



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, August 28, 2007

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to over 81,000 Xcel Energy Customers in Minnesota August 28

Seventy-mile per hour winds from early morning storms in the Twin Cities metro area downed trees and power lines, causing the outages. Xcel Energy reported that about 22,700 customers were still without power as of 12:30 pm this afternoon.

http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=263435

<http://www.startribune.com/462/story/1386971.html>

Update: Exelon's 1,152 MW Braidwood Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Ramps Up to 99 Percent August 28

According to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's daily reactor status report, the unit was operating at 99 percent of capacity, up from 87 percent of capacity on August 27. The unit was manually tripped on the evening of August 23 after two circulating water pumps tripped offline. It is unclear whether thunderstorms affecting the area at the time were responsible for the shutdown.

Reuters, 07:17 August 28, 2007

Entergy's 684 MW Pilgrim Nuke Unit in Massachusetts Reduced to 79 Percent August 27

The company reduced the unit for a "thermal backwash" to clean the condenser. The unit should be back at full power by the end of the day.

Reuters, 07:09 August 28, 2007

Bloomberg News, 10:02 August 28, 2007

OPG's 515 MW Pickering Nuke Unit 8 in Ontario Ramps Up August 28

The unit was ramped up to 60 percent of capacity after exiting a 10-day outage.

Reuters, 14:20 August 28, 2007

AES's 232 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut August 27

Reuters, 14:21 August 28, 2007

Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Back at Full Power August 27

The unit exited and outage and returned to full power after being shut on August 25 for unplanned reasons.

Bloomberg News, 20:04 August 27, 2007

Wind Turbine Collapses at PPM Energy's Wind Power Project in Oregon August 25

The wind turbine tower collapse at the Klondike III wind project occurred as two workers performed a routine scheduled inspection. One employee was working at the top of the tower when it fell and was killed. A second employee was midway up the tower and received a minor injury. Investigators have begun an examination of the wreckage, looking for possible flaws in the tower's engineering. The wind project is expected to generate 221 megawatts of electricity when it's completed in late 2007.

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/329155_worker27.html

<http://www.oregonlive.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?base/news-21/1188289339287390.xml&storylist=orlocal>

Petroleum

Lightning Shuts FCCU at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 27 - Traders

Traders have informed Reuters that Total was restarting a fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) after a lightning strike at the refinery late on August 27. According to a filing with Texas regulators, the main blower on Unit 835 was shut down by a voltage interruption during a lightning/thunderstorm at 7:00 p.m. CST on August 27. The filing did not indicate whether Unit 835 was the FCCU.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=96623>

Reuters, 12:19 August 28, 2007

Update: Valero Says Coker Running at 60,000 b/d at Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 28

A spokesman for Valero Energy said that the refinery's coking unit was processing about 60,000 b/d of feedstocks, more than 40 percent below its capacity. Yesterday Reuters reported traders as saying that the unit was processing 80,000 b/d. The coking unit has been operating at reduced rates due to breakdown on August 16.

Bloomberg News, 10:26 August 28, 2007

Leak Shuts Compressor at ExxonMobil's 563,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery August 26

According to a filing with Texas regulators, work is underway to restart a flare gas recovery compressor, which was shut on August 26 due to a leak in a discharge line. The company said that the unit is expected to restart on August 28 and that the shutdown caused no impact to production.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=96615>

Trans Alaska Pipeline System Reconfiguration Project Causing Problems

According to U.S. officials and company executives, pump vibrations, power outages, and rising costs have arisen from Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.'s Strategic Reconfiguration project, which aims to modernize and automate the 30-year-old Trans Alaska Pipeline System. The project began in February. While company officials acknowledge the problems, they say the problems don't compromise pipeline operations. Federal pipeline officials say that welding work at more than 500 spots has been inspected and have checked out well, with only a few minor repairs needed, but say they will closely monitor Alyeska's work to make sure that rest of the project goes smoothly.

Alaska Governor Sarah Palin said the state wouldn't permit expansion of the automation project until Alyeska can prove the safety and performance of its equipment.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200708/Alaskan_Pipeline_Problems_Prompt_US_Exam_5648.aspx

Natural Gas

Propane Refrigeration System Shuts Down at Giddings 90 MMcf/d Gas Processing Plant in Texas August 27

According to a filing with Texas regulators, a malfunction affecting the inlet gas valve cut gas flow to the plant, causing the propane refrigeration system to shut down. Liquid propane had to be vented to the atmosphere in order to lower the level in the scrubber to restart the refrigeration system.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=96619>

Florida Gas Transmission Issues Shipper Alert for Pipeline System due to Heat August 28

<http://www.hottap.panhandleenergy.com/noticesDetails.do?co=FGT&priority=Y&identifier=24660¬iceType=6#24660>

ANR Pipeline Company Limits Storage Injections as Caverns Fill August 28

Effective gas day August 29, 2007 and until further notice ANR Pipeline Company (ANRPL) will restrict interruptible storage injections due to rising storage levels. Additionally the ANRPL is requiring some customers to reduce their remaining storage inventory volume to zero by October 31. The 10,500-mile ANR Pipeline has a peak-day delivery capacity of more than 6 Bcf and total underground storage capacity exceeding 200 Bcf.

<http://anrebb.elpaso.com/ebbANR/ebbmain.asp?sPipelineCode=ANR>

Reuters, 12:15 August 28, 2007

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 28, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	71.79	69.36	70.45
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.56	5.92	6.51

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

11,736 Atlantic City Electric Customers without Power as of 4:45 PM August 28

<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/outage/>

Armed Guard Found Asleep at Entergy's Indian Point Nuke Plant in New York

http://www.forbes.com/fdc/welcome_mjx.shtml

Update: Kidnapped Deputy Oil Minister Freed in Iraq August 28

Reuters, 06:38 August 28, 2007

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

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

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