



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, August 19, 2015

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to 16,000 ComEd Customers in Illinois August 18

Severe storms knocked out power to 16,000 ComEd customers in northern Illinois Tuesday evening as tornado, severe storm, and flash flood warnings were issued in most northern counties. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, 99 customers remained without power.

https://www.comed.com/_layouts/comedsp/outagemap.aspx

<https://twitter.com/ComEd>

<http://chicago.suntimes.com/news/7/71/888596/tornado-watch-issued-suburban-counties>

Update: Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Ramps Up to 91 Percent by August 19

On the morning of August 18 the unit was operating at 80 percent after restarting and ramping up to 2 percent on August 13. Exelon reported that pressure boundary leakage on a welded vent line joint led to degraded conditions, which shut the unit from 10 percent on August 7.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150810en.html>

Mirant's 530 MW Pittsburg Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Reduced by August 18

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 130 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201508181515.html>

SunEdison Completes 6 MW Bella Vista Solar Power Plant in Florida August 19

SunEdison, Inc. today announced it completed construction of a 6 MW solar power plant that will supply electricity to Lakeland Electric through a 25-year power purchase agreement. The Bella Vista solar power plant is expected to generate approximately 14 gigawatt-hours of electricity per year.

<http://investors.sunedison.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=106680&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2080581>

Petroleum

Unplanned CDU Outage at BP's 413,500 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery Leads to Higher Midwest Gasoline Prices – EIA

EIA estimates the loss of gasoline production from BP's crude oil distillation unit (CDU) outage at its Whiting, Indiana refinery to be between 120,000 b/d and 140,000 b/d, based on May 2015 refinery yield data for the region and press reports of the refinery running at 40% capacity. On August 8, the Whiting refinery, the Midwest's largest, was forced to reduce production after extensive piping leaks were discovered in the largest of three CDUs, cutting total distillation capacity to roughly 50 percent. Initial repair timeline estimates are indicating up to a month to fix the problem. The plant is an important source of gasoline and distillate fuel oil supply to the region and EIA data shows that prices in spot and retail markets are trading higher than normal for the region. EIA noted that markets can take days or weeks to adjust to a sudden loss of production from an unplanned outage and news that the problem may not be resolved quickly. The severity and duration of the higher prices depend on how quickly the refinery problem can be resolved, how soon alternative sources of supply can arrive, and the marginal cost to bring alternative supply to the region.

<http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.cfm?id=22552>

Phillips 66 Shuts Hydrocracker at Its 336,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery August 18 – Source

Phillips 66 shut a 38,000 b/d hydrocracker at its Wood River refinery in Illinois on Tuesday due to a compressor trip, a source familiar with refinery operations said Wednesday. The company reported that an unidentified unit tripped offline Tuesday, according to a filing with Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The Ozark pipeline, which carries crude oil to the refinery from Cushing, Oklahoma, briefly saw decreased flows on Tuesday, according to energy industry intelligence service Genscape.

Reuters, 9:11 August 19, 2015

CVR Reports Malfunction at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery August 13

Reuters, 12:34 August 19, 2015

HollyFrontier Reports Excess Carbon Monoxide at Its 70,300 b/d Tulsa East, Oklahoma Refinery August 12

Reuters, 12:18 August 19, 2015

PBF Energy Parks Unused Rail Cars in Upstate New York – Local Media

PBF Energy Inc is reportedly storing at least 100 unused rail cars along a short-line track in upstate New York. The decision to idle tank cars is the first hard evidence that the slowdown in oil-rail traffic is leaving new assets unused, racking up potential losses for leasing companies and refiners who had scrambled to order new tank cars after U.S. shale oil production started to boom in 2009. Crude by rail volumes have fallen by more than 17 percent year-over-year in the week ending August 8, according to the latest data from the American Association of Railroads (AAR), the largest decline following consecutive years of double-digit growth since 2010. The *Olean Times Herald* said the cars are being stored along a stretch of the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad, near Hillsdale, New York. The railroad's chief operating officer told the newspaper that the cars were never used and have been sitting there for four months. Monthly lease rates for the most common of oil rail cars are now below \$500 a month, from a high of \$2,450 last year, the owner of Transportation Consultants Co said.

Reuters, 17:52 August 18, 2015

U.S. Oil Stocks Rise, Gasoline Falls as Refinery Runs Drop – EIA

U.S. crude oil stocks rose last week while gasoline inventories fell as refinery runs unexpectedly dropped at the height of the summer demand season, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. Crude oil inventories rose by 2.6 million barrels, compared with analysts' expectations for a decrease of 777,000 barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma, delivery hub rose by 326,000 barrels, EIA said. Refinery crude runs fell by 254,000 b/d, EIA data showed. BP's Whiting, Indiana, refinery, the largest in the Midwest, shut down its biggest crude unit unexpectedly at the start of the EIA week. Gasoline stocks fell by 2.7 million barrels, compared with analysts' expectations for a drop of 1.6 million barrels.

Reuters, 10:36 August 19, 2015

Natural Gas

Atlas Reports Process Failure at Its 200 MMcf/d Driver Gas Plant in Texas August 18

Atlas reported a process failure at its Driver plant after operators were required to relieve pipeline pressure as a result of several unplanned outages in the region. The Midkiff plant suddenly lost purchase power causing its clean exchangers to shut down. The Edward plant was also being shut due to expander problems. The Driver plant was loaded up as much as possible to minimize flaring.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=219015>

Southern Union Reports Flaring at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas August 18

Southern Union reported low pressure gas from the inlet was being flared due to compressor 20 and 24 going offline. Inlet gas from the field was cut to help minimize emissions.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=219013>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Iraqi Kurdistan Says Oil Pipeline Sabotage Cost \$501 Million Since July 1 – Ministry of Natural Resources

Repeated sabotage of the oil pipeline from northern Iraq to Turkey has cost the autonomous Kurdistan region \$501 million since July 1, its ministry of natural resources said on Tuesday. The flow of oil is currently suspended after several theft attempts on the pipeline, which runs to the Turkish port of Ceyhan from fields in Kirkuk and the Kurdish north. The pipeline was previously idled for a week after being blown up by members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in late July.

http://www.dowstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=48817

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 19, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	40.70	43.17	95.63
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.71	2.84	3.76

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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