



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, June 01, 2012

Electricity

Thunderstorms Cut Power to 33,000 Oncor Electric Customers near Fort Worth, Texas May 31

<http://m.lubbockonline.com/filed-online/2012-05-31/more-33000-without-power-after-storms-roll-through-north-texas>

<http://www.krgv.com/news/here-is-the-latest-texas-news-from-the-associated-press-143962>

<http://stormcenter.oncor.com/default.html>

Update: Wisconsin Energy Restarts 615 MW Elm Road Coal-Fired Unit 1 in Wisconsin May 31 after 8-Month Maintenance Outage

Wisconsin Energy Corp. said on Friday it returned the Elm Road coal-fired Unit 1 to service by the end of May, as expected, following a long maintenance outage. Operators shut Unit 1 at the end of September 2011 for an inspection, which revealed deposits containing chlorides in the steam turbines. The 615 MW Unit 2 at Elm Road continued to operate throughout Unit 1's outage.

[http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-wisconsinenergy-elm-](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-wisconsinenergy-elm-idUSL1E8H161W20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

[idUSL1E8H161W20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-wisconsinenergy-elm-idUSL1E8H161W20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

Update: Dominion Virginia Power Breaks Ground at 1,300 MW Warren County Natural Gas-Fired Power Station in Virginia

Dominion Virginia Power officially broke ground yesterday for its Warren County Power Station. Construction commenced in early March, and the station is scheduled to begin commercial operation in late 2014. Dominion is building the power station in close proximity to Northern Virginia, which is a growing, high-demand region in the company's service area. Dominion is projected to need 4,000 MW of additional electricity by 2022 to meet the peak demand from its customers.

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/Dominion-Virginia-Power-Celebrates-Start-of-Construction-at-Warren-County-Power-Station>

Update: California Regulator Approves Construction of NRG's Proposed 558 MW Carlsbad Natural Gas-Fired Energy Center in California

The California Energy Commission on Thursday approved construction of the Carlsbad Energy Center, which has been proposed by Carlsbad Energy Center LLC, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of NRG Energy Inc. The 558 MW natural gas-fired power plant will be built on a 23-acre portion of NRG's existing Encina Power Station in Carlsbad, California. NRG plans to retire Encina's existing steam boiler Units 1-3, whose combined output is 320 MW, when the new energy center is operational. NRG expects construction to begin by the first quarter of 2014, for operation by the summer of 2016.

[http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-california-](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-california-idUSL5E8H17MC20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

[idUSL5E8H17MC20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/06/01/utilities-operations-california-idUSL5E8H17MC20120601?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

<http://www.carlsbadenergycenter.com/index.html>

Update: NRC Seeks Comment on Draft Guidance Documents Regarding Post-Fukushima Requirements

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has drafted several Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) documents to ensure proper implementation of three orders the agency issued to U.S. nuclear power plants in March, in response to lessons learned from the Fukushima Dai'ichi nuclear accident. The draft ISGs are currently available, and the comment period will run from no later than June 7 to July 7; the NRC will consider the comments before finalizing the ISGs in August.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2012/12-064.pdf>

Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Shut by June 1

Exelon Corp. shut Unit 2 on Friday to repair a turbine control valve.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://nuclear.energy-business-review.com/news/exelon-corp-nuclear-plant-unit-2-offline-for-maintenance-010612>

Xcel's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 2 in Minnesota Ramped Up to 64 Percent by June 1

On the morning of May 31 the unit was operating at 29 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Update: Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Unit in Washington Ramped Up to 97 Percent by June 1

On the morning of May 31 the unit was operating at 70 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

AES's 225 MW Huntington Beach Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Shut by May 31

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201205311515.html>

NRC Approves 30 MW Increased Power Output for Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant in North Carolina

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved a request by Progress Energy to increase the power generating capacity of the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant by 1.66 percent. The power uprate for the pressurized-water reactor will increase its power generating capacity from approximately 900 to 930 MW electric. Progress intends to implement the uprate within 120 days of completing its spring 2012 refueling outage.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2012/12-065.pdf>

Petroleum

Update: Canadian Regulators Approve ExxonMobil's Hebron Oilfield Project Offshore Newfoundland

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board on Thursday announced it has approved plans by ExxonMobil Corp. and its partners to develop the Hebron oilfield offshore Newfoundland. The approval allows ExxonMobil to proceed with development of the 707 million-barrel field, using a heavy gravity-based structure sitting on the seabed to produce 150,000–180,000 b/d of heavy oil.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/exxon-hebron->

[idUSL1E8GVEIH20120531?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/exxon-hebron-idUSL1E8GVEIH20120531?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

Update: TransCanada Adjusts Gulf Coast Project Pipeline Route near Texas Coast to Address EPA Concerns

TransCanada in April submitted to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) a new application for its Gulf Coast Project, to adjust the pipeline's intended route to avoid sensitive wetlands in Texas, after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) raised concerns and called for a more rigorous review process. The Gulf Coast Project will construct a crude oil pipeline running from Cushing, Oklahoma to Nederland, Texas. It will eventually connect TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline, which will transport 830,000 b/d of crude oil from Alberta, Canada to U.S. Gulf Coast refineries. Under its new plan, TransCanada will drill under the wetlands rather than run across them, which will eliminate the need for EPA involvement and will help meet USACE requirements. The company hopes to have its permits in place to begin construction on the southern portion of the pipeline this summer, with an in-service date of mid-to-late 2013.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/energy-environment/transcanada-adjusts-plan-for-pipeline-near-texas-coast-to-avoid-wetlands-address-epa-concerns/2012/05/31/gJQASGeS5U_story.html

<http://www.transcanada.com/gulf-coast-pipeline-project.html>

Valero Reports FCCU Emissions during Repairs to Process Valve at Its 83,000 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery May 31

Valero Energy Corp. reported emissions at its Houston refinery Thursday morning during repairs to a process bleeder valve located in a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The refinery had posted on a community information line that it isolated a leak at the facility Thursday morning. A spokesman said production was unaffected by the leak, but workers were still investigating its cause.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=169110>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/refinery-operations-valero-houston-idUSWNA544520120531>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/refinery-operations-valero-houston-idUSWNA543020120531>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/refinery-operations-valero-houston-idUSWNA543720120531>

Natural Gas

FERC Approves Southern Natural Gas to Launch Operations on 375 MMcf/d South System Expansion III Project in U.S. South

The U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Thursday gave final approval for Southern Natural Gas (SNG), a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, Inc., to start operations on the last portion of a 375 MMcf/d pipeline expansion project. The South System Expansion III project was designed to supply Georgia Power's Plant McDonough near Atlanta, which is installing natural gas-fired units and retiring coal-fired units. The project made adjustments to natural gas pipelines and compression stations in parts of Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/NaturalGas/6344252>

http://www.kindermorgan.com/business/gas_pipelines/projects/sse3/

<http://www.georgiapower.com/generation/facts.asp>

Piedmont Completes 20-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Project to Serve Progress Energy's H.F. Lee Energy Complex in Wayne County, North Carolina

Piedmont Natural Gas today announced the completion of its Wayne County Pipeline Project, which will provide natural gas delivery service to a new natural gas-fueled combined-cycle plant at Progress Energy's H.F. Lee Energy Complex near Goldsboro, North Carolina. The pipeline project involved the construction of 38 miles of 20-inch natural gas transmission pipelines and additional compression facilities. Natural gas will be used at Progress Energy's new facility to replace three coal-fired units.

<http://www.piedmontng.com/about/aboutpng/newsarticle.aspx?id=126>

Regency Shuts AGI Unit to Repair Expander Valve Leak at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas June 1

Regency Energy Partners shut an acid gas injector (AGI) compressor Friday morning to repair a leak on an expander valve, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=169154>

Other News

Update: Power Holdings of Illinois Indefinitely Suspends Its Proposed Coal-Gasification Plant in Washington County, Illinois Due to Poor Economics

Power Holdings of Illinois confirmed Thursday that it has indefinitely suspended its plans to build a proposed coal-gasification plant in Washington County, Illinois because the record-low price for natural gas has made it difficult to find funding for the project. The facility was intended to produce 65 Bcf of synthetic natural gas per year from coal, and was scheduled for operation in 2014.

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-05-24/business/chi-clean-coal-plant-on-hold-over-low-natural-gas-prices-20120524_1_natural-gas-north-shore-gas-clean-coal-plant

International News

Pirates Attack Greek Oil Tanker Offshore Lagos, Nigeria June 1; Ship's Crew Locked Themselves in Safe Room to Thwart Hijacking

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gXyA0GS6trLb-SCNPioWD4AVt9lA?docId=CNG.f700a8f5e41a9b80e72d4c866533d1ea.4a1>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 1, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	83.54	90.75	100.19
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.35	2.66	4.62

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 and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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