



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 21, 2015

Electricity

Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Reduced to 65 Percent by April 21

On the morning of April 20 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 85 Percent by April 21

On the morning of April 20 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Reduced by April 20

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 848 MW.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201504201515.html>

Petroleum

Obama Administration Releases First Installment of the Quadrennial Energy Review; Announces Agenda to Modernize Aging Energy Infrastructure

The Obama administration on Tuesday announced plans to modernize the country's aging energy infrastructure and make it more resilient to challenges ranging from extreme weather to changing domestic energy production. The Quadrennial Energy Review, more than a year in the making, recommends a program that would accelerate natural gas pipeline replacement, modernize the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and award up to \$350 million to help states improve the reliability of their electricity delivery. The report highlights several opportunities to overhaul and invest in U.S. energy transmission, storage and distribution networks and offers policy recommendations for lawmakers and officials. The massive expansion of domestic oil and gas production, and the ensuing congestion on rails and waterways to transport these fuels, and the rapid boom in renewable energy have major energy policy implications, as does the vulnerability of the electrical grid to extreme weather and cyber attacks, the report said. Addressing these issues ""will require action by many parties in the private sector, and coordinated public sector action at the federal, state, and local levels," the White House said. President Barack Obama called for the launch of the QER when he announced his Climate Action Plan in June 2013.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/04/21/fact-sheet-administration-announces-new-agenda-modernize-energy-infrastr>

Reuters, 10:14 April 21, 2015

Chevron Reports Loss of Compressor, Shutdown at Its 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery April 21

Chevron Corp reported loss of a compressor, flaring, and subsequent plant shutdown at its Richmond, California refinery.

Reuters, 14:44 April 21, 2015

Reuters, 14:49 April 21, 2015

U.S. Senator Murkowski to Introduce Bill to Lift Crude Export Ban

Senator Lisa Murkowski said on Monday she will introduce legislation this year to allow U.S. crude exports. Murkowski became chairman of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in January.

<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/republican-news?ID=4b0f9ab7-51f5-4b8f-ac56-aa9db64bff42>

Reuters 15:09 April 20, 2015

ExxonMobil Offers 6-Year Contract to Workers at Its 344,600 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery April 20 – USW

ExxonMobil Corp on Monday offered a six-year contract to union-represented workers at the company's Beaumont, Texas, refinery, said an official of the United Steelworkers union (USW), which represents the hourly employees.

The previous six-year offer that expired on Sunday lacked proposals on the use of routine maintenance contract workers and worker fatigue, which are part of the national four-year contract agreed to in March between the USW and U.S. refinery owners. The Beaumont refinery workers represented by USW local 13-243 have been working on a rolling 24-hour extension of the previous contract since it expired on January 31.

Reuters, 8:17 April 20, 2015

California Environmental Groups Sue State after Lands Commission Renews 30-Year Avon Marine Terminal Lease at Tesoro's 166,000 b/d Martinez Refinery

Conservation groups filed a lawsuit against California on Friday, saying the state did not adequately consider environmental factors when it approved a 30-year lease last month for a marine terminal at Tesoro Corp's refinery near San Francisco Bay. The Center for Biological Diversity and Communities for a Better Environment said the California State Lands Commission's review failed to take into account expected changes in the feedstock entering the refinery, which they said will include "lower quality" crudes such as Bakken crude and oil sands crude from Canada. The suit calls for an immediate halt to terminal activities until a new environmental review is completed. The Avon Marine Terminal is an integral part of Tesoro's Martinez refinery. A California State Lands Commission spokeswoman said the agency is reviewing the lawsuit.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=47320

Motiva Says Its 600,250 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Experienced Minor Upset, Flaring April 20

Reuters, 12:59 April 21, 2015

Marathon Petroleum to Start Up Splitter at Its 242,000 b/d Catlettsburg, Kentucky Refinery in May – CEO

Marathon Petroleum Corp expects to start up a new 35,000 b/d condensate splitter at its Catlettsburg, Kentucky refinery in May, the company's CEO said on Tuesday. The new unit, which will split the ultralight crude into naphtha and other feedstocks at the company's refinery is in the last stages of construction.

Reuters, 14:33 April 21, 2015

Petrobras Says Alkylation Unit Operating Normally at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery April 20

Petrobras said the alkylation unit at its Pasadena, Texas refinery was operating normally and there was no impact to production due to emissions on April 19.

Reuters, 19:02 April 20, 2015

Enable Midstream Announces Completion of 19,500 b/d Bear Den Crude and Produced Water Gathering System in North Dakota

Enable Midstream Partners, LP on Monday announced that its first crude oil and produced water gathering system in North Dakota was fully operational. The Bear Den Crude and Produced Water Gathering System began construction in August 2013 with the initial segments of the system starting service in November 2013. It provides services to producer XTO Energy Inc. in its Little Missouri Field and will have a maximum throughput of 19,500 b/d.

<http://enablemidstream.investorhq.businesswire.com/press-release/company-news/enable-midstream-announces-completion-bakken-crude-oil-gathering-system>

Natural Gas

Atlas Reports JT Valve Problem at Its 200 MMcf/d Driver Gas Plant in Texas April 20

Atlas reported the Joules Thompson (JT) valve started hanging in the closed position creating more liquids and allowing the inlet motors to drop out on high discharge alarms. The JT valve was removed, the valve holding the pins and controller was replaced, and the valve was reinstalled. Operators then brought the plant back up to speed as soon as possible.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=212897>

Regency Reports Amine System Swing at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas April 19

Regency reported high second stage discharge pressure on the foul amine flash tank causing a swing in the amine system. The suction temperature to the acid gas injector was lowered and dumping on the foul amine flash tank was stopped.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=212900>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

White House Says Movement of U.S. Aircraft Carrier near Yemen to Ensure Commerce

The White House said on Tuesday that the presence of a U.S. aircraft carrier near Yemen is intended to ensure freedom of navigation and commerce in the area. The White House spokesman cited energy, among other important commodities, as important shipments near the coast of Yemen that needed protection.

Reuters, 12:59 April 21, 2015

Libya's Hariga Oil Port Shuts Due to Security Guards Strike – Oil Official

Libya's eastern oil port of Hariga closed due to a strike by security guards over salary payments, an oil official said on Tuesday. A tanker docked at the port was forced to stop loading crude oil, the official said. The port guards had complained they had not received their salaries for several months, he said. The eastern port of Zueitina was working normally with a tanker loading some 700,000 barrels of crude oil, another official said. Libya has managed to boost output to almost 600,000 b/d by reopening two western fields and keeping eastern ports open despite militant attacks and fighting between rival factions allied to two competing governments vying for control.

Reuters, 7:38 April 21, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 21, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	55.53	53.25	104.54
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.55	2.56	4.73

Source: Reuters

Links

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

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

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

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

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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