



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, May 25, 2017

## ***Electricity***

---

### **Update: Exelon's 1,093 MW Peach Bottom Nuclear Unit 3 in Pennsylvania Ramps Up to 45 Percent by May 25**

On the morning of May 24 the unit was operating at 30 percent, reduced from 45 percent on May 23. The unit was operating at full power on May 19.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

### **Update: NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuclear Unit in Nebraska at Full Power by May 25**

On the morning of May 24 the unit was operating at 73 percent, reduced from full power on May 23.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

### **Update: AES's 495 MW Alamitos Natural Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by May 24**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on May 22.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705241515.html>

### **Update: AES's 506 MW Redondo Natural Gas-Fired Unit 7 in California Returns to Service by May 24**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on May 23.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705241515.html>

### **Dynegy's 510 MW Moss Landing Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by May 24**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705241515.html>

## ***Petroleum***

---

### **Citgo Restarting CDU at Its 157,500 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery May 24 – Sources**

Citgo Petroleum Corp on Wednesday was restarting the crude distillation unit (CDU) at its Corpus Christi, Texas, refinery, sources familiar with plant operations said. The CDU, which does the initial refining of crude oil and provides feedstock for all other units, was shut on Wednesday morning, the sources said.

Reuters, 00:51 May 25, 2017

### **Valero Reports Process Unit Trip at Its 293,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery May 24**

Valero Energy Corp reported a process unit tripped offline due to an instrumentation issue at the West plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery on May 24. The company said the instrumentation issue was addressed as quickly as possible, and the unit was returned to normal operating service. In addition, Valero reported emissions from the main flare of complex 3, unit 21 at the refinery.

Reuters, 9:17 May 25, 2017

## **Valero Reports Normal Operations at Its 190,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee Refinery May 25 after Brief Power Interruption Overnight – Sources**

Valero Energy Corp's Memphis, Tennessee, refinery was back to normal operations early Thursday afternoon following a brief interruption in external power supply overnight, said sources familiar with plant operations. Energy industry intelligence service Genscape reported flaring on Thursday morning at the refinery, but the sources said it was related to the resumption of normal operations.

Reuters, 14:02 May 25, 2017

## **Update: Shell Preparing Alkylation Unit Restart at Its 235,000 b/d Convent, Louisiana Refinery May 24 – Sources**

Royal Dutch Shell was preparing to restart the alkylation unit at its Convent, Louisiana, refinery on Wednesday, sources familiar with plant operations said. The 16,500 b/d alkylation unit, which converts refining byproducts into octane-boosting gasoline components, tripped out of production on Tuesday, the sources said. On May 23, Shell completed the restart of the 45,000 b/d heavy oil hydrocracker unit (HCU) at the refinery and brought the unit to full capacity for the first time in nine months. It was the third restart attempt this year, as well as the first time the HCU achieved normal production capacity since a fire damaged one of the unit's processing trains on August 11, 2016. The HCU ran at half capacity from late November to early March. Shell also said it resumed normal operations of its main conversion units at the refinery.

Reuters, 19:27 May 24, 2017

Reuters, 11:14 May 23, 2017

---

## **Natural Gas**

### **FERC Denies ETP Drill Request at Its 3.25 Bcf/d Rover Natural Gas Pipeline Construction Site in West Virginia, Ohio May 25**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Thursday denied Energy Transfer Partners' (ETP) request to complete drilling activities under two creeks in Ohio and West Virginia as part of the construction of its Rover natural gas pipeline. ETP on May 16 had asked FERC for permission to complete drilling under the Captina Creek in Ohio and Middle Island Creek in West Virginia. That request followed a FERC order on May 10 that banned ETP from new horizontal directional drilling following a fluid spill in Ohio. ETP expects the first phase of the pipeline to startup in July 2017. The Rover pipeline is designed to transport natural gas through approximately 710 miles of 24-inch, 30-inch, 36-inch, and 42-inch pipeline. ETP will build four mainline compressor stations, six supply lateral compressor stations, and other ancillary facilities along the pipeline route. Additionally, a pipeline segment will be constructed from the Midwest Hub in Defiance County, Ohio area through Michigan to an interconnection with Vector Pipeline thereby enabling deliveries to additional points in Michigan and to the Union Gas Dawn Hub in Ontario, Canada.

[https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/file\\_list.asp](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/file_list.asp)

[http://www.energytransfer.com/ops\\_etровер.aspx](http://www.energytransfer.com/ops_etровер.aspx)

Reuters, 10:27 May 25, 2017

---

## **Other News**

### **NOAA Predicts Above-Normal Atlantic Hurricane Season**

Meteorologists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Climate Prediction Center on Thursday predicted more tropical storms than normal for the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season. There was a 70 percent chance of seeing between 11 and 17 named tropical storms this season, which begins on June 1 and runs for six months, the meteorologists said. Five to nine of the storms could become hurricanes, with winds of 74 mph or higher, including two to four major hurricanes, with winds of at least 111 mph, the acting NOAA administrator said. The Atlantic hurricane region includes the whole North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico. The prediction for 2016 was 10 to 16 storms, with four to eight likely to become hurricanes.

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outlooks/hurricane.shtml>

Reuters, 13:37 May 25, 2017

### OPEC Extends Oil Output Cuts to March 2018

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on Thursday extended cuts in oil output, which began in January, by nine months to March 2018 to continue battling a global surplus of crude oil. In December 2016, OPEC agreed to its first production cuts in a decade and the first joint cuts with non-OPEC countries, led by Russia, in 15 years. The two sides decided to remove about 1.8 million b/d from the market in the first half of 2017. The cuts have helped to push oil back above \$50 a barrel this year. Despite the output cut, OPEC kept exports fairly stable in the first half of 2017 as its members sold oil from stocks. OPEC has a self-imposed goal of bringing stocks down from a record high of 3 billion barrels to their five-year average of 2.7 billion.

Reuters, 8:23 May 25, 2017

### Nigeria's Oil Minister Says Forcados Oil Exports Not Expected to Fully Return until November/December

Exports of Nigeria's Forcados crude oil will not return to full capacity until November or December, the Oil Minister said on Thursday. The terminal, which had been closed for all but a few weeks since a militant attack in early 2016, loaded two cargoes in the past week following pipeline repairs. The Oil Minister said the exports would return only gradually as there was "still secondary infrastructure that need to be developed." Forcados exports are typically between 200,000–240,000 b/d. Nigeria is currently producing an average of 1.5 million b/d of crude oil, compared with a peak of roughly 2.2 million b/d of crude and condensates.

Reuters, 7:53 May 25, 2017

### Output at Colombia's La Cira-Infantas Oilfield Falls to 7,300 b/d Due to Protests May 24 – Ecopetrol

Crude production at Colombia's La Cira-Infantas oilfield decreased more than 80 percent during the last week, state-run oil company Ecopetrol said on Wednesday, due to protests by local residents over hiring practices. Output at the site has fallen from 40,000 b/d to 7,300 b/d as residents block roads. Due to the protests, Ecopetrol said it has 140,000 barrels it hasn't been able to extract with an additional 32,000 barrels added each day. The protests have shut 697 of 965 wells on the site and damage to wells related to the protests caused a crude spill. Ecopetrol, the country's largest crude producer, pumped an average of 712,000 b/d in the first quarter.

Reuters, 18:00 May 24, 2017

## Energy Prices

---

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 25, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b>	48.57	49.36	49.07
\$/Barrel			
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b>	3.11	3.16	1.90
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

## Links

---

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

<https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/weekly/>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](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

<https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/weekly/>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET 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. ET. 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](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)