



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

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, July 25, 2012

## *Electricity*

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### **Update: More Than 22,000 Customers in Illinois and Indiana Remain without Power July 25 after Thunderstorms July 24**

Utility companies in Illinois and Indiana on Wednesday worked to restore power to customers affected by strong thunderstorms that hit the region Tuesday morning. At the height of the storm, more than 386,000 utility customers were without power, including 300,000 in Illinois, 12,000 in Wisconsin, and 74,000 in Indiana. As of 3:15 PM EDT today, approximately 22,144 utility customers in Illinois and Indiana remained without power, including 11,938 Commonwealth Edison customers in Illinois, 8,855 Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) customers, 540 Indiana Michigan Power customers, and 811 Duke Energy customers in Indiana. In Illinois, Commonwealth Edison expected to restore the vast majority of its customers by late Thursday, with the most severe outages restored by late Friday. In Indiana, NIPSCO expected to restore power to most of its remaining affected customers by late afternoon or early evening on Wednesday, with the last customers restored by early Friday.

<http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20120724/NEWS06/307240024>

<https://www.comed.com/customer-service/outage-information/Pages/storm-center.aspx>

[https://www.comed.com/\\_layouts/comedsp/OutageMap.aspx](https://www.comed.com/_layouts/comedsp/OutageMap.aspx)

<http://www.nipsco.com/en/Stay-Safe/outage-center.aspx>

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

<https://indianamichiganpower.com/outages/Default.aspx>

<http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp>

### **Storms Cut Power to Nearly 80,000 Hydro Quebec Customers in Montreal Area July 24**

Hydro Quebec reported nearly 80,000 of its customers in and around Montreal lost power due to storms on Tuesday. The utility reported about 7,000 customers remained without power Wednesday morning. It expected to restore all affected customers by tomorrow morning.

<http://www.cjad.com/CJADLocalNews/entry.aspx?BlogEntryID=10407260>

### **Update: Constellation's 825 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Unit 1 in Maryland Restarts, Ramps Up to 85 Percent by July 25**

Calvert Cliffs Unit 1 is returning from an outage that began July 21, when operators shut the unit after discovering an RCS Pressure Boundary Leakage from the instrument line to a reactor coolant pump differential pressure transmitter.

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

### **Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 80 Percent by July 25**

Limerick Unit 1 is returning from an outage that began July 18, when operators shut the unit after an electrical fault in a transformer caused a loss of power to the generator cooling equipment. Operators restarted the unit July 23.

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

### **Update: FPL's 839 MW Saint Lucie Nuclear Unit 1 in Florida Restarts, Ramps Up to 85 Percent by July 25**

Saint Lucie Unit 1 is returning from an outage that began by July 19. Florida Power & Light (FPL) has not yet indicated why the reactor was shut.

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

### **Update: SCE's 200 MW Eastwood Hydro Unit in California Returns to Service by July 24**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began by July 23.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201207241515.html>

### **Update: Cabrillo's 330 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by July 24**

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 195 MW that began by July 23.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201207241515.html>

### **PG&E's 407 MW Helms Hydro Unit 1 in California Shut by July 24**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201207241515.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Michigan Governor Declares Energy Emergency July 24 Due to Fuel Shortage Caused by Shutdown of Buckeye's 70,000 b/d West Shore Pipeline in Wisconsin; Pipeline Resumed Operations July 21**

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder on Tuesday declared a State of Energy Emergency under Executive Order 2012-12 due to temporary shortages of gasoline and diesel fuel at service stations throughout the western and central sections of the Upper Peninsula. The shortages are due to the shutdown last week of Buckeye Partners' 70,000 b/d West Shore pipeline, which transports refined products from Chicago, Illinois to Green Bay, Wisconsin. Operators shut 10 miles of the line on July 17 after discovering a gasoline leak near Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. The pipeline was restarted Saturday night after repairs. The pipeline closure has affected the transportation of petroleum products in Michigan as carriers seeking alternate product terminals in Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin face longer driving distances and difficulty meeting state and federal hours-of-service regulations. The Executive Order suspends these regulations for motor carriers and drivers transporting gasoline, diesel fuel, and jet fuel. The order will remain in effect until it is rescinded or until August 7 at 12:59 PM CDT, whichever first occurs.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2012/07/25/usa-michigan-emergency-idINL2E8IOGPH20120725>

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO\\_2012-12\\_393332\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO_2012-12_393332_7.pdf)

[http://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-192-53480\\_56421-283134--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-192-53480_56421-283134--,00.html)

### **Update: BP Cuts Refinery Rates by 30 Percent after Coker Fire at Its 413,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery July 23 – Sources**

BP Plc slowed crude runs by 30 percent at its Whiting refinery following a fire and coker outage late Monday, according to traders. The fire broke out in one of the unit's three drums, two other sources familiar with the situation said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-07-24/bakken-oil-weakens-as-bp-cuts-refinery-rates-after-whiting-fire.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20120725-713604.html>

### **Chevron Reports Unspecified Unit Breakdown, Flaring at Its 279,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery July 25**

Chevron Corp. reported flaring due to a breakdown at its El Segundo refinery Wednesday morning, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The flaring continued for more than 30 minutes, the filing said. Chevron had reported a compressor failure led to sulfur dioxide emissions at the refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.

Reuters, 10:48 July 25, 2012

### **Valve Leak Triggers Flaring at Phillips 66's 120,000 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery July 24**

Phillips 66 on Tuesday reported a release-valve leakage triggered flaring at its Rodeo refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. The filing did not specify which unit was involved in the malfunction.

Reuters, 16:48 July 24, 2012

## **Sinclair Restarts Tail Gas Units at Its 80,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming Refinery after Trip Causes Hydrogen Sulfur Release July 24**

Sinclair Wyoming Refining Co. reported tail gas treatment unit (TGTU) No. 3 and a tail gas thermal oxidation (TTO) unit tripped offline Tuesday afternoon, causing a release of hydrogen sulfur, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The filing did not say why the units tripped offline. Operators restarted and reduced the sulfur load to the units, the filing said.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwervlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1018874](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwervlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1018874)

## **Update: British Columbia Threatens to Block Enbridge's 525,000 b/d Northern Gateway Pipeline Project in Canada Unless Alberta Shares More Revenue**

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark on Tuesday threatened to block Enbridge Inc.'s Northern Gateway pipeline project, which is intended to transport crude oil from tar sands in northern Alberta to an export terminal near Kitimat, British Columbia, unless Alberta shares more of the revenue generated by the project. The project is currently under regulatory review. Premier Clark suggested British Columbia's government could halt the project by blocking provincial permits that will be necessary to build the pipeline. It is unclear, however, whether any province actually has the legal power to halt interprovincial pipelines, which fall under Canadian federal jurisdiction. Alberta Premier Alison Redford has said that negotiations on revenue are out of the question. Representatives from both provincial governments are scheduled to meet on Wednesday to discuss the project.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/24/canada-pipelines-idUSL2E8IOCKW20120724?feedType=RSS&feedName=utilitiesSector&rpc=43>

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## **Natural Gas**

### **Lightning Strike Cuts Power, Leads to Flaring at Atlas Pipeline's 195 MMcf/d Midkiff Gas Plant in Texas July 23**

Atlas Pipeline reported its Midkiff gas plant lost power Monday evening due to a severe thunderstorm and lightning strike at Sherryland Power's substation, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Sherryland Power was making repairs to the substation at the time of the filing, which said the incident ended by Tuesday afternoon.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=171460>

### **Acid Gas Injector Unit 1 Shuts Due to First-Stage Suction Pressure at Enbridge's Tilden Gas Plant in Texas July 24**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=171457>

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## **Other News**

### **OECD Urges U.S. to Reconsider Ethanol Targets as Drought Damages Midwestern Corn Crops, Straining Supplies and Pushing Prices to Record Highs**

An official from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on Tuesday said the United States should consider lowering its targets for the use of corn-based ethanol as a severe drought has threatened the corn harvest and reduced yields of the crop. About 40 percent of corn production in the United States is used to produce ethanol, which is used to meet government targets for biofuels. U.S. law requires ethanol to make up nearly 10 percent of all U.S. gasoline. U.S. ethanol production fell 6,000 barrels to a record low of 796,000 b/d last week, in the sixth straight week of declines, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The decline has been attributed to parched crops in the Midwest grain belt, which have tightened supplies and pushed prices to record highs, squeezing margins at biofuel refineries. At least three U.S. ethanol production plants have been idled until profit margins improve.

Reuters, 16:05 July 24, 2012

Reuters, 11:03 July 25, 2012

## DOI, DOE Announce Solar Energy Development Plan for Public Lands in Six Western States

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), on Tuesday announced they will publish the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for solar energy development in six western states—Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah. The Solar PEIS will establish solar energy zones with access to existing or planned transmission, the fewest resource conflicts, and incentives for development within those zones, allowing faster permitting of large-scale solar projects on public lands.

<http://energy.gov/articles/obama-administration-releases-roadmap-solar-energy-development-public-lands>

## International News

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Nothing to report

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices July 25, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	87.03	89.63	98.94
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.16	2.83	4.46

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 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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