



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, August 29, 2007

## **Electricity**

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### **California ISO May Issue Stage One Emergency Notice August 29**

According to a press release from the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) a stage one emergency notice may be issued due to record level electricity consumption during a heat wave. Stage One Alerts are issued when operating reserves are less than 6-7%. CAISO predicts today's peak demand to be 48,500 MW nearly 1,000 MW above forecast. CAISO's all-time record was set July 24, 2006 at 50,270 MW. According to CAISO's website it is considered "Needed" for customers to conserve energy and reduce demand during the peak hours of 12:00 – 18:00 PT. CAISO has also restricted maintenance operations in order to prevent unnecessary strain on the grid. CAISO spokesman, Gregg Fishman expected tomorrow's peak to be higher than today's reaching 49,572 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/1c48/1c48c83d22090.pdf>

<http://www.caiso.com/outlook/SystemStatus.html>

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200708281515.html>

[http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20070829/news\\_1n29electric.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20070829/news_1n29electric.html)

### **Update: AES's 498 MW Alamitos Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Ramps Up August 28**

The unit, which was unexpectedly shut on August 26, was operating with 23 MW of capacity idled as of 3:15 p.m. PDT on August 29.

Bloomberg 19:22 August 28, 2007

### **NRG's 335 MW El Segundo Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut August 28**

Reuters, 12:32 August 29, 2007

### **AEP's 1,016 MW Cook Nuke Unit 1 in Michigan Shut August 28**

According to an event notice filed with the NRC, the reactor automatically tripped off line due to low steam generator water after a malfunction of the main feedwater pump digital control system. All systems functioned as expected after the trip and no major components were out of service at the time of the trip.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2007/20070829en.html>

Reuters, 12:32 August 29, 2007

### **TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Briefly Shut August 29**

The company planned to shut the unit early August 29 to repair grounded electrostatic transformer rectifier control units. The outage was expected to last one hour.

Reuters, 08:04 August 29, 2007

### **Update: ComEd Completes Restoration to 630,000 Customers August 28 After Last Week's Destructive Storm**

On August 28, Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) reported in a press release that it had completed service restoration to the 630,000 customers that were without power at one time or another because of devastating thunderstorms that hit northern Illinois on the evening of August 23. At the peak, 310,000 customers were without service at one time. ComEd had restored 90 percent of the customers affected within the first 48 hours. Heavy thunderstorms broke poles, downed and snapped wires and toppled trees onto ComEd equipment. Some areas of the service territory received three or more inches of rain per hour, causing flooding that slowed the restoration effort. Utility crews had to clear trees from wires, replace poles and transformers and string miles of new power lines before electricity could be fully restored.

Reuters, 20:07 August 28, 2007

## **Ontario Power Authority Files Proposed 20-Year Plan for Province's Electricity System**

On August 29, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) filed an Integrated Power System Plan (IPSP) for 2008 to 2027 with the province's energy regulator, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). The plans goals are:

- A doubling of the amount of renewable energy on the grid by 2025,
- The phase-out of coal-fired generation by the end of 2014,
- The refurbishment or replacement of the province's baseload nuclear capacity,
- Transmission upgrades to achieve the policy and operational objectives of the Plan.

The IPSP will be updated every three years.

Press Release: <http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=6222>

Plan: [http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Storage/48/4395\\_B-1-1\\_FINAL\\_The\\_IPSP\\_2007-08-24\\_v26\\_gmd\\_.pdf](http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Storage/48/4395_B-1-1_FINAL_The_IPSP_2007-08-24_v26_gmd_.pdf)

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## **Petroleum**

### **Update: Two Reformer Units Restarted at Chevron's 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi Refinery Last Week**

Chevron Corp. said that it has restarted two gasoline reformer units at the refinery after an August 16 fire forced a partial shutdown at the refinery. The 160,000 b/d Crude Processing Unit No. 2, where damage from the fire was concentrated, remains shut. The company would not speculate on the extent of the repairs or the expected length of the outage. Traders say the refinery will be operating at 50 percent of capacity for three to four months.

Bloomberg News, 15:44 August

Reuters, 10:06 August 29, 2007

### **Companies to Build Airport to Serve Alberta Oil Sands Projects**

Suncor Energy, Husky Energy and Northern Lights Partnership are planning to build the Fort MacKay/Firebag Aerodome, an airport designed to transport employees and contractors to oil sands project sites during construction and operation. The airport is scheduled to be operational by the end of the 2007.

<http://www.synenco.com/pdf/NRAug27-SigningofAerodrome.pdf>

### **Late Summer Refinery Snags Showing Up in Recent EIA Data – Refinery Utilization Rate Down to 90.3 Percent**

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 11:54 August 29, 2007

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## **Natural Gas**

### **Florida Gas Transmission Extends Shipper Alert due to Heat August 29**

<http://www.hottap.panhandleenergy.com/noticesDetails.do?co=FGT&priority=Y&identifier=24680&noticeType=6#24680>

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## **Other News**

### **Update: Industry and Government Officials Meet to Address Potential Energy Labor Shortage**

Executives from the energy industry, officials from the U.S. Department of Labor, state leaders, and representatives from the construction and education fields participated in a two-day strategy planning session this week to address workforce needs in the industry. The concern is that an aging workforce (with an average industry age between 46 and 50 years and retirement expected shortly) could hamper industry growth, which includes 31 proposed nuclear plants, 3,500 miles of transmission lines, additional equipment to current plants, etc. The officials' recruitment and retention ideas include enlisting retirement-age employees to stay in their jobs longer or to transition to a job teaching new recruits.

<http://www.sunherald.com/business/story/129508.html>

## New Technology Developed to Address Pipeline Pigging Problems

In response to aging infrastructure and deeper, more remote new field developments making it difficult for intelligent pigs to inspect pipeline integrity. New technology to provide inspection solutions and project management for pipeline inspection projects ranging up to 10 km in length has been developed. With the current focus on subsea field development, modifying the pipelines for easier inspection is gaining importance as is using technology that can inspect unpiggable pipelines.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200708/Pigging\\_New\\_Technology\\_Paving\\_Way\\_for\\_S\\_5665.asp](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200708/Pigging_New_Technology_Paving_Way_for_S_5665.asp)  
[x](#)

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 29, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	73.29	69.63	69.70
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	5.64	5.84	6.24

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Substation Explosion and Fire Knocks Out Power to 5,000 - 8,000 Progress Energy Customers in Florida

<http://www.theledger.com/article/20070828/NEWS/708280405/1004>  
<http://www.tbo.com/news/metro/MGBIEPIQV5F.html>

### Storms Knock Out Power 11,800 WPSC Customers in Wisconsin August 28

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070828/WDH0101/70828214>

### Update: Clearwater Port's License Application for LNG Import Terminal in California Determined Complete August 28

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/08-28-2007/0004652956&EDATE>

### TransCanada to Expand Unit 4 Refurbishment on Bruce A Restart Project; Will Add 1,500 MW to Ontario Power Grid by Late 2009-2010

<http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/070829/0296204.html>

### Update: Total Oil Worker Released August 27; Taken Hostage in Nigeria August 1

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=49494](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=49494)

### Murray Energy Temporarily Idles Tower Mine in Utah Due to Seismic Activity

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6447882.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

### Update: Vermont Yankee Nuke Union Workers Vote to Ratify Three-year Contract, Ending Strike Threat

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=8803590](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8803590)

**Update: NRC Special Inspection Team to Assess and Inspect Unit 1 Valve Failure at Brunswick Nuclear Plant in North Carolina**

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=8803463](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8803463)

**U.S. EPA Asking Ameren to Expand Investigation of PCB-Contaminated Liquids Found in Natural Gas Distribution Systems**

<http://www.wqad.com/Global/story.asp?S=6991823&nav=1sW7>

**California Regulators Order Big West Oil to Clean Up Contaminated Soil, Groundwater Beneath Bakersfield Refinery August 29**

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/08/28/ap4061831.html>

## **Links**

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***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](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](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)