



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, May 28, 2014

Electricity

Severe Thunderstorms Knock Out Power to Over 50,000 Customers in Maryland and Virginia May 27

Thunderstorms that brought down trees and power lines passed through Maryland and Virginia Tuesday evening knocking out power to over 50,000 thousand customers. At 10 p.m. EDT Tuesday, over 40,000 Pepco customers in Washington, D.C. and Maryland, and 1,150 BGE customers in Maryland were without power. In northern Virginia, Dominion reported over 9,700 customers without power. As of 4:00 p.m. EDT, 384 Pepco, 195 BGE, and 472 Dominion customers remained without power. Pepco said power should be restored to all customers by the end of Wednesday.

<http://www.pepco.com/library/templates/Interior.aspx?Pageid=6442454157&id=6442454997>

<http://www.pepco.com/pages/connectwithus/outages/outagemaps.aspx>

<https://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>

<http://outagemap.bge.com/>

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/25625154/severe-storms-leave-thousands-without-power#axzz331DRtVrn>

Power Restored to 4,000 PECO Customers in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania after Transformer Failure May 27

PECO officials said two underground transformers apparently blew at around 3 p.m. EDT Tuesday leaving about 4,000 PECO customers in Philadelphia without power. Power was restored to all customers by 1:00 a.m. EDT Wednesday. Officials continue to investigate the cause of the outages. Earlier reports of an explosion and fire at the transformer were determined to be unfounded however, according to PECO.

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/4K-Without-Power-Due-to-Transformer-Problem-in-Center-City-260822811.html>

Update: Constellation's 480 MW Ginna Nuclear Unit in New York at Full Power by May 28

On the morning of May 27 the unit was operating at 48 percent after restarting by May 26.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/20140525ps.html>

PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 50 Percent by May 28

On the morning of May 27 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 2 in Connecticut Restarts, Ramps Up to 21 Percent by May 28; Unit 3 Remains Shut Due to Grid Issues

Units 2 and 3 were shut due to a loss of offsite power and transmission issues May 25. Dominion said the extended loss of instrument air in unit 3 following the loss of offsite power complicated the recovery efforts.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/20140527ps.html>

Reuters, 12:52 May 28, 2014

Update: Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Unit in Washington at Full Power by May 28

The unit was reduced to 65 percent from full power by May 23.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

PG&E's 144 MW Haas Aggregate Hydro Unit 1 and 2 in California Shut by May 27

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201405271515.html>

Xcel Energy and Sunpower to Build 50 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant in Colorado

Xcel Energy and SunPower Corp. have signed a power purchase agreement to build a 50 MW solar photovoltaic power plant in Colorado's San Luis Valley. Construction of the solar power plant is contingent on the project securing all required permits, interconnection rights, and financing. SunPower expects to start construction in 2015, and to achieve full commercial operation by the end of 2016.

<http://newsroom.sunpower.com/2014-05-27-Xcel-Energy-and-SunPower-to-Build-50-Megawatt-Solar-Power-Plant-in-Colorado>

NERC Files Physical Security Standard with FERC May 23

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) filed the proposed CIP-014-1 – Physical Security Reliability Standard with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on May 23. The filing highlights the culmination of collaboration between NERC and stakeholders to develop and file a standard on or before June 5 that addressed physical security threats and vulnerabilities to the bulk power system, as ordered by FERC. The proposed CIP-014-1 standard enhances NERC's foundational physical security efforts and helps ensure that owners and operators of the bulk power system take the necessary steps to protect the grid from physical attacks. Specifically, the proposed standard requires transmission owners and operators to identify and protect critical transmission stations and substations, and their associated primary control centers that, if rendered inoperable or damaged as a result of a physical attack, could result in widespread instability, uncontrolled separation, or cascading within an interconnection.

<http://www.nerc.com/news/Headlines%20DL/Physical%20Security%20Filing%2023MAY14.pdf>

NERC's State of Reliability Report Finds Bulk Power System Performance Level Remains High

NERC's State of Reliability 2014 report, released May 21, represents an independent review of bulk power system trends to analyze the state of reliability and provide an integrated view of reliability performance. The report's findings serve as input to NERC's risk assessment and reliability standards project prioritization of specific actions that can be taken to manage risks to reliability of the bulk power system. Key findings and recommendations include sustained high performance for bulk power system reliability, frequency response remains stable, protection system misoperations cause transmission events, substation equipment failures impact transmission event severity, and use of Energy Emergency Alert Level 3 declines. The State of Reliability reports quantify risk and performance, highlight areas for improvement, and reinforce and measure success in controlling these risks. NERC continues to review standards to improve reliability performance, develop solutions to ever-evolving threats and examine impacts of the changing resource mix.

<http://www.nerc.com/news/Headlines%20DL/SOR%2021MAY14.pdf>

Petroleum

Marathon Says Its 490,000 b/d Garyville, Louisiana Refinery Partially Shut after Storm May 28

Marathon Petroleum said its refinery in Garyville, Louisiana, was partially shut and damaged by a windstorm on Wednesday. Marathon did not confirm which units were impacted, but market sources citing an Energy News Today report said two cooling towers were affected.

Reuters, 11:07 May 28, 2014

Flint Hills Reports Unit Upset at Its 284,172 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery May 27

Flint Hills Resources reported an upset at the distillate desulfuriser unit at the west plant of its refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Tuesday. The event occurred early on Tuesday morning, the filing said. It did not mention whether the incident affected regular operations or had any impact on production at the refinery.

Reuters, 17:40 May 27, 2014

Shell Reports Unit Restart at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery May 23

Royal Dutch Shell reported flaring due to a compressor trip on May 23 at its refinery in Martinez, California, according to a filing with Contra Costa County Health Services.

Reuters, 11:12, May 28, 2014

Phillips 66 Reports Ammonia Release at Its 139,000 b/d Wilmington, California, Refinery May 26

Phillips 66 reported release of anhydrous ammonia at its Los Angeles-area refinery in Wilmington, California, on Monday, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. The filing did not specify whether the event had an impact on production.

Reuters, 19:50 May 27, 2014

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Fire, Explosions Reported at Rio Valley Biofuels Plant in New Mexico May 27

A series of explosions and a major fire at the Rio Valley Biofuels plant in Anthony, New Mexico, caused more than 1,000 residents to briefly be evacuated on Tuesday, county officials said. The evacuation orders were lifted several hours later, after firefighters contained the blaze and hazardous materials experts inspected the site, officials said in the statement. The cause of the explosions and fire was under investigation, and hazardous materials specialists were trying to determine if any chemicals were released during the incident. State transportation officials were bringing in heavy equipment to build an earthen dam that would contain all water on the site. The plant was known to have large quantities of methanol, glycerin and sodium methylate as well as vegetable oil, hydrochloric acid and biodiesel fuel, according to the statement.

Reuters, 17:52 May 27, 2014

Vireol Bio Energy Begins Operations at Its Hopewell Ethanol Plant in Virginia May 27

Vireol Bio Energy LLC's ethanol plant in Hopewell, Virginia, which remained idle since 2010, has begun operation. The company originally planned to dismantle the plant and ship the equipment to its plant in England but reconsidered and decided to open the plant after production slowed in England. Hopewell's city manager said the plant has produced about 1 million gallons of ethanol. Osage Bio Energy completed the plant in 2010 but never opened it. Vireol's investor, Future Capital Partners, later bought the plant which will produce ethanol from corn and other grains.

http://www.timesdispatch.com/business/ap/hopewell-ethanol-plant-operating-again/article_ce01c2a6-e5a1-11e3-ac6d-001a4bcf6878.html

International News

Angola LNG Shutdown to Last until Mid-2015

The Angola liquefied natural gas (LNG) export project is expected to resume production in mid-2015, a spokesman for the Chevron-led venture said, after a rupture on a flare line forced a shutdown last month. A rig capsized, electrical fires, pipeline leaks and limited success in processing the plant's liquids-rich gas have hampered production over the past year. Last month a major rupture on a flare line triggered a facility-wide shutdown.

Reuters, 12:14 May 28, 2014

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 28, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	104.24	104.38	95.05
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.43	4.51	4.15

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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