



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, April 29, 2015

Electricity

Update: Efforts to Restore Power Continue for Over 23,000 Entergy Louisiana Customers April 29 after Strong Storms Hit April 27

Entergy Louisiana crews on Wednesday continued restoring power after strong storms brought wind gusts, tornadoes and frequent lightning strikes across Louisiana Monday morning. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT, 23,135 Entergy Louisiana customers remained without power, down from a peak of 176,000 Entergy Louisiana customers. The company said all customers outside of the hardest hit areas should have power restored by Wednesday night.

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/la.aspx>

ISO New England Foresees Sufficient Generation for Meeting Summer Power Demands

New England is expected to have enough electric generation and demand-response resources available to serve forecasted peak demand this summer, according to ISO New England Inc., the operator of the region's bulk power system and wholesale electricity markets. Under normal weather conditions of about 90 degrees, summer electricity demand is forecasted to peak at 26,710 MW. Extreme summer weather, such as an extended heat wave of about 94 degrees, could push demand up to 29,060 MW.

http://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/2015/04/2015_summer_outlook_release_final.pdf

Update: Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Ramps Up to 94 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 66 percent, reduced from full power on April 20.

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

TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 12 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at full power.

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

NRC Reports Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey has 'Substantial Safety' Problems

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a "yellow" classification indicating substantial safety significance relating to problems with electromatic relief valves at Exelon's Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant in Lacey Township, New Jersey April 27. Exelon reported that it had corrected the issue, while the NRC has planned additional inspections.

<http://www.energycentral.com/news/en/35973345/US-NRC-increases-oversight-at-Exelon-s-Oyster-Creek-nuclear-plant-in-New-Jersey>

Duke Energy to File Construction Permits for Coal Ash Landfills at Its Retired Dan River Steam Station and Sutton Power Plant in North Carolina

Duke Energy plans to submit construction permits for on-site landfills at the Dan River Steam Station in Eden, North Carolina, and the Sutton Power Plant in Wilmington, North Carolina to provide permanent storage solutions for over 6 million tons of coal ash. Landfills at each site will feature fully-lined layers of synthetic and natural barriers effectively containing and separating the ash from surrounding air, soil, and groundwater. The company plans to file with the State's Department of Environment and Natural Resources this summer with anticipated construction start dates in early 2016, both subject regulatory approval.

<http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2015042901.asp>

Marathon Reaches Deal with Power Plant Workers Serving Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery April 28 – USW

Striking workers at the South Houston Green power plant serving Marathon Petroleum Corp's Galveston Bay Refinery in Texas City, Texas, reached a tentative agreement on Tuesday night to end a three-month strike, said a United Steelworkers union (USW) official on Wednesday. In addition to the tentative contract, negotiators for the 42 workers at Marathon's power plant and the company reached a return-to-work agreement that covers the terms for re-entering the plant providing electricity and steam for the adjoining refinery. Local disputes are still on-going at the Marathon Galveston Bay and LyondellBasell Houston refineries in Texas, the BP refinery in Whiting, Indiana, and the BP Husky refinery in Toledo, Ohio.
Reuters, 10:18 April 29, 2015

PBF Reports CO Boiler Shut, Sulfur Dioxide Release at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery April 29

Reuters, 9:47 April 29, 2015

Marathon Reports 4 Barrel Oil Spill from Pipeline in Vernon, Illinois April 29

Marathon reported a pipeline was being repaired after four barrels of crude oil spilled due to a gasket failure at the flange connection in Vernon, Illinois, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.
Reuters, 4:18 April 29, 2015

Empty Asphalt Tank Catches Fire at Calumet's 45,000 b/d Superior, Wisconsin Refinery April 28

An empty asphalt tank caught fire at Calumet's oil refinery in Superior, Wisconsin on Tuesday afternoon, prompting the evacuation of nonessential personnel at the facility. The fire was contained to the tank and there were no reports of injuries. The tank was empty and the fire was fueled by residual material, according to the Superior Fire Department. The refinery and fire department were investigating the cause of the fire and jointly performed air monitoring and found no hazardous air impact to the community.

<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/superior/3733074-crews-respond-fire-tank-calumet-refinery-superior>

<http://www.wdio.com/article/stories/s3779981.shtml>

Reuters, 17:10 April 28, 2015

Citgo Says Alarm Sounded at Its 163,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery after Third Party Pipeline Incident April 28

Citgo said the West Plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery sounded an internal alarm system as a precaution due to a third party incident involving a pipeline outside the Citgo fence line. A hydrogen pipeline fire was contained yesterday at MarkWest's Javelina gas processing and fractionation facility which processes exhaust gases from six local crude oil refineries including Citgo's Corpus Christi refinery.

Reuters, 21:29 April 28, 2015

Valero to Run Refineries at 104 Percent of Combined Capacity in Second Quarter 2015

Valero Energy Corp said on Tuesday it plans to run its 14 refineries between 100 percent and 104 percent of combined total capacity of 2.7 million b/d in the second quarter of 2015. Valero's seven Gulf Coast refineries will carry most of the burden, running between 103 percent and 106 percent of their combined intake of 1.5 million b/d. Valero has been focused on improving production efficiency at its refineries, which may have resulted in incremental capacity increases.

Reuters, 12:42 April 28, 2015

Natural Gas

Targa Reports ACG Shut at Its 150 MMcf/d Sand Hills Gas Plant in Texas April 28

Targa reported the acid gas compressor (AGC) C-14, was shut by the control panel on low jacket water level. The jacket water level switch had malfunctioned which routed acid gas to the emergency acid gas flare, F-4. The level switch was replaced and the AGC was restarted. Once the AGC was restarted, the flaring at the emergency acid gas flare ceased.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=213229>

Other News

California Governor Orders Aggressive Greenhouse Gas Cuts by 2030

California Governor Jerry Brown issued an executive order on Wednesday to cut the state's greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The new target is "the most aggressive benchmark enacted by any government in North America to reduce dangerous carbon emissions," the governor's office said. Brown's announcement comes as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) works to finalize the first mandatory rules to limit carbon emissions from the country's existing power plants this summer. Under the current EPA proposal, California is required to cut the power plant-sourced carbon dioxide emissions rate by 23 percent by 2030. <http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18938>

International News

Libya's Es Sider Oil Port, El Feel Oilfield Remain Closed Due to Poor Security, Strike

Libya's eastern Es Sider oil export port remained closed due to poor security, oil officials said on Wednesday. A senior port official said the security situation from Es Sider to Sirte, a major central city where Islamic State militants have taken over government buildings, was still too poor to receive tankers. A spokesman for NOC said force majeure remained in place for the two ports, which have a combined capacity of 600,000 b/d. Libya's western El Feel oilfield is still closed due to a strike by security guards, a spokesman for NOC said. El Feel, which analysts say produced about 100,000 b/d, is operated by a joint venture owned by NOC and Italy's Eni. Libya's oil output is between 500,000 and 600,000 b/d, analysts say. NOC had to declare force majeure this month at 11 oilfields in the Sirte basin south of Es Sider.

Reuters, 9:17 April 29, 2015

Libya's Irda Gas Field Shut Due to Protestors

Libyan protesters have shut down the eastern Irda gas field and threaten to close the western Wafa oil and gas field, which would stop gas exports to Italy, a spokesman for state oil firm NOC said on Wednesday. The Irda gas field had shut down and a second gas field called Sahel might follow in the next two days, a spokesman for NOC said. Both fields have a combined gas production of 150 MMcf/d.

Reuters, 12:50 April 29, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 29, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	58.50	56.12	101.64
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.53	2.57	4.78

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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