



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, July 22, 2014

## Electricity

### Thunderstorms, Strong Winds Knock Out Power to Over 26,000 Customers in Minnesota July 21

Thunderstorms with winds of up to 70 mph moved across Minnesota last night knocking out power to 26,500 customers. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT today, 12,824 customers remained without power. Lake Country Power said it had restored 8,000 customers since early this morning and were continuing work on the remaining outages. Minnesota Power expected power to be fully restored by midnight tonight.

Minnesota Customer Power Outages			
July 21, 2014			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Lake Country Power	MN	15,600	8,350
Minnesota Power	MN	6,500	2,457
Crow Wing Power	MN	4,400	2,017
<b>TOTAL*</b>		<b>26,500</b>	<b>12,824</b>

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

Sources:

<https://twitter.com/LakeCountryPowe>

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

<https://twitter.com/mnpower>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Crow-Wing-Power/250728911428?ref=hl>

<http://www.startribune.com/local/268095901.html>

[http://www.grandrapidsmn.com/news/lake-country-power-line-crews-working-to-restore-service-system/article\\_7161e424-11aa-11e4-919b-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.grandrapidsmn.com/news/lake-country-power-line-crews-working-to-restore-service-system/article_7161e424-11aa-11e4-919b-001a4bcf887a.html)

### New York State Seeks Summer Shutdown at Entergy's 2,069 MW Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has proposed closing the Indian Point nuclear power plant for an average of 42 days during prime fish migrations in the Hudson River between May 10 and August 10, according to a DEC document. The DEC said in an email that the proposal, which will be discussed in a public meeting on Tuesday, was similar to what Consolidated Edison Inc. did when it owned the reactors and was consistent with the practice of other facilities on the Hudson. The plant, located about 40 miles north of Manhattan, provides about a quarter of the power used in the New York City area. Indian Point withdraws up to 2.5 billion gallons of water per day from the Hudson to cool equipment, and then discharges that water back into the river a little warmer than before. Environmental groups and the DEC have said that Indian Point's water intake system kills about a billion fish, fish eggs, and larvae each year, and the plant should install cooling towers to reduce the use of river water by recycling it. Entergy said that cooling towers were too expensive, with an estimated cost of up to \$2 billion and likely could not enter service before 2029. Instead it proposed installing a Wedgewire screen system to protect the fish. The company said the screens would save more fish as it would take only about three years to install at a cost of up to \$250 million. Entergy filed with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to renew the operating licenses for the two Indian Point reactors in 2007. Before the NRC can grant new licenses, the state must approve water permits. The units can continue to operate under existing licenses until the NRC completes the relicensing process, which Entergy has said could take until 2018. Unit 2's license expired in 2013 and Unit 3's will expire in 2015.

Reuters, 13:59 July 21, 2014

## **ARCO's 417 MW Watson Natural Gas-fired Unit in California Reduced by July 21**

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 236 MW.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201407211515.html>

## **Update: AES's 179 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by July 21**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began by July 20.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201407211515.html>

## **NextEra Energy Announces Completion of 60 MW Bluewater Wind Energy Center in Ontario**

NextEra Energy Partners, LP on Monday announced that the Bluewater Wind Energy Center in Huron County, Ontario started commercial operation. The project is comprised of 37 turbines and capable of generating up to 60 MW of electricity. The Bluewater Wind Energy Center is owned by Bluewater Wind, LP, an indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Canada Partners Holdings, ULC.

<http://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/news/contents/2014/072114.shtml>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Valero Halts HCU Restart at Its 330,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery**

Valero Energy Corp halted the restart of a 45,000 b/d hydrocracking unit (HCU) at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery over the weekend after cracks were found in piping, sources familiar with operations at the refinery said on Monday. The hydrocracker was shut by a small fire on July 15 caused by the failure of pump seal. After inspecting and replacing similar seals on the unit, Valero began restarting the HCU on Thursday. It was expected to be back in production by July 24. On Monday, refinery officials were attempting to determine how much pipe might have to be replaced on the hydrocracker, the sources said. The cracked piping will have to be replaced before the unit can resume production. Valero discovered the cracks when leaks developed in the piping as the company was restarting the unit over the weekend, the sources said.

Reuters, 18:55 July 21, 2014

### **ExxonMobil Reports Operational Issue at Its 560,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery July 21**

Exxon Mobil Corp reported flaring due to an operational issue at its Baytown, Texas refinery, according to a community information phone line.

Reuters, 19:14 July 21, 2014

### **South Portland, Maine City Council Bans Oil Loading Onto Tankers**

City councilors in South Portland, Maine, voted late Monday night to ban the loading of crude oil onto tankers along its waterfront, throwing up another roadblock to the export of Canadian oil sands crude and setting up a showdown with industry which called the process illegal. The city is the East Coast's second largest oil port, located at the southern terminus of the Portland-Montreal Pipeline, which currently flows north to Canada. The so-called "Clear Skies Ordinance" would prevent the Portland Pipeline company, principally owned by Canadian oil refiners Suncor Energy Inc, Imperial Oil Ltd, and Royal Dutch Shell PLC, from reversing flow for export from the Portland Harbor. Portland Pipeline company Vice President Tom Hardison told councilors that his company had no plans to reverse the pipeline's flow, but added environmental concerns were based on emotion, not fact. The company and industry lobby group the American Petroleum Institute have promised to fight the ordinance.

Reuters, 11:28 July 22, 2014

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Companies File Application with DOE to Export LNG from Alaska**

The companies pursuing a major liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Alaska have applied for an export license with the Department of Energy (DOE). The application requests authorization to export up to 20 million metric tons of LNG a year for 30 years. Participants in the project include BP, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil Corp., TransCanada Corp. and the Alaska Gasline Development Corp.

<http://www.ktuu.com/news/news/companies-file-export-application-for-alaska-lng/27072674>

## Regency Reports AGI Compressor Shut, Power Outage at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas July 20

Regency reported the acid gas injector (AGI) compressor shut on high fifth stage rod load. The AGI and plant then shut due to a power outage. After the rod load was shut, the compressor was reset and restarted. Loss of power caused the complete shutdown of the plant. The AGI compressor was reset and restarted after power was restored and the plant was brought into correct operating parameters to allow restart of the compressor.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=201279>

## Other News

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### Norfolk Southern Coal Train Derails Near Williamsport, Pennsylvania July 20

A railroad track in Lycoming County was closed until further notice after ten cars on a Norfolk Southern freight train derailed July 20 causing four of them to flip onto their side and spill loads of coal. The train originated from Lock Haven and was headed to PPL's Montour Power Plant near Washingtonville.

[http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/07/10\\_coal\\_cars\\_derail\\_blocking\\_n.html](http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/07/10_coal_cars_derail_blocking_n.html)

## International News

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### Libya's Oil Output Falls to 450,000 b/d Amid New Fighting; Brega Port to Reopen – NOC

Libyan oil production fell as fresh fighting broke out on Monday night in Tripoli and Benghazi. The El-Feel oilfield last week was forced to cut back due to events in Tripoli, where two rival brigades of militias have fought over control of the airport. A National Oil Company (NOC) spokesman said output as of Monday was around 450,000 b/d compared with 555,000 b/d on Thursday. One of Libya's ports, Brega, was expected to be operating within a "few days" after the government reached a deal with protesting security guards to end a blockade, the NOC spokesman said. Reopening Brega would allow the state-run Sirte Oil Company to start producing again and further boost Libya's output.

Reuters, 9:34 July 22, 2014

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=43922](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=43922)

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 22, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b>	105.24	100.32	107.23
\$/Barrel			
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b>	3.84	4.11	3.78
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

## 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 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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