938>

**FERC Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for El Paso Corp's Florida Gas Transmission's Proposed 820 MMcf/d Expansion to Natural Gas Pipeline System in Alabama and Florida**

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6268497.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

## **Links**

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***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](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/ead.aspx>

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