



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, July 11, 2011

## Major Developments

### Thunderstorms and Winds Leave Nearly 920,000 U.S. Midwest Customers without Power July 10-11

Thunderstorms and high winds downed power lines and knocked out power to over 919,000 Midwestern customers, the vast majority in Commonwealth Edison's (ComEd) Illinois service territory. The Chicago, Illinois metropolitan area's transportation system was impacted as well, primarily due to high winds. Metra and the Chicago Transit Authority both reported delays and cancellations along various transit lines. About two dozen Union Pacific trains were halted until about 8:45 a.m., while Burlington Northern Santa Fe reduced train speeds. About 100 flights were canceled at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, though only one flight was canceled at Midway Airport. Both airports reported delays of nearly an hour for many flights this morning. As of latest reports, nearly 610,000 Midwestern customers remain without power.

U.S. Midwest Customer Power Outages July 10-11			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
ComEd	IL	820,000	570,000
Ameren	IL	4,644	704
MidAmerican Energy	IA/IL	7,000	174
Alliant	IA/MN/WI	50,000	35,671
Xcel	MN	27,000	2,531
Connexus	MN	6,500	650
Stearns Electric	MN	4,000	166
<b>TOTAL*</b>		919,144	609,896

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

Sources: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-severe-thunderstorm-watch-for-northern-illinois-20110711.0.1006535.story>

<http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/6455127-417/615000-without-power-after-storms-pelt-chicago-area.html>

ComEd: <https://twitter.com/#!/ComEd/status/90517377111953408> ,

<https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/outagemap.aspx>

Ameren: <http://www.illinoisoutage.com/go/page/1787/27998/>

Alliant: <http://alliantenergy.com/UtilityServices/StormOutageCenter/ElectricalOutageSummary/index.htm> ,

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110711/NEWS/110711002/0/BUSINESS01/?odyssey=nav/head>

Mid-American Energy: <http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx> ,

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110711/NEWS/110711002/0/BUSINESS01/?odyssey=nav/head>

Xcel: <http://www.kare11.com/news/article/929880/396/More-than-13000-remain-without-power-after-severe-storms>

, <http://www.xcelenergy.com/portal/site/xcel->

[en/menuitem.471846b0c2475abf262a71986b108a0c/?vgnnextoid=02b6719a0b3cd210VgnVCM100000b40b98aaRC](http://www.xcelenergy.com/portal/site/xcel-en/menuitem.471846b0c2475abf262a71986b108a0c/?vgnnextoid=02b6719a0b3cd210VgnVCM100000b40b98aaRC)

[RD&vgnnextchannel=e97c6113f220f210VgnVCM100000b40b98aaRCRD&appInstanceName=xcel](http://www.xcelenergy.com/portal/site/xcel-en/menuitem.471846b0c2475abf262a71986b108a0c/?vgnnextoid=02b6719a0b3cd210VgnVCM100000b40b98aaRCRD&vgnnextchannel=e97c6113f220f210VgnVCM100000b40b98aaRCRD&appInstanceName=xcel)

Connexus: <http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/dpp/weather/mn-storms-power-outages-july-11-2011> ,

<http://www.connexusenergy.com/>

Stearns Electric: [http://www.sctimes.com/article/20110711/NEWS01/107110030/Storm-blazes-through-Stearns-](http://www.sctimes.com/article/20110711/NEWS01/107110030/Storm-blazes-through-Stearns-County)

[County](http://www.sctimes.com/article/20110711/NEWS01/107110030/Storm-blazes-through-Stearns-County) , <http://ebill.stearnslectric.org/oms/outageMap>

### **Update: PPL's 1,111 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 82 Percent by July 11**

According to previous reports, the unit's scheduled refueling outage was extended on May 5 for repairs after operators discovered cracks on the unit's turbine blades. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 10 the unit was operating at 70 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Reduced by July 8, Returns to Service by July 9**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 161 MW by July 8.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107081515.html>

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107091515.html>

### **San Diego Gas & Electric's 566 MW Palomar Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by July 8**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage by July 8.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107081515.html>

### **Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Shut by July 9, Returns to Service by July 10**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 9.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107091515.html>

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107101515.html>

### **Elk Hills Power's 552 MW Elk Hills Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by July 9**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 9.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107091515.html>

### **Calpine's 561 MW Los Medanos Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by July 9**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage by July 9.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107091515.html>

### **La Paloma Generating Company's 260 MW La Paloma Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by July 9**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from a planned outage by July 9.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201107091515.html>

### **NRC May Monitor FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuclear Unit 1 in Ohio More Closely after Investigation Finds Safety Violations during April Incident**

According to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission report, operators violated multiple safety regulations during an incident when four workers at the plant were exposed to high radiation levels on April 22.

<http://www.kotnow.com/story/15048767/probe-of-radiation-finds-risks-at-ohio-nuke-plant>

[http://www.timesonline.com/news/business/nrc-perry-plant-did-not-properly-prepare-workers-before-radiation/article\\_0c108f86-965e-586b-b305-426b488511f1.html](http://www.timesonline.com/news/business/nrc-perry-plant-did-not-properly-prepare-workers-before-radiation/article_0c108f86-965e-586b-b305-426b488511f1.html)

### **Update: BPA Curtails Wind Generation in U.S. Pacific Northwest over Past Seven Weeks**

Only after the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) reduced natural gas, coal, and other thermal generation in the region did it also curtail wind generation by about seven percent. BPA made the curtailments to balance excess production of hydroelectricity generated by the region's dams due to an unusually large amount of melting snowpack.

[http://dailyrecordnews.com/news/bpa-curtails-wind-production-by-percent/article\\_c111c11c-a7f7-11e0-b9d3-001cc4c002e0.html](http://dailyrecordnews.com/news/bpa-curtails-wind-production-by-percent/article_c111c11c-a7f7-11e0-b9d3-001cc4c002e0.html)

<http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/BPAnews/nreleases.cfm>

### **Planned EPA Regulations to Require Clean Up or Retirement of 18 Coal-Fired Plants**

An agreement filed in the U.S. District Court in Colorado in June requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to oversee plans to reduce air pollution in Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming, pending final approval from a federal judge. The regulations will impact 18 coal-fired power plants with an aggregated capacity of 16,000 MW, requiring emissions reductions or possible closure. The agreement is subject to a 30-day comment period, after which time a federal judge will issue the final report.

<http://solveclimatenews.com/news/20110710/epa-haze-coal-plant-pollution-national-parks-landmark-agreement-final-approval>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: EPA Says ExxonMobil's Cleanup Plan for its 12-Inch, 40,000 b/d Silvertip Oil Pipeline in Montana Is Insufficient July 10**

The company submitted the cleanup plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on July 9, but the EPA said that about half the plan requires additional work. The pipeline spilled an estimated 1,000 barrels of oil into the Yellowstone River on July 1. According to news reports, no toxic petroleum chemicals were detected downstream of the spill on July 9.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=27161](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27161)

<http://www.wgntv.com/sns-rt-us-oil-spill-montanatre76827y-20110709.0,7088190.story>

### **OPEC Produces 29.57 Million b/d of Crude in June, an Increase of 530,000 b/d from May**

Production increases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates helped lift overall production numbers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). OPEC produced 29.04 million b/d in May.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=108833](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=108833)

### **Unspecified Unplanned Emergency Event Leads to Flaring at CVR Energy's 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery July 9**

Reuters, 17:51 July 10, 2011

### **Small Fire Shuts Wet Gas Compressor at the 40,000 b/d Gasoline-Making FCC at Sunoco's 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery July 10**

A small fire broke out in the fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit at the Point Breeze section of the refinery. The FCC, which normally runs at 40,000 b/d, was already reduced due to problems with the wet gas compressor and is currently running at 25,000 b/d.

Reuters, 10:16 July 11, 2011

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/07/08/refinery-operations-sunoco-philadelphia-idUKWNAB964320110708>

### **Multiple Trips at Sulfur Unit at Alon's 68,000 b/d Bakersfield, California Refinery Cause No Impact on Production July 9**

According to a filing with state regulators, the shutdown of "unit 17" did lead to flaring.

Reuters, 00:07 July 11, 2011

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/07/11/refinery-operations-alon-bakersfield-idUSWEN520920110711>

### **Update: Husky Returns 155,000 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery to Full Rates July 9**

Operators shut the refinery's crude unit on June 27 for repairs to the furnace.

Reuters, 11:46 July 11, 2011

## **Update: Diesel Hydrotreater Snags at Valero's 287,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery**

The incident is under investigation. It did not have a material impact on production.

Reuters, 14:43 July 8, 2011

## **Natural Gas**

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Nothing to report.

## **Other News**

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Nothing to report.

## **Energy Prices**

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 11, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	94.99	94.46	76.04
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.19	4.28	4.61

Source: Reuters

## **Energy Notes**

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### **Delmarva Power & Light Reports 10,176 Customers Lose Power in Delaware July 9 – Fewer than Ten Customers Currently Remain in the Dark**

<http://www.delmarva.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

### **About 10,000 Pepco Customers Lose Power Due to Thunderstorms in Maryland and the District of Columbia July 8 – Just 85 Are Currently Without Power**

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/thunderstorms-flood-streets-cut-power-fatal-crash-in-md-reported/2011/07/08/gIQAZqah4H\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/thunderstorms-flood-streets-cut-power-fatal-crash-in-md-reported/2011/07/08/gIQAZqah4H_story.html)

<http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

### **Adverse Weather Inadvertently Activates Emergency Siren at Xcel's Prairie Island Nuclear Plant in Minnesota July 11**

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110711en.html>

### **Update: Tension Created by Collapsed BC Hydro Transmission Tower Pulls Down another Tower in Surrey, British Columbia, and Snaps Several Smaller Poles**

<http://www.journalofcommerce.com/article/id45188>

### **Update: Starwood Plans to Begin Construction of 10 MW SSM3 Solar Power Project in Ontario, with Completion Set for End of 2011 – Company Has already Completed 20 MW SSM1 and Is Currently Building 30 MW SSM2 in Ontario**

[http://www.q-cells.com/en/company/investor\\_relations/corporate\\_news/04072011](http://www.q-cells.com/en/company/investor_relations/corporate_news/04072011)

[qcells.is.to/complete\\_60\\_megawatt\\_project\\_for\\_starwood\\_energy\\_group\\_in\\_north\\_america/index.html?pr=594](http://qcells.is.to/complete_60_megawatt_project_for_starwood_energy_group_in_north_america/index.html?pr=594)

## **Gulfsands Petroleum Producing 21,000 b/d at Khurbet East and Yousefieh Fields in Syria**

Reuters, 02:11 July 11, 2011

## **CPS Energy Reporting About One Copper Theft per Week in its Texas Service Territory**

<http://newsradio1420.com/newsradio/newsMaker.asp?storyID=25227>

## **Equipment Breaks, Forcing Shut the K3401 Low Pressure Inlet Compressor at Salt Creek Gas Plant in Texas July 10-11**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156627>

## **Leak in the Glycol Reboiler Shuts Cedar Hill Gas Plant in Texas July 8**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156613>

## **Update: DCP Midstream Facilities Still Unable to Handle Produced Gas, Causing Continued Problems at Various Upstream Natural Gas Facilities in Texas July 8-11**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156600>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156602>

## **Links**

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***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](http://www.eia.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://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

## **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

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

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