



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, August 25, 2011

Electricity

Storm System Batters Great Lakes Region in U.S. and Canada, Cutting Power to About 105,000 Customers August 24-25

The following companies reported outages due to strong storms, which were accompanied by high winds, lightning, and hail:

- According to a spokesman, an estimated 50,000 FirstEnergy customers lost power in Northeast Ohio today. The company is currently reporting a minimum of about 12,000 without power, though the actual number is likely higher.
- A DTE Energy spokesman said that a peak of 35,000 Michigan customers lost power August 24. As of latest reports, 15,000 are still in the dark.
- About 20,000 Hydro One customers lost power in Ontario due to the same storm system. As of latest reports, 5,842 customers are without service. Toronto Hydro did not report any major outages.

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=OH

<http://news-herald.com/articles/2011/08/25/news/doc4e5631fbaf485476335443.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2011/08/high_winds_damage_chesterland.html

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110825/NEWS05/110825012/20K-metro-Detroit-still-without-power-following-Wednesday-s-severe-storms>

<http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/20,000-remain-without-power>

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20110825/METRO/108250434/1409/metro/20-000-without-power-after-storms>

<http://www.hydroone.com/stormcenter/>

<http://www.petroliatopic.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3272986>

<http://www.thestar.com/news/article/1044671--tornado-sightings-in-ontario-environment-canada-is-checking>

Update: Following Hurricane Irene, Roughly 78,000 PREPA Customers Remain without Power in Puerto Rico August 25, Down from Peak of About 950,000

According to the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's (PREPA) executive director, 1,475,810 customers (representing 95 percent of total customers) currently have electricity across the island this afternoon. PREPA said that five percent of its customers remain without electricity, implying a current outage of roughly 78,000.

<http://www.prepa.com/spanish.asp?url=http://www.aeepr.com/noticias.asp>

Update: Dominion Issues New Notification of Unusual Event for 1,842 MW North Anna Nuclear Plant in Virginia Due to Aftershock August 25

The company had previously reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that the plant had exited its original notification of unusual event caused by the initial 5.8-magnitude earthquake on August 23 after inspectors found no significant damage. The plant filed a new notification of unusual event with the NRC after an aftershock was detected at the plant at 1:18 a.m. today. The plant was not operating at the time, and no damage has been identified.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110825en.html>

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dominion-virginia-concludes-inspection-of-quake-shaken-nuclear-plant-alerts-lifted/2011/08/24/gIQAkNgCcJ_story.html

<http://www.fox17online.com/news/nationworld/sns-rt-us-quake-ntre77n64o-20110824,0,6873231.story>

Update: PPL's 1,111 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 81 Percent by August 25

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 24 the unit was operating at 21 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: APS's 1,247 MW Palo Verde Nuclear Unit 3 in Arizona at Full Power by August 25

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 24 the unit was operating at 71 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Entegra Power Group's 291 MW Gila River Dynamic Resource Gas-Fired Unit in Arizona Reduced by August 24

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 241 MW on August 24.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201108241515.html>

Luminant Says 3D ID Fan to Be Shut to Repair Broken Linkage at its 750 MW Monticello Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas August 24

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=158381>

Petroleum

Update: State Department to Give Environmental Approval to TransCanada's Proposed Alberta-to-Texas Keystone XL Pipeline: Washington Post

According to the Washington Post, the final environmental assessment of the pipeline could be released as soon as Friday. It will affirm that the pipeline project will have "limited adverse environmental impacts." The U.S. Department of State will have to perform one more evaluation of the pipeline to determine whether it is in the national interest before it makes a final permitting decision later this year.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/state-department-review-to-find-pipeline-impact-limited-sources-say/2011/08/23/gIQAx2BJcJ_story.html

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/25/usa-pipeline-keystone-idUSN1E77N26M20110825?feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews>

Reduction, Possible Shutdown at 135,000 b/d CDU after Fire at Sunoco's 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery August 24

According to Reuters, the crude distillation unit (CDU) was operating at reduced levels due to a fire which was quickly extinguished on Wednesday morning. Dow Jones Newswires, however, reported that the unit was taken out of service. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1E77N1BP20110824>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110825-711580.html>

Marathon Reports Small Fire at 106,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery August 25

The fire at an unspecified unit has been extinguished. The company did not say whether the fire impacted operations.

Reuters, 09:50 August 25, 2011

Citgo Reports Snag at Gasoline-Making FCCU at 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery

The snag in the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) led to flaring.

Reuters, 00:18 August 25, 2011

Power Interruption Causes Multi-Unit Upset at Holly Frontier's 138,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas Refinery August 24

Units were shut down due to the event.
Reuters, 00:07 August 25, 2011

Total Discovers Product on Top of Floating Roof Storage Tank at 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 24

According to a filing with state regulators, operators blocked in a transfer line due to the event and are attempting to establish the cause and determine a course of action to correct the situation.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/occeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=158395>

ConocoPhillips Reports Compressor Trips, Restarts at 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery August 24-25

Reuters, 09:47 August 25, 2011

Tanker Truck Carrying 5,600 Gallons of Jet Fuel Burns for Five Hours Following Accident in Roanoke, Texas August 23

Highway 114 was shut as the fuel was allowed to burn itself out August 23-24.

<http://www.kens5.com/news/Tanker-carrying-jet-fuel-burns-for-five-hours-after-north-Texas-wreck-128307518.html>

Update: Oil Companies and Traders Sever Ties with Syria in Advance of EU Sanctions

The European Union is currently preparing to enact an oil embargo on Syria due to the government's violent crack-down on protestors. The U.S. has already imposed sanctions on Syria. Over the past few days, several oil traders and companies have stopped taking new Syrian contracts to export or import crude or products.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f76e296c-ce6c-11e0-b755-00144feabdc0.html?ftcamp=rss#axzz1W3j09oXD>

Natural Gas

Update: Evacuees Returning Home After Propane Rail Tanker Fire Ends August 24

Fire crews decided to allow the 29,000-gallon tanker to burn itself out, eliminating the threat of explosion.

http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/08/25/business-us-rail-car-fire_8642750.html

PHMSA Seeking Information for Potential New Gas Pipeline Safety Rules August 24

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) Wednesday, asking the public to comment on whether certain regulatory exemptions for pipelines constructed before 1970 should be eliminated and whether integrity management requirements for pipelines should be strengthened and broadened.

<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/phmsa1311.pdf>

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27683

Update: Enbridge Informs Canada's National Energy Board it Has Commercial Support for its Proposed Northern Gateway Pipelines

The proposed project consists of a 525,000 b/d oil export pipeline and a 193,000 b/d condensate import pipeline, both running about 731 miles from Alberta to British Columbia.

<http://www.enbridge.com/MediaCentre/News.aspx?yearTab=en2011&id=1490100>

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27670

West Virginia DEP Issues Emergency Rule Increasing Oversight of Unconventional Natural Gas Drilling

The emergency drilling rule from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will be effective for 15 months after being signed by the West Virginia secretary of state. It will require some operators to submit a water management plan, and will add new permit application requirements for operators drilling horizontal gas wells.

<http://www.ogj.com/articles/2011/08/west-virginia-issues-emergency-horizontal-drilling-rule.html?cmpid=EnlDailyAugust242011>

Other News

Ground Broken on Archer Daniels Midland's Industrial Carbon Capture and Storage Facility in Decatur, Illinois August 24

According to a press release from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the project will capture and store 1 MMTons/Yr. of carbon dioxide per year produced as the result of processing corn into fuel-grade ethanol at the nearby Archer Daniels Midland biofuels plant. The project has received funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

<http://energy.gov/articles/energy-department-applauds-nation-s-first-large-scale-industrial-carbon-capture-and-storage>

http://www.herald-review.com/news/local/article_7efe52e0-adbb-5f11-8ba1-5da4bc7ef120.html

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 25, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	84.26	83.56	70.97
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.10	3.98	4.07

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Peak of 20,000 PECO Customers Lose Power in Northeast Philadelphia, Pennsylvania after Substation Fire Damages a Circuit Breaker August 25 – All But 1,500-3,500 Now Restored

<http://www.peco.com/outagemap>

http://lancasteronline.com/article/ap/445511_20K-without-power-in-northeast-Philadelphia.html

Attempted Copper Theft at Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative's San Rafael Substation in Arizona Leaves About 1,000 SSVEC Customers without Power for Several Hours August 19

<http://www.douglasdispatch.com/articles/2011/08/24/news/doc4e552fdcf4227974344519.txt>

PRPA's 7-Mile, 230 kV Dixon-Horseshoe Transmission Line in Colorado Is Two-Thirds Built; City of Fort Collins Seeks to Delay Construction of Third Leg of Project

http://www.reporterherald.com/news/larimer-county/ci_18747334

Worker Dies after Falling from NextEra Energy Wind Turbine in Osceola County, Iowa August 22

<http://www.kcci.com/r/28955605/detail.html>

Emissions Reported at ExxonMobil's 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery August 24

Reuters, 00:20 August 25, 2011

State and Federal Inspections Find Up to One in Four Trucks Operating in Northwest North Dakota Are Not Safe to Drive – Most Inspected Vehicles Were Oil-Field Related Traffic

<http://www.chron.com/news/article/1-in-4-trucks-in-ND-oil-country-unfit-for-road-2137023.php>

Unknown Party Damages 6-Inch SDG&E Natural Gas Pipeline in California August 24, Causing Leak

<http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/2744253f2a34d66d882578f60080f6b0?OpenDocument>

State DEP Investigating Potential Contamination of Water Wells and a Pond Near Two Natural Gas Well Pads Operated by Cabot Oil & Gas in Pennsylvania August 23

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2011/08/dep_investigates_methane_conta.html

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/dep-investigating-methane-contamination-in-susquehanna-county-1.1192677#axzz1VxCKOCYw>

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 EDT every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EDT every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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