



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, May 12, 2009

Electricity

Update: Nearly 40,000 Customers Remain Without Power in Missouri and Illinois May 12

An estimated 28,924 Ameren customers in Illinois and 11,000 Missouri Electric Cooperatives customers in Missouri remained without power today, May 12, the companies reported. Storms knocked out power to more than 300,000 customers in the U.S. Midwest over the weekend. Ameren expected to restore power to most affected customers by late tonight. Scattered outages remained among several utilities in Missouri, Kansas, and Kentucky, according to multiple reports.

Ameren Illinois: http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_IllinoisOutageInformation.asp
<http://ameren.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=658>

Missouri Electric Cooperatives: <http://www.amec.org/>

Update: Southern's 857 MW Hatch Nuke Unit 1 Shuts During Restart by May 11

Southern's 857 MW Hatch nuke unit 1 shut by May 4 due to a malfunctioning valve, but operators returned it to 1 percent power by May 8. The unit, however, shut again by yesterday, May 11, according to a report filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Traders were unsure whether the unit exited the outage before the second shutdown.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1151341020090511>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: AES's 336 MW Alamosa Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by May 11

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200905111515.html>

Starwood Energy Completes 116 MW Starwood Midway Gas-fired Peaking Power Plant in California

The plant will provide power during times of peak demand, Starwood Energy Group Global said in a release.

PRN, 12:00 May 12, 2009

Petroleum

Ultracracker Upset at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery May 11

A cooling system leak triggered an ultracracker upset and flaring at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery on May 11, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The incident forced operators to shut the unit for repairs, according to sources familiar with the facility's operations. Sources did not say if the refinery was running at reduced rates.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124072>

Reuters, 16:38 May 11, 2009

Bloomberg News, 16:46 May 11, 2009

Total Slows Units after Malfunction at 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery May 11

Total slowed a gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) and a diesel hydrotreater after a Shell Claus off-gas treating (SCOT) unit malfunctioned on May 11, according to a filing with state regulators. Separately at Port Arthur, three workers were taken to the hospital due to shortness of breath on May 12, local news reported. A Total spokesman said the company was investigating a possible leak.

Reuters, 12:55 May 12, 2009

Reuters, 12:43 May 12, 2009

Bloomberg News, 12:46 May 12, 2009

Update: Power Back at Shell's 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery by May 12

Shell planned to begin restarting units today at its 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas refinery, one day after a power failure shut an associated, Calpine-owned steam plant, the company said in a filing with state regulators. Shell expected to return the refinery to normal production "sometime over the next several days," according to a statement. Sources did not indicate the extent of the disruption.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINN1138586320090511>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124097>

Bloomberg News, 07:22 May 12, 2009

Reuters, 17:20 May 11, 2009

Update: Valero Expects 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery at Planned Rates by End of May

Valero said it would return its Delaware City, Delaware refinery to normal rates by the end of May, or more than two months after operators shut the facility for coker and other repairs. The company has already restarted a crude unit, a fluid catalytic cracker and a hydrocracker, according to a spokesman. Those units are moving toward planned rates.

Bloomberg News, 12:41 May 12, 2009

Update: Irving Oil Completes Unplanned FCC Work at 300,000 b/d Saint John, New Brunswick Refinery by May 12

Irving Oil said it expected to return the resid fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) to normal service soon at its 300,000 b/d Saint John refinery in New Brunswick, Canada. Operators shut the unit for unplanned work on May 6. The Saint John facility exports about 100,000 b/d of gasoline to the U.S. Northeast.

DJN, 12:58 May 12, 2009

Bloomberg News, 13:42 May 11, 2009

Ivanhoe Energy Eyes 50,000 b/d Production at Tamarack Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

The Tamarack oil sands project in Alberta, Canada holds an estimated 441 million barrels of recoverable oil, according to Ivanhoe Energy. That would enable the field to produce 50,000 b/d of oil for 30 years, the company said.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=76000

Iraq Plans 30,000 b/d Boost at 100,000 b/d Bazargan Oilfield

The U.S. company Weatherford received a contract to drill 20 wells in Iraq's Bazargan oilfield, according to an official with the state-run Maysan Oil Company. The official said the project could increase production by 30,000 b/d from the current 100,000 b/d level.

Reuters, 11:52 May 12, 2009

Natural Gas

El Paso Shuts Portion of 24-inch Southern Natural Gas Co. Pipeline in Alabama

El Paso Corp's Southern Natural Gas Co. took a section of its 24-inch north main line in Alabama offline for repairs by May 11, it said on its website. The company said it planned to restart the line late this week. It did not expect the disruption to affect firm transportation but noted that interruptible service and peak hourly capacity could be impacted. The Southern Natural Gas pipeline system stretches 7,600 miles; it is part of El Paso's 42,000-mile interstate network.

Reuters, 13:29 May 11, 2009

Sabine Declares Force Majeure along Natural Gas Pipeline in Port Neches, Texas May 12

Sabine Pipe Line LLC declared force majeure after “mechanical problems” forced it to shut a compressor unit in Port Neches, Texas, it said in a Web site posting. The disruption led to a “loss of compression and resulting loss of capacity,” as of this morning, May 12. Sabine expected to complete repairs by May 15.

Bloomberg News, 13:01 May 12, 2009

Other News

Coal Train Derails in Missouri May 12

A coal-carrying train derailed near Washington, Missouri early on May 12, dumping an unspecified quantity of coal and disrupting rail traffic along the Missouri River, a news source reported. An estimated 23 cars jumped the tracks, but no one appeared to have been injured. The coal was en route to Ohio, slated for delivery to the American Electric Power Company. It was not immediately clear what caused the derailment.

<http://www.fox2now.com/ktvi-train-derail-washington-051209.0,1377403.story>

Update: Valero to Start-up 110 MMGal/Yr. Albion, Nebraska Ethanol Plant in about One Month

Valero plans to start-up its newly-purchased 110 MMGal/Yr. Albion, Nebraska ethanol plant in approximately one month, a spokesman said. The company recently bought seven ethanol plants from the bankrupted VeraSun Energy Corp.

Bloomberg News, 12:01 May 12, 2009

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 12, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	58.65	54.15	124.73
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.24	3.47	11.29

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

California Drought Causes Hydropower Shortfall in 2008—PG&E Employs More Coal than in 2007 to Make up for the Loss

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=12582250

PSEG Nuclear Discovers Open Containment Isolation Valves at 1,170 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey by May 8

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2009/20090511en.html>

Update: EPA to Oversee Coal Ash Removal at TVA’s Kingston Coal-fired Power Plant in Tennessee—Facility Spilled More than 5 Million Cubic Yards of Ash in December 2008

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/7e39c49bea407817852575b30064e666?OpenDocument>

EIA Reduces 2009 International Oil Demand Forecast by 420,000 b/d—World to Consume 83.67 Million b/d of Crude in 2010, Agency Says

Reuters, 12:22 May 12, 2009

Interior Department to Ask Federal Appeals Court for Explanation on Ruling that Agency Did not Sufficiently Weigh the Impact of Offshore O&G Leasing in Alaska

<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/story/791929.html>

130 Million Barrels of Oil in Floating Storage Worldwide—EIA

Reuters, 12:27 May 12, 2009

Tethys Says its Tajikistan Assets Hold 1.132 Billion Barrels of Oil Equivalent

DJN, 09:21 May 21, 2009

Update: DNO and Addax Plan to Export Approximately 85,000 b/d of Oil from Kurdish Region of Iraq Beginning June 1

<http://www.energyintel.com/#latest>

Ghana Says it is On Schedule to Begin Production in 2010 at Offshore Oilfields—Fields Hold an Estimated 800 Million Barrels of Oil, but Ghana Says Total Could Rise to 1.8 Billion Barrels

Reuters, 17:09 May 11, 2009

Power Failure Forces Shut Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas May 11—Plant Returns to Service Within Hours

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124094>

Lightning Strike Causes Power Failure, Triggers Brief Flaring at Sneed Booster Station in Texas May 11

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124095>

Cheniere Seeks FERC Approval to Export LNG From Sabine Pass Terminal in Louisiana

Reuters, 15:06 May 11, 2009

Update: FERC Okays Freeport LNG's Plan for LNG Exports from Texas Terminal

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN1136101920090511>

Update: Maryland Files Federal Challenge to Commerce Department's Approval of Planned Sparrows Point LNG Terminal in Maryland

<http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=17969>

U.S. Ethanol Producers to Consume 4.1 Billion Bushels of Corn in 2009/10, up from 3.75 Billion Bushels in Previous Marketing Year—Agriculture Department

Reuters, 08:39 May 12, 2009

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/ead.aspx>

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov