



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Electricity

Appalachian Power to Energize new 765 kV line in West Virginia in June

The line connects Wyoming and Wythe counties.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6593431

Update: SCE's 1,070 MW Unit 2 at its San Onofre Nuclear Plant in California Ramps up to 56 Percent

Southern California Edison's unit 2 at its San Onofre nuclear power station, which was off initially for refueling and later because the turbines were spinning at inconsistent rates and could not connect to the grid, has ramped up to 56 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:02 April 25, 2006.

Update: Ontario Power's 490 MW Coal-Fired Units 6 and 8 at Nanticoke Back in Service by April 25

Unit 6 returned to service following a weekend outage, while unit 8 returned following a maintenance outage begun in early April.

Reuters, 08:07 April 25, 2006.

665 MW Coal-fired Unit Planned Near Osceola, Arkansas

The plant, about 50 miles north of Memphis, will be completed in 2010.

http://www.commercialappeal.com/mca/local/article/0,2845,MCA_25340_4643908,00.html

FirstEnergy's 1,238 MW Unit 1 at its Perry Nuclear Plant in Ohio at 82 Percent Capacity

Bloomberg News, 07:02 April 25, 2006.

Duke's 1,129 MW Unit 2 at its Catawba Nuclear Plant in South Carolina at 15 Percent Capacity

Bloomberg News, 07:02 April 25, 2006.

Delta Power's 240 MW Gas-fired Crockett Plant in California Shut April 24

Reuters, 08:11 April 25, 2006.

Petroleum

Bush Suspends Deliveries to Strategic Petroleum Reserve Bush Asks EPA to Grant Waivers to Relieve Critical Fuel Supply Shortages Bush Asks EPA to Set Up Task Force to Try to Reduce Number of Fuels

President Bush delivered a speech today at the Renewable Fuels Association on energy policy being proposed by the Administration. A number of new initiatives were announced today. For the entire speech, see:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/04/20060425.html>

EPA Ready to Grant Waivers as Needed

Following President Bush's speech today, the EPA responded that it will issue fuel waivers as needed to relieve critical fuel supply shortages. An EPA spokesperson reported that Pennsylvania is the only state, to date, that has requested a waiver.

Reuters, 14:03 April 25, 2006.

U.S. Oil Refiners Disagree with Need for Fuel Waivers

The National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, the trade group that represents U.S. oil refiners, disagreed with the need for fuel waivers. The president of the organization cited the fact that the industry has invested nearly \$50 billion to upgrade refineries in order to meet U.S. clean air regulations, and citing the potential to increase uncertainty and upset investment plans argued that granting "fuel waivers reward companies that have failed to properly plan for regulations and punish those that have invested."

Reuters, 12:30 April 25, 2006.

As Heavy Maintenance Schedules Wind Down, U.S. Oil Refineries Set for Sharp Boost in Production

After months of repairs due to hurricane related damage and heavy seasonal maintenance schedules a number of U.S. oil refineries are set to increase output of products significantly over the next few weeks. Analysts predict that the production boost will ease pressure on refined products and crude oil prices as well.

Reuters, 14:16 April 25, 2006.

Update: ExxonMobil Tells Non-essential Workers in Nigeria Not to Report for Work; Boosts Security

ExxonMobil advised non-essential workers at the Qua Iboe export facility in Nigeria not to report to work due to security concerns. An Exxon spokesperson did not specify the exact security precautions taken but said security has been tightened. More than 500,000 b/d of Nigerian crude production remains shut in due to threats by rebels.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8400972.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Reuters, 13:15 April 25, 2006.

Update: Venezuela's Cardon Oil Refinery Restores Operations After Power Outage

Venezuela's 305,000 bpd Cardon oil refinery has restored more than 90 percent of its operations. A power outage shutdown the refinery last week.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060425/venezuela_refinery.html?.v=1

Natural Gas

BP Executive Says High Taxes Could Kill Proposed Natural Gas Line from Alaska

http://today.reuters.com/investing/financeArticle.aspx?type=bondsNews&storyID=2006-04-25T010938Z_01_N24402872_RTRIDST_0_ENERGY-ALASKA-TAX.XML

Other News

Alabama Holds Exercise to Simulate Category 5 Hurricane Hitting Mobile Bay

Emergency planners in Alabama held an extensive hurricane simulation exercise that won praise from the Acting Director of FEMA who felt the State was well prepared to handle such a catastrophe. Included in the preparation plans are to have selected gasoline stations receive emergency power generators to allow them to continue functioning after the storm passes.

<http://www.al.com/news/mobileregister/index.ssf?/base/news/1145727979125590.xml&coll=3>

Canada Working to Thwart Potential Terrorists Attacks on Offshore Oil and Gas Rigs

The Canadian military is working on strategies to avert terrorist attacks on its offshore oil and gas rigs.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20060420.RIGS20/TPStory/Nationa>

Soldiers Help Assess Emergency Power Needs of Critical Facilities in Virginia Beach

Eight soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion just completed assessing what kind of backup or emergency generators the critically designated facilities in Virginia Beach would need to keep functioning after a hurricane hit the area.

<http://www.belvoireagle.com/archives/2006/APR/20/249th.shtml>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 25, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	67.75	71.31	53.24
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	7.76	7.60	7.27
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes**California's State Lands Commission and Various Environmental Groups Urge State to Ban Once Through Cooling of Coastal Power Plants**

http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20060414/news_1n14intake.html

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/04/18/AR2006041801413.html>

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Study Shows Alaskan Natural Gas Pipeline is More Cost-effective than Exporting LNG

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/7409314.xml?p=Natural>

Chrysler to Allot 25 percent of its Vehicle Production to E85 Flex Fueled Vehicles

Reuters, 11:29 April 25, 2006.

21,500 Westar Customers in Kansas Lose Power During Hailstorm Evening of April 23

http://www2.kjworld.com/news/2006/apr/25/hailstorm_leaves_icy_mark_citys_vehicles_and_roofs/

10,700 Customers in Santa Clarita, California Lost Power Evening of April 24

http://cbs2.com/local/local_story_115103648.html

Vandals Damage Substation Causing 3,500 to Lose Power in Benton, Arkansas

<http://www.bentoncourier.com/articles/2006/04/25/news/73jnews.txt>

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 at 10:30 AM and 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.

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