



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, June 24, 2010

Major Developments

Storms Knock Out Power to More than 520,000 Customers across U.S. Midwest June 23-24

Storms cut power to more than 520,000 customers across seven states on June 23-24, multiple sources reported. The storms came as utilities recovered from multiple outages over last weekend and throughout this week. ComEd, the hardest-hit utility, expected to restore 90 percent of its affected customers by late this evening. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Midwest Customer Power Outages			
June 23 – June 24, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
ComEd	IL	310,000	86,000
Ameren	IL	15,489	4,466
NIPSCO	IN	53,000	14,057
Indiana Michigan Power	IN/MI	25,000	9,592
Kosciusko REMC	IN	5,000	2,499
FirstEnergy	OH/PA	32,500	7,800
Allegheny Power	PA	13,292	284
Duquesne Light	PA	10,000	1,500
DTE Energy	MI	10,000	5,000
CMS Energy	MI	9,000	7,600
Midwest Energy Cooperative	MI/IN/OH	8,000	1,390
Wisconsin Public Service	WI	18,000	144
MidAmerican Energy	IA	13,859	16
TOTAL*		523,140	140,348

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

ComEd: <https://www.comed.com/sites/newsroom/Pages/stormcenter.aspx> ,

<http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=7517529>

Ameren: <https://www2.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL> ,

<http://www.wgil.com/localnews.php?xnewsaction=fullnews&newsarch=062010&newsid=266>

NIPSCO: <http://www.nipSCO.com/Stay-Safe/Storm-Center.aspx> ,

<http://www.nipSCOoutages.com/WSSNisourceOutageMap/outagemap.html?action=city&reloaded=true> ,

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100624/News01/6240330/1129/News>

Indiana Michigan Power:

<https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=June%2023%20-%20Indiana%20and%20Michigan%20Thunderstorms> ,

<http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=im> , <http://www.news-sentinel.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100624/NEWS/6240343> ,

<http://www.wndu.com/hometop/headlines/97057744.html> , <http://www.wane.com/dpp/news/severe-weather-hits-once-again>

Kosciusko REMC: <http://www.wndu.com/hometop/headlines/97057744.html> ,

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100624/BLOGS01/100629775>

FirstEnergy: <http://www.recordpub.com/news/article/4849050> ,

http://www.ohio.com/news/break_news/97073089.html , <http://tribune-democrat.com/local/x383281500/Storm-leaves-trail-of-damage> , http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=PA

Allegheny Power: http://app.alleghenyenergy.com/outagestatus/OMS_Customer_State.aspx?Option=State&User= , <http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=4802427> , http://www.ldnews.com/news/ci_15361990

Duquesne Light: <http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=4802427>
DTE Energy: http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/06/12600_blacked_out_after_severe.html
CMS Energy: http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/06/12600_blacked_out_after_severe.html
Midwest Energy Cooperative: <http://ebill.teammidwest.com/oms/outageMap> ,
<http://www.nilesstar.com/2010/06/24/update-crews-scramble-to-restore-power-assess-storm-damage/>
Wisconsin Public Service: <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx> ,
<http://www.wqow.com/Global/story.asp?S=12701751>
MidAmerican Energy: <http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx> ,
http://qctimes.com/news/local/article_41cfd41c-7f43-11df-a7be-001cc4c03286.html

Update: After Early-Day Shutdown, BP Reinstalls LMRP Cap Containment System at Site of Blown-Out Well in Gulf of Mexico June 23

BP reinstalled the lower marine riser package (LMRP) cap containment system on the Deepwater Horizon's failed blow-out preventer (BOP) at approximately 18:30 CDT on June 23, the company said. The system resumed collecting oil and gas at 19:00 CDT on June 23. Responders moved the LMRP cap containment system off the BOP at approximately 08:45 CDT on June 23 as a precaution after an unexpected discharge of seawater from a diverter valve on the Discoverer Enterprise drillship. The containment system is connected to the Discoverer Enterprise. BP's other system – the choke line to the Q4000 vessel above water – continued to capture oil and gas throughout the day. BP collected about 8,300 barrels of oil, flared approximately 8,530 barrels of oil, and flared about 36.7 million cubic feet of natural gas on June 23 via its dual collection system, the company said on its website.
<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7063089>
<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

Update: Judge Denies Administration's Request to Postpone Moratorium Ban

U.S. District Judge Martin Feldman denied the Obama Administration's request to stay the ruling that blocked the federal government's six-month moratorium on deepwater drilling. The companies who won the injunction, however, said the Obama Administration had "chosen to ignore and disobey" the ruling. They asked Judge Feldman to direct the Administration to "refrain and cease and desist from any additional effort to continue their enforcement of the moratorium."

Reuters, 11:58 June 24, 2010

Reuters, 15:47 June 23, 2010

Update: Federal Government Stops Governor-Backed Dredging Project in Louisiana, Citing Potential Long-Term Impacts

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9GHKRO01.htm>

Update: Oil from Blown-Out Well Washes up on Offshore Barrier Islands, Mississippi June 23

http://blog.gulflive.com/mississippi-press-news/2010/06/oil_found_off_mississippi_coas.html

Electricity

PG&E Declares Alert after CO2 Discharge in Turbine Building at 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 1 in California June 23

Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) declared an Alert – the second highest of four emergency classifications – after a carbon dioxide release in the turbine building at Unit 1 of its Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California, the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The release resulted in an atmosphere immediately dangerous to life and health," PG&E said. The incident occurred during testing, but there was no impact to safety-related equipment. The company restored accessibility to all plant areas and terminated the Alert within less than seven hours. The unit remained at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100624en.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-026.iv.html>

Citing Seismic Event, AEP Declares Unusual Event at 2,155 MW Cook Nuclear Power Plant in Michigan June 23

American Electric Power (AEP) declared an Unusual Event after the “detection of ground motion by persons on site, with confirmation based on United States Geological Survey information,” the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The incident did not impact plant operations or cause any damage. AEP terminated the Unusual Event in less than six hours.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100624en.html>

<http://www.cookinfo.com/cookplant.htm>

Entergy Declares Unusual Event at 563 MW Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vermont, Citing Earthquake

Entergy declared an Unusual Event “due to reports from site personnel of an earthquake felt onsite,” it said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The company found no damage and terminated the Unusual Event in three hours.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100624en.html>

Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Shut by June 24

Operators shut the unit on June 23 due to the “loss of both reactor recirculation pumps,” the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100624en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Update: PG&E's 122 MW Caribou Ph 2 Hydro Units 4 & 5 in California Ramp up by June 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 112 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201006231515.html>

Update: Silicon Valley Power's 148 MW Donald Von Raesfeld Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by June 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201006231515.html>

Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York Reduced to 86 Percent by June 24

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Update: NRC Issues Confirmatory Action Letter to FirstEnergy Regarding Planned Restart of 908 MW Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sent a Confirmatory Action Letter to FirstEnergy on June 22, committing the company to numerous actions ahead of the expected restart of its 908 MW Davis-Besse nuclear power plant in Ohio. In March 2010, plant workers discovered cracks and leakage in several of the facility's Control Rod Drive Mechanism nozzles. The NRC's letter was intended to address issues related to that discovery.

The commitments included:

- Shutting the plant down no later than October 1, 2011 and replacing the reactor head prior to its restart from that outage;
- Providing technical information regarding the time at which the next inspection of the existing reactor head would be required, based on reactor head temperatures, regardless of the 2011 planned shutdown;
- Providing a sample of the Control Rod Drive Mechanism nozzles to the NRC for independent crack analysis;
- Strengthening its leakage monitoring procedures.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-026.iii.html>

NRC to Review Pump Issue at Wolf Creek's 1,165 MW Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant in Kansas

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) launched a special inspection at Wolf Creek's 1,165 MW Wolf Creek nuclear power plant to review the circumstances surrounding complications with a plant cooling system pump, the agency said on June 21. The issue first arose during testing on May 24. During subsequent testing on June 1, operators found pockets of nitrogen gas trapped in the system. The issue had no impact to public safety and the plant remained at full power, as of latest reports.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-025.iv.html>

Update: After Court Rejection, SWEPCO to Deliver Electricity Out-of-State from Proposed 600 MW Turk Coal-Fired Power Plant in Arkansas

American Electric Power's (AEP) Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) plans to move forward with construction of its 600 MW John W. Turk, Jr. coal-fired power plant in Arkansas, despite a recent Arkansas Supreme Court ruling that overturned the state's approval of the plant. SWEPCO said that because the court's decision blocked it from selling the plant's electricity to customers in Arkansas, the company would instead distribute the electricity to customers elsewhere. AEP had sought a rehearing of the state court's rejection, but that request was denied on June 24.

<http://www.aep.com/newsroom/newsreleases/?id=1619>

<http://www.katv.com/news/stories/0610/749091.html>

Petroleum

Bromwich to Establish Investigative/Compliance Team at Newly-Formed Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement

Michael R. Bromwich, the director of the newly-formed Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, said the new team would "provide us the capacity to investigate allegations of misconduct, to provide unified and coordinated monitoring of compliance with laws and regulations, and to respond swiftly to emerging and urgent issues on a Bureau-wide level and in the industry."

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/Bromwich-Launches-Investigative-Compliance-Team-to-Spur-Reform-Restructuring-of-Offshore-Oil-and-Gas-Regulation.cfm>

Mexico and United States Extend Exploratory Drilling Ban along Border in Gulf of Mexico

The United States and Mexico extended by three years a moratorium on exploratory oil and gas drilling within 1.4 nautical miles of the United States/Mexico sea border in the Gulf of Mexico, the Mexican government said on June 23. The ban applies to both sides of the border. It had been set to expire at the start of 2011.

Reuters, 15:56 June 23, 2010

Mexican Oil Exports Rise to Highest Level in More than Two Years

Mexico's Pemex exported an average 1.591 million b/d of oil in May, compared to 1.173 million b/d in May 2009 and 1.302 million b/d in April 2010, according to government-released figures. The 1.591 million b/d total was the highest figure since March 2008.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100623-710047.html>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

United States Would Need to Construct More than 500 New Biorefineries to Reach Consumption Goal by 2022: USDA

The United States would need to construct more than 500 new biorefineries to reach the nation's federally-mandated goal of consuming 36 billion gallons/year of biofuel by 2022, the United States Department of Agriculture said in a new report. To read more on the report, click on the first link below.

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda!/ut/p/c5/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os_gAC9-wMJ8QY0MDpxBDA09nXw9DFxcXQ-cAA_1wkA5kFaGuQBxASbmnu4uBgbe5hB5AxxA0UDfzyM_N1W_IDs7zdFRUREAZXAypA!!/dl3/d3/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnZ3LzZfUDhNVIZMVDMxMEJUMTBJQ01IMURERDFDUDA!/?contentidonly=true&contentid=2010%2f06%2f0335.xml

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20100624/BUSINESS01/6240343/1001/NEWS/Report-sees-need-for-500-additional-biofuels-plants>

County, State Officials Failed to Quickly Alert Public During May Drill at PSEG's Salem Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey: FEMA

County and state officials were not quick enough to issue information to the public during a May emergency drill at PSEG's Salem nuclear power in New Jersey, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) said on June 23.

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_3e2b0850-7f1f-11df-916e-001cc4c002e0.html

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 24, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	75.58	76.38	68.29
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.90	5.13	3.91

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Transmission Line Snag Cuts Power to 21,219 Dominion Virginia Power Customers in Virginia June 23

http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/local_news/va_beach/21,000-customers-lose-power-in-ches-vb

Possible Tornado Knocks Out Power to 18,400 Hydro One Customers in Ontario, Canada June 23

<http://www.680news.com/news/local/article/69864--state-of-emergency-declared-in-midland-after-possible-tornado>

Substation Fire Knocks Out Power to 10,000 Progress Energy Customers in Florida June 24 - Company Expects to Restore Service within 3-4 Hours

http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/region_north_pinellas/palm_harbor/10,0000-without-power-in-palm-harbor

Thieves Take Copper from PSE&G Training Center in New Jersey

<http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20100622/NEWS/100622046/More-copper-stolen-from-PSE-G-training-center-in-Edison>

Small Explosion Leads to Shutdown of Coal-Fired Charter Street Heating Plant at University of Wisconsin-Madison - Facility Scheduled for Reconstruction Starting in Fall of 2010

http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/education/university/article_cc5ef926-7ef5-11df-a333-001cc4c03286.html

NRG Energy to Offer Unlimited Electric Car Refueling Plan for Texas in early 2011

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/bus/stories/DN-elecvehicle_23bus.ART.State.Edition1.1aaad47.html

Pacific Blue Energy Corp. and Siliken Renewable Energy Plan 15 MW Sunshine Solar Farm in Arizona

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/pacific-blue-energy-corp-partners-with-siliken-renewable-energy-to-develop-sunshine-solar-farm-97055674.html>

Update: PG&E Completes Flagship 2 MW Project as Part of Five-Year Plan to Develop up to 250 MW of Solar Photovoltaic Power in California – Program Also Calls for Independent Developers to Construct up to 250 MW of Additional Solar PV Facilities

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/cpuc-president-peevey-governors-office-join-pge-in-dedicating-new-solar-generation-station-96999704.html>

Update: Traverse City, Michigan Backs Off Plans for Wood-Based Power Plant

<http://michiganmessenger.com/39007/traverse-city-tables-plans-for-biomass-plant>

Update: After Two Lightning-Related Outages, Dominion Virginia Power Adjusts Systems to Make North Anna Nuclear Power Plant in Virginia Less Susceptible to Thunderstorm-Related Shutdowns

http://www2.dailyprogress.com/cdp/news/local/louisa/article/north_anna_alters_lightning_system/57496/

Dominion Reports Early Warning Siren Test Failure at North Anna Nuclear Power Plant in Virginia June 23

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100624en.html>

Amid Reports That BP's Proposed Liberty Project in Alaska Might Have Been Inadequately Reviewed, Salazar Says Interior "Looking into the Issue"

Reuters, 11:28 June 24, 2010

Abandoned Pipeline Leaks 250 Barrels of Oil into Canadian River, Oklahoma by June 21

<http://www.newsok.com/epa-is-cleaning-oil-spilled-near-arcadia-lake/article/3470788>

Natural Gas Release Injures Two Workers at Well in Marcellus Shale, Pennsylvania June 18

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10173/1067294-53.stm#ixzz0rgeKWmum>

DCP Midstream's Gas Plant Shuts Due to Leaking 20-Inch Pipeline in Texas June 23

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=141502>

Upset at Pittsburg Gas Plant in Texas June 23

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=141506>

Update: Russia Resumes Natural Gas Deliveries to Belarus, but Belarus Warns it Could Halt Deliveries to Other European Nations Amid Debt Dispute June 24

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/06/24/world/AP-EU-Russia-Belarus-Gas.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=%2b%22natural+gas%22&st=nyt

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