



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, July 31, 2008

Electricity

Update: Repairs Taking Longer Than Expected on TXU's 800 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas

The unit was idled July 28 after a generator malfunctioned.
Bloomberg News, 11:48 July 31, 2008

Equipment Failure Trips PPL Montana's 350 MW Colstrip Coal-fired Unit 2 July 29

A blown cooling tower forced the unit to go offline.

<http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/080731/0420694.html>

City of Vernon's 134 MW Malburg Gas-fired Unit in California Curtailed by July 30

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 100 MW on July 30.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200807301515.html>

Update: Constellation's 825 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuke Unit 1 in Maryland at Full Power by July 31

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 30 the unit was operating at 85 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Petroleum

Update: Irving Oil's 300,000 b/d Saint John, New Brunswick Refinery to Resume Full Rates July 31

A power problem and fire July 29 disrupted the refinery's output.
Reuters, 12:06 July 31, 2008

Tesoro's 100,000 b/d Los Angeles Refinery to Resume Full Rates by August 1

The refinery was affected by a power disruption July 30, and two units were shut.

Reuters, 10:57 July 31, 2008

Bloomberg News, 22:45 July 30, 2008

Tesoro to Cut Production at Seven Refineries to Between 605,000 to 645,000 b/d in the Third Quarter

The company is cutting back production levels at seven refineries with a total refining capacity of 660,000 b/d due to long-term prospects of weak profit margins for gasoline.

Reuters, 11:19 July 31, 2008

ExxonMobil Completes Upgrades at its 562,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery

The company started up new facilities that increases capacity at crude distillation and delayed coking units.

Reuters, 11:27 July 31, 2008

Chevron's Agbami Project Offshore Nigeria to Begin First Crude Exports in September

Chevron expects the project to have a peak production output of 250,000 b/d.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=64900

Pemex Plans New 300,000 b/d Heavy Crude Refinery in Mexico

http://uk.reuters.com/article/UK_SMALLCAPSRPT/idUKN3042636920080730

Shell Lost 195,000 Boe/d of Output during Second Quarter Due to Disruptions in Nigeria

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8921238.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Update: Brazilian Oil Workers will Suspend Nationwide Strike against Petrobras Planned for August 5

The threat of a labor strike was rescinded after Petrobras submitted a new offer in negotiations.

Reuters, 09:07 July 31, 2008

Natural Gas

Study Reveals United States' Natural Gas Reserves More than Previously Estimated

According to a study conducted by Navigant Consulting for the American Clean Skies Foundation, the United States has 2,247 Tcf of natural gas reserves, enough to satisfy 118 years of U.S. consumption.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200807/Study_Supports_Switch_from_Gasoline_To_C_12155.aspx

Other News

Update: Mississippi River Reopens after Second Oil Spill July 31

Vessel traffic is allowed, with restrictions, in the vicinity of Algiers Point from mile marker 93 to 95 while responders continue work to contain the secondary discharge from the barge that occurred Wednesday. A forward tank in the sunken barge leaked about 2,500 additional gallons of oil into the Mississippi River on July 30, resulting in the U.S Coast Guard (USCG) closing a two-mile stretch of the river yesterday for about six hours. The USCG expects similar small leaks until crews can secure the leaking tank to a concrete pier.

http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-07-30-miss-spill_N.htm

<http://www.neworleansoilspill.com/go/doc/1794/218990/>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 31, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	124.14	124.62	78.17
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	9.01	9.70	6.53
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Clipper Windpower and BP to Develop 5,050 MW Titan Wind Project in South Dakota

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6930015.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

Apex Ordered to Clean Soil and Groundwater Contamination at Former Hartford, Illinois Refinery

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200807/Apex_Ordered_To_Clean_Up_Ill_Refinery_S_12156.aspx

South Carolina Electric and Gas awaiting State Regulator Approval of Two Proposed Nuclear Reactors at V.C. Summer Nuke Station in South Carolina

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080730/sc_sce_g_nuclear_power.html?v=1

Flaring Reported at Valero's 166,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery July 31

Bloomberg News, 14:47 July 31, 2008

California Court Says Locals Authorities Failed Necessary Environmental and Health Analyses, Ruling Potentially affects California's Natural Gas-fired Power Plants

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-power31-2008jul31.1.3227309.story>

NRC to Conduct Special Inspection of SCE's 2,250 MW San Onofre Nuke Plant in California for Properly Fixed Electrical Problems on Backup Power Systems on August 4

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-sanonofre31-2008jul31.1.2892830.story>

<http://www.oregister.com/articles/plant-nuclear-nrc-2109521-san-onofre>

Environmental Group Opposes TVA's Application to Build and Run New Nuclear Reactors in Alabama

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/jul/31/environmentalists-hope-stop-tvas-bellefonte-expans/>

Universities to Develop Clean Technology Turbines that Operate with Coal-Derived Synthetic Gas and Hydrogen Fuels

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10774691

OPEC Exports (Excluding Angola and Ecuador) to Rise 140,000 b/d to in Four Weeks

Reuters, 11:30 July 31, 2008

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/index.aspx>.

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov