



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, May 22, 2009

Electricity

Fire Shuts Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuke Unit 1 in Illinois May 22

The company reported that a lightning protection device malfunctioned May 21 and caused a small fire in the main transformer at the plant. This resulted in the shutdown of Unit 1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 21 the unit was operating at full power.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Bloomberg News, 08:32 May 22, 2009

Duke Energy's 846 MW Oconee Nuke Unit 3 in South Carolina Shut by May 22

The unit tripped after a generator "phase differential lockout," the company said in a report. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 21 the unit was operating at 20 percent.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Bloomberg News, 08:26 May 22, 2009

Duke's 754 MW Moss Landing Unit 6 Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by May 21

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by May 21.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200905211515.html>

Update: Southern Company's 867 MW Hatch Nuke Unit 1 Ramped up to 1 Percent by May 22

The unit originally shut on May 4 due to a problem with a safety relief valve. The company has attempted a restart two previous times.

Reuters, 07:23 May 22, 2009

FirstEnergy's 821 MW Beaver Valley Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 29 Percent by May 22

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 21 the unit was not operating.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey at Full Power by May 22

The company shut the unit on May 17 due to an air supply problem. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 21 the unit was operating at 90 percent.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN2044317320090520>

Update: Reliant's 130 MW Mandalay Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by May 21

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200905211515.html>

Xcel's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuke Unit 1 in Minnesota Ramped Up to 31 Percent by May 22

The unit shut on May 18 after a cooling water pump shut. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 21 the unit was not operating.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Reuters, 11:38 May 22, 2009

Petroleum

Update: Louisiana Offshore Oil Port Remains Shut to Tanker Offloading due to Wind, High Seas for Second Day

The Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP) halted offshore tanker unloading on the morning of May 21 with the stoppage expected to last no more than 24 hours. LOOP remained shut for an additional day today, with a spokesman for LOOP saying that weather risks could prompt LOOP to continue the stoppage of offloading tankers throughout the weekend.

Reuters, 10:35 May 22, 2009

Update: Delek's 55,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery Returns to Normal Rates Following November 2008 Explosion

A spokesperson for the refinery said the plant has returned to normal rates this week following the shutdown on November 20 due to a fire and explosion that killed one person.

Reuters, 15:32 May 21, 2009

Update: Compressor Malfunction Corrected at Shell's 155,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery May 21

A compressor at Shell's refinery in Martinez, California malfunctioned on May 20, and the company said yesterday the malfunction has been corrected and all refinery operations are stable.

Reuters, 16:22 May 21, 2009

Wet Gas Compressor Shut at ConocoPhillips's 185,000 b/d Trainer, Pennsylvania Refinery May 21

Bloomberg News, 16:15 May 21, 2009

Natural Gas

Economic Recession Has Large Impact on U.S. Natural Gas Market, Wood Mackenzie Analysts Report

Analysts with the research and consulting firm Wood Mackenzie reported that the economic downturn has led to a decrease in demand at a time when gas supply was increasing from new development of shale gas and from an increase in LNG imports. The findings led the firm to predict that the decrease in power demand coinciding with the increase in new natural gas supply increases the likelihood that electric power plants will be mothballed or retired to balance supply and demand. The firm also predicts gas demand recovery will continue to lag until 2012.

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/362855/7/ARTCL/none/none/WoodMac:-No-gas-price-rebound-seen-in-near-term/?dcmp=OGJ.Daily.Update

Power Outage, Control Valve Malfunction Reported at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas May 21

In a report to state regulators, the Tilden Gas Plant lost power, causing the plant to go sour. Power was restored to the plant within 9 hours. Later the same day, a solution level control valve malfunctioned and was fixed within 15 minutes.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124554>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124556>

Other News

Department of Energy to Issue Three Carbon Capture Sequestration Request for Proposals by End of May

In a Notice of Intent issued May 21, the Department of Energy said it planned to issue three funding opportunities later this month for its Clean Coal Power Initiative, another for carbon dioxide storage technologies, and another for sequestration technology training.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/7877919.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/7405.htm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 22, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	60.35	56.87	131.12
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.77	4.10	11.40

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: Cape Wind Associates Secures Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board Permit for Proposed 420 MW Cape Wind Wind Farm Offshore Massachusetts May 21

<http://www.capewind.org/news978.htm>

Northeast Utilities, NSTAR Receive Favorable FERC Ruling on Proposed Quebec to New England Transmission Line Project

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Northeast-Utilities-and-NSTAR-prnews-15322980.html?v=1>

Mexico's Oil Production Declines 7.4 Percent in First Four Months of 2009, Pemex Reports

Reuters, 13:55 May 21, 2009

Compressor Malfunction Reported at Welch Gas Processing Facility in Texas May 21

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=124553>

OPEC Exports, Excluding Angola and Ecuador, to Increase 200,000 b/d in Four Weeks to June 6, Oil Movements Analysts Predict

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8579995.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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