



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, June 24, 2016

Electricity

Update: Continuing Storms, Flooding Knock Out Power to Over 66,000 Customers in West Virginia June 23–24

Continuing bands of strong thunderstorms and flooding in West Virginia on Thursday and into Friday morning created additional power outages. As of 3:00 p.m. EDT Friday, 31,664 FirstEnergy customers and 28,115 Appalachian Power customers remained without power. Since the initial storm early Thursday morning, which knocked out power to 21,344 FirstEnergy customers and 22,162 Appalachian Power customers, up to five more bands of thunderstorms moved through the state. On Thursday, Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin issued a state of emergency for 44 of the 55 counties in the state. Although some progress has been made in restoration efforts, each new storm created additional outages. Both utilities reported flooded substations contributing to outages and delaying restoration efforts. Appalachian Power said more than one-third of the outages occurred after 6 p.m. EDT on Thursday as flood waters caused damage to electrical facilities. FirstEnergy said it expects to restore a portion of customers by midnight on Friday and the remaining by midnight on Saturday. Appalachian Power said it expects most power to be restored by midnight on Friday although it did not have a restoration estimate for the most severely affected areas.

<https://www.appalachianpower.com/outages/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AppalachianPower>

<http://outages.firstenergycorp.com/mdwv.html>

<https://twitter.com/monpowerwv>

<http://www.wsaz.com/content/news/AEP-crews-work-as-thousands-without-power-384191631.html>

LADWP Reports Bird Strike Knocks Out Power to 15,000 Customers in California June 23

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) on Thursday morning reported a crow came into contact with a 34,500-volt circuit breaker causing equipment failure at a power distribution station and knocking out power to about 15,000 customers in the Studio City and Valley Village areas. By 10:00 p.m. PDT Thursday, power restoration was complete.

<https://twitter.com/LADWP>

<http://www.dailynews.com/general-news/20160623/crow-is-to-blame-for-15000-without-power-in-studio-city-valley-village>

Update: Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Restarts, Ramps Up to 25 Percent by June 24

The unit shut from full power due to a technical specification on June 12.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160613en.html>

Update: Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts Ramps Up to 93 Percent by June 24

On the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at 30 percent, reduced from 74 percent on June 22.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Entergy's 1,006 MW Indian Point Nuclear Unit 2 in New York Shut to Repair Pipe June 24

Entergy Corp on Friday said unit 2 at its Indian Point nuclear reactor in New York was removed from service to complete repairs on a leaking pipe. The unit was at 91 percent power on Thursday. Entergy said it expects the unit to be back online this weekend. A small leak of Hudson River water was previously identified from a pipe in a non-radioactive system and there is no ongoing leak or risk to safety, the company said. Unit 2 was also shut down in March after the Nuclear Regulatory Commission discovered damaged or cracked bolts during an inspection.

Reuters, 10:55 June 24, 2016

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 70 Percent by June 24

On the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 70 Percent by June 24

On the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 73 Percent by June 24

On the morning of June 23 the unit was operating at 90 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

SCE's 242 MW Solar Ranch Unit 1 in California Shut by June 23

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201606231515.html>

Update: Alberta Oil Sands Cogeneration Capacity Ramps Up to Near Pre-Fire Levels at 1,216 MW June 23 – AESO

Cogeneration electric plants' output around Fort McMurray in Alberta, Canada on Thursday ramped up to 1,216 MW from 989 MW on Wednesday, the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) said. Before the wildfires started, the Fort McMurray units were producing about 1,300 MW, according to local media reports. Due to the wildfires, production fell as low as 342 MW on May 17. There is about 3,200 MW of power cogeneration capacity serving the oil sands industry in Alberta, with about two-thirds located in the Fort McMurray area.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-canada-wildfire-power-idUSKCN0Z92BS>

Petroleum

Update: Shell to Restart 70,000 b/d FCCU at Its 316,000 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery Early Next Week – Sources

Royal Dutch Shell's Deer Park refinery is on schedule to restart the fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) by early next week, sources familiar with plant operations said on Friday. The 70,000 b/d FCCU was shut on Tuesday to repair a leaking line on the unit, the sources said. A clamp was fabricated on Thursday to stop the leak.

Reuters, 14:52 June 24, 2016

Valero Shuts Catalytic Reformer at its 190,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee Refinery June 23

Valero Energy Corp on Thursday shut the 36,000 b/d continuous catalytic regeneration reformer at its Memphis Refinery. The decision to shut the unit was made on Wednesday to stop the loss of catalyst from the reformer.

Valero may cut production as early as this weekend to carry out repairs on the shut catalytic reformer, sources familiar with plant operations said on Friday. The work is expected to take a week to two weeks to complete. A reformer converts refining byproducts into high octane components for blending into gasoline.

Reuters, 15:26 June 24, 2016

Shell Reports Unit Restarting at Its Scotford, Alberta Facility June 23

Royal Dutch Shell was restarting a unit at its Scotford, Alberta facility on June 23 and said there may be intermittent flaring for the next 48 hours, according to a community information line. The Scotford facility houses a 100,000 b/d refinery and a 255,000 b/d oil sands upgrader.

Reuters, 18:55 June 23, 2016

Canada Oil Output to Fall This Year Due to Wildfires, Low Prices – Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers

Canadian oil output is forecast to decline this year for the first time since 2009 after a wildfire in northern Alberta curtailed more than one million b/d for a month and low commodity prices hit producers. Total Canadian oil output will drop to 3.82 million b/d in 2016, less than the 3.85 million b/d produced last year, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) said in its annual forecast released Thursday. In 2017, production will rise to more than 4 million b/d, CAPP said.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/145261/Canada_Oil_Output_to_Fall_This_Year_on_Wildfires_Low_Prices

U.S. Oil Drillers Cut 7 Rigs June 24 – Baker Hughes

Drillers removed seven oil rigs in the week to June 24, bringing the total rig count down to 330, compared with 628 a year ago, according to Baker Hughes.

Reuters, 13:33 June 24, 2016

Natural Gas

Dominion Reports Its Cornwell Station Out of Service, Facilities Shut in Due to Flooding in West Virginia June 23

Dominion Transmission, Inc. (DTI) experienced an unplanned outage at Cornwell Station due to a severe weather flooding event. DTI has determined that field compression in Bubble 2306 can turn back in line and physically flow off system. The following facilities must shut in until further notice: Direct taps on TL-569, TL-585, and TL-263; All production in Bubble 2301; Field compression in Bubbles 2206, 2207, 2303, 2304, 2305, 3225, 3226, 3227, 9912, and 9913. Delivery nominations during this period from EB005, EB045, EB335, EB460, Pod 12 and Pod 13 will be kept whole by DTI.

<https://escript.dom.com/servlet/InfoPostServlet?region=null&company=dti&method=pdf&seqNbr=185045&revision=0>

Columbia Gas Pipeline Natural Gas Flows Cut in West Virginia June 24

The amount of natural gas flowing through a section of the Columbia Gas Transmission (TCO) pipeline on Friday fell by about 900 MMcf/d due to an “operational event” at MarkWest Energy's Sherwood processing plant in West Virginia. TCO informed its shippers about the event at Sherwood on Wednesday, but it did not start to significantly reduce gas flows through nearby pipeline meters until Friday. Gas flows through the Sherwood meter were cut to zero on Friday versus 300 MMcf/d on average over the past 30 days, while flows through the Braxton gathering line meter fell to 500 MMcf/d on Friday versus an average of 1.1 Bcf/d over the past month, according to pipeline data from Thomson Reuters Analytics. The Sherwood plant, located in Doddridge County, has the capacity to process about 1.2 Bcf/d of Marcellus shale gas. Antero Resources Corp is the anchor producer feeding gas into the plant from its West Virginia production. TCO did not say on its website when pipeline flows would return to normal. Separately, TCO declared a force majeure on Friday notifying shippers that flows on other pipe segments would be reduced to zero due to flooding in the area around its Cobb compressor in Kanawha County, West Virginia. The only flows around Cobb that seem to be affected by the force majeure are between TCO and the Tennessee Gas Pipeline, which are expected to fall to 63 MMcf/d on Friday from an average 200 MMcf/d over the past 30 days, according to Thomson Reuters Analytics data. TCO did not say on its website when pipeline flows around Cobb would return to normal.

<http://www.columbiapipeinfo.com/infopost/ReportViewer.aspx?/InfoPost/Notices&assetNbr=51&CritFlag=1>

Reuters, 13:55 June 24, 2016

Transco Notified to Abandon South Timbalier Block 300 Production Platform in Gulf of Mexico June 23

Williams Cos' Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Co (Transco) on Thursday said the operator of South Timbalier Block 300 production platform notified Transco of its plan to abandon the platform. Transco has been requested by the platform operator to blow down and isolate the Transco facilities located on and upstream of the Platform. Transco's plan is to initiate such blow down and isolation activities on Friday.

<http://www.1line.williams.com/1Line/wgp/download?delvid=7346237&hfNoticeFlag=Y&hfDownloadFlag=false&hfFileName=download.html>

Regency Reports Electrical Power Breaker Trip at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas June 23

Regency reported an electrical power breaker trip at its Waha gas plant. The breaker was reset and the acid gas injector compressor was restarted.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=236246>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Venezuela Expects Oil Output to Rise Up to 200,000 b/d in 6 Months – Oil Minister

Venezuela expects to recover between 150,000 b/d and 200,000 b/d of crude oil production within the next six months, the Oil Minister said on Thursday.

Reuters, 4:34 June 23, 2016

Nigerian Militants Blow Up Shell Gas Pipeline in Niger Delta June 23

A Nigerian militant group known as the Red Scorpion on Thursday blew up a Shell gas pipeline in the community of Awara in Ohaji/Egbema council area of Imo state. Oil installations belonging to Elf Petroleum in Awara were earlier blown up by the Red Scorpion.

<https://www.today.ng/news/national/142052/niger-delta-miltants-blow-pipeline-imo>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 24, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	46.45	47.95	61.02
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.68	2.61	2.83

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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