



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, September 14, 2011

Electricity

Wind Works Power Enters Permitting Process for 150 MW Thunder Spirit Wind Project in North Dakota

Wind Works Power submitted a letter of intent with the North Dakota Public Service Commission to enter the permitting process for the 150 MW Thunder Spirit wind energy project located in North Dakota. Wind Works expects to start construction in 2012. The Thunder Spirit wind farm is expected to connect into the Midwest ISO power market after completion of an Interconnection Agreement.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/6d4d03495dd849e38d35b8dca7dc854d/ND--Hettinger-Wind-Farm/>

PSE&G's 1,096 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Ramped Up to 60 Percent by September 14

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at 41 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Ramped Up to 97 Percent by September 14

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at 76 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

TVA's 1,126 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Unit 2 in Tennessee Ramped Up to 75 Percent by September 14

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at 65 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuclear Unit 1 in Ohio at Full Power by September 14

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at 64 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Condensing Unit Trips Off at OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Plant in Nebraska September 13

The problem rendered the Technical Support Center at the Omaha Public Power District's plant unavailable for emergency planning responses. The cause of the trip and impact on plant output are unknown.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110914en.html>

Cate Street Capital and Starwood Energy to Begin Construction of 75 MW Biomass Wood-Fired Plant in Berlin, New Hampshire for Operation by Late 2013, September 13

According to press releases Tuesday, Cate Street Capital and Starwood Energy Group will immediately begin construction of the Berlin Station biomass power plant, which will sell power to the Public Service of New Hampshire. The plant will burn approximately 750,000 tons of wood per year and is expected to generate power by late 2013.

<http://catecapital.com/ViewNews/Cate-Street-Capital-Closes-Financing-On-Berlin-Station>

http://www.starwoodenergygroup.com/UploadedImages/Starwood_Press_Release_Berlin_v9_14_11_-_FINAL.pdf

Eastern Nebraska Public Power to Implement Smart Grid-Based Distribution System in Stanton and Cuming Counties, Nebraska

The Eastern Nebraska Public Power District Consortium (ENPPDC) plans to procure wireless communications hardware, supervisory control and data acquisition software (SCADA), distribution automation software, intelligent reclosers and controls, automated regulator controls, and irrigation load control devices. The smart grid concept is to connect redundant operation centers to substations and downline devices in a 1,000 square mile area of Stanton and Cuming Counties, Nebraska, increasing system visibility for customer outages and reducing the time required to restore services.

<http://www.ruggedcom.com/about/news/pages/09.13.11/>

AES's 496 MW Redondo Beach Gas-Fired Unit 8 in California Reduced by 130 MW September 13

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment on September 13, reducing capacity from 496 to 365 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201109131515.html>

Petroleum

PEMEX Shuts-In 1.3M b/d in Gulf of Mexico Due to Tropical Storm Nate Last Week; Production Back to Normal September 13

After the September 7–11 closure of Mexico's largest fields, Ku Maloob Zaap and Cantarell, operations are back to normal. Ku Maloob Zaap field has resumed production of 851,000 b/d, and Cantarell is averaging 464,000 b/d. Reuters, 21:44 September 13

Shell Considers Building 900,000 b/d Westward Ho Pipeline to Connect Louisiana Crude to Texas Markets by Early 2015

Shell Pipeline Company may build Westward Ho Pipeline to enable the distribution of crude from Louisiana markets to Texas markets by early 2015, pending customer commitments and regulatory approval. The pipeline's planned capacity is 900,000 b/d of crude.

Reuters, 10:30 September 14, 2011

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27881

Kinder Morgan and Valero to Jointly Build 110,000 b/d Parkway Pipeline to Transport Petroleum Products from Norco, Louisiana Refineries to Hub in Collins, Mississippi by Mid-2013

The 136-mile, 16-inch pipeline will transport petroleum products from refineries in Norco, Louisiana, to a petroleum transportation hub in Collins, Mississippi. The pipeline, which is expected to be completed in mid-2013, will have the ability to expand from 110,000 b/d to more than 200,000 b/d.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/new-220-million-kinder-morgan-valero-pipeline-will-expand-fuel-supply-to-southeast-united-states-2011-09-14>

Chevron Shuts-In 15,000 b/d of Crude Oil Output in U.S. Gulf of Mexico Due to Pipeline Leak September 13

Chevron told news sources Tuesday that it shut its offshore Louisiana Main Pass pipeline network and its Cypress pipeline in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico due to a leak resulting from equipment failure. The company expected production to resume by Wednesday evening. The Cypress pipeline feeds the Empire terminal on the Mississippi River in Louisiana, which handles between 230,000 and 275,000 b/d. It is unclear whether feeds into the terminal were disrupted by the leak.

http://www.thestreet.com/story/11248192/1/chevron-shuts-down-gulf-of-mexico-pipeline-after-leak.html?cm_ver=GOOGLN

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Chevron+reports+potential+Gulf+Mexico+leak/5396995/story.html>

Natural Gas

Sasol Plans to Build 2–4 Million Ton/Yr. Gas-to-Liquids Facility to Convert Natural Gas into Diesel Fuel in Louisiana September 13

Sasol announced Tuesday that it plans to build a 2–4 million ton/yr. plant in Louisiana that would convert natural gas into diesel fuel for trucks and other vehicles. Sasol will conduct a feasibility study to evaluate the viability of a gas-to-liquid venture in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

http://www.sasol.com/sasol_internet/frontend/navigation.jsp?articleId=31200001&navid=4&rootid=4

DCP Midstream Experiences Problems at Plant, Unable to Handle Produced Gas from XTO Energy Russell Compressor Station in Texas, September 13

Flaring is being used until the equipment can be repaired. The station is scheduled to return to normal operations September 16.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159127>

Other News

Aventine Postpones Start Up of 38 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant in Canton, Illinois until 2012 Due to Technical and Weather-Related Delays September 12

Aventine Renewable Energy announced Monday that it is delaying the start-up of an ethanol plant in Canton, Illinois due to delays in obtaining third-party technical and engineering support and the upcoming winter weather. The plant was originally scheduled for production beginning in October 2011 and is now expected to start up in early 2012.

http://www.aventinerei.com/pdfs/Canton_Delayed_Startup_Press_Release_Aventine%20Final.pdf

<http://www.aventinerei.com/pdfs/Aventine%20Completes%20Acquisition%20of%20Canton%20IL%20Ethanol%20Plant.pdf>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 3, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	90.21	86.02	75.68
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.96	3.93	3.98

Source: Reuters

SMUD Selling 128 MW Solano 3 Wind Energy Project near Rio Vista, California to Qualify for Stimulus Funds September 13

<http://www.sacbee.com/2011/09/13/3905157/srud-selling-wind-energy-project.html>
<http://www.sacbee.com/2011/09/04/3881463/businesses-put-wind-to-work.html>

NRC Conducts Special Inspection of Xcel Energy's 578 MW Monticello Nuclear Unit in Minnesota in Response to a Problem with Fire Protection Sprinkler System September 13

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2011/09/13/nrc-inspecting-monticello-nuclear-power-plant/>

Pipe Leak and Compressor Shutdown Result in Emissions Release at Citgo Petroleum's 167,000 b/d Refinery in Lemont, Illinois September 13

Reuters, 11:14 September 14, 2011

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2011/09/14/us-refinery-status-citgo-reports-compressor-shutdown-at-illinois-refinery/>

Equipment Malfunction Causes Flaring at Valero's 132,000 b/d Benicia Refinery in California September 13

<http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201109131746dowjonesdjonline000353&title=valero-reports-malfunction-at-benicia-refinery-filing>

Maintenance at Hydrocracking Unit Causes Emissions Release at PBF Energy's 193,000 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery September 9

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2011/09/12/us-refinery-status-planned-work-underway-at-chalmette-la-refinery/>

Update: U.S. Coast Guard Responds to Crude Oil Spill from Orphaned Platform in Bayou Dupont and North Barataria Bay, Louisiana, Investigates Cause September 13

<http://www.katc.com/news/coast-guard-responds-to-reports-of-crude-oil-in-bayou-dupont/>

Southern Star Holds Non-Binding Open Season for Additional Natural Gas Transportation Capacity to Serve Canadian Blackwell Expansion in Western Oklahoma and Texas September 13

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27867
http://www.sscgp.com/News/Canadian_Blackwell_Expansion_Press_Release.pdf

Upset Furnace Conditions Resulted in Emissions at Marshall Gas Plant in Texas September 13

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159167>

Total Reports Flaring at Its 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery September 13

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159166>

Unknown Amount of Ethanol Leaks from Two Overturned Tank Cars after Train Derailment in Hitchcock, Texas September 13

<http://www.khou.com/news/local/Ethanol-leak-from-train-derailment-in-Hitchcock-prompts-evacuations-129792128.html>
<http://blog.chron.com/newswatch/2011/09/fuel-leak-after-derailment-forces-evacuations/>

FPL Plans to Build a 300-Mile Natural Gas Pipeline from Bradford County to Martin County, Florida

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/money/fpl-begins-to-pursue-natural-gas-pipeline-1848900.html>

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

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. EDT. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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