



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, September 14, 2015

Electricity

PG&E Supporting First Responders, Assessing Impacts to Electric Grid; Approximately 12,800 Customers Impacted by Wildfires in California

According to a company press release, crews from Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) worked through the weekend to support first responders in fighting the Valley, Butte, and Rough wildfires in Northern and Central California. The Valley Fire, burning in Lake County about 100 miles north of San Francisco, has impacted PG&E infrastructure in the burn area, causing a disruption in service to 7,100 PG&E customers. The Butte Fire, which has raged in Amador and Calaveras counties since last Wednesday, has damaged PG&E power lines and poles, causing power outages to approximately 5,600 customers. The utility was able to restore power to 5,000 customers in Pine Grove by providing temporary generation. PG&E now projects to restore power to affected customers later this week, although this is dependent on variables like the treacherous terrain and the movement of the fire. The Rough Fire has burned 130,000 acres in Fresno County, and currently there are 65 PG&E customers without power in areas that are under mandatory evacuation orders from fire officials. In all, there are approximately 12,800 customers without power, and many of those are under mandatory evacuation from their homes and businesses. More than 500 PG&E personnel are involved in battling these outages, with additional emergency repair crews steadily arriving. Assessment and restoration times are being impacted by the ability to safely access local affected areas. The company was not able to provide an estimated time of restoration to all affected customers at the time of the press release.

<http://www.pge.com/outages>

<http://www.twitter.com/pge4me>

http://www.pge.com/en/about/newsroom/newsdetails/index.page?title=20150913_pge_supporting_first_responders_on_three_major_wildfires_assessing_impacts_to_portions_of_the_electric_grid

Wildfire Knocks Out 230-kV Transmission Line in Washington; Local Utilities Restore Power to Nearly 4,000 Customers Later That Day – September 13

A wildfire burning on the Oregon/Washington border near Wallula, Washington on Sunday knocked out a 230-kV transmission line to the Hat Rock substation at about 1:45 p.m. local time, shutting down Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) substations east and south of Hermiston and leaving about 3,950 UEC and Hermiston Energy customers without power. Crews switched the loads to a McNary substation and power was restored by about 3:30 p.m.

www.eastoregonian.com/eo/local-news/20150913/fire-at-washington-border-closes-highway-knocks-out-power

<https://www.umatillaelectric.com/wallula-junction-fire-touches-off-hermiston-area-outage-sept-13-2015/>

PSEG Restores Power to More Than 2,000 Customers after Transformer Fire in New Jersey September 13

Power has been restored to more than 2,000 customers after a transformer fire broke out at a Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) substation in Waldwick, New Jersey on Sunday morning. The fire forced the evacuation of several homes. The utility reported that an equipment failure at the substation knocked out power to parts of several Bergen County communities, including Hillsdale, Westwood, and Woodcliff Lake.

<http://pix11.com/2015/09/13/transformer-fire-at-waldwick-n-j-substation-leaves-2000-without-power/>

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Transformer-Fire-Causes-Power-Outages-in-NJ-327192771.html>

Southern's 856 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Reduced to 84 Percent by September 14

On the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at full power.

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

DTE Shuts 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan September 13 after Loss of Cooling Water

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that at 11:05 p.m. ET on September 13, a manual scram was initiated in response to a loss of all Turbine Building Closed Cooling Water (TBCCW). Investigation into the loss of TBCCW continues. No safety-related equipment was out of service at the time of the event. All offsite power sources were adequate and available throughout the duration of the event.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150914en.html>

TVA's 1,125 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Unit 1 in Tennessee Shut by September 14

On the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Shut by September 14

On the morning of September 13 the unit was operating at 87 percent.

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

Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Reduced to 63 Percent by September 13

On the morning of September 12 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Duke Energy's 1,100 MW McGuire Nuclear Unit 2 in North Carolina Reduced to 2 Percent by September 12

On the morning of September 11 the unit was operating at 94 percent.

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

AES's 179 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Shut by September 13

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509131515.html>"

Update: Mirant's 317 MW Pittsburg Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by September 12

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on September 9.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509091515.html>

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509121515.html>

Mirant's 530 MW Pittsburg Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Shut by September 11

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509111515.html>

RRI Energy's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by September 12

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509121515.html>"

PG&E's 144 MW Haas Aggregate Hydro Units 1 and 2 in California Shut by September 12

The units entered unplanned outages.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509121515.html>"

Update: Cabrillo Power's 110 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by September 11

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began September 10.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509101515.html>

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509111515.html>

Abengoa's 250 MW Mojave Solar Unit in California Reduced by September 11

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 125 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509111515.html>"

Update: PHMSA Issues Probable Violation Notice to Plains Pipeline for Inadequacies Observed Prior to Santa Barbara Crude Oil Spill Last May

The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on Friday released a notice indicating Plains Pipeline, L.P. committed probable violations of the pipeline safety regulations prior to the crude oil spill from Line 901 and Line 903 on May 19, 2015, in Santa Barbara County, California. PHMSA says Plains did not maintain adequate documentation of pressure tests as part of its baseline assessment plan for its seven breakout tanks at the Pentland station in Kern County; did not present evidence of past pressure tests performed on the breakout tanks to the inspection team; and did not adequately document its annual review of its emergency response training program. These findings and probable violations were determined prior to the May 19 crude oil spill. Enforcement actions based on the findings of that accident investigation will be issued at a later date. In Friday's notice, PHMSA issued a proposed compliance order and has asked Plains to submit all documentation for actions completed within 45 days. Reuters, 17:57 September 11, 2015

http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/Files/520155019_NOPV_PCO_09112015.pdf

Update: PBF Restarts FCCU at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery September 11 – Source

PBF Energy Inc began restarting a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) on Friday at its Delaware City refinery, sooner than initially expected, according to a source familiar with the plant's operations. The 82,000 b/d FCCU was shut on August 21 following a fire that damaged two compressors. The unit was initially expected to be shut for a month.

Reuters, 13:29 September 11, 2015

Update: Shell Extinguishes Small Flange Fire at Its 316,600 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery September 11

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported it extinguished a small flange fire at its Deer Park, Texas manufacturing complex on Friday morning, according to a message with a community line information system. Operators had reported the fire on Thursday night. There were no injuries and the incident was under investigation, a company spokesman said. The facility houses a 316,600 b/d refinery and a chemical plant, but the company did not identify the location of the fire. Reuters, 17:05 September 11, 2015

Valero Reports Emissions at Its 168,000 b/d McKee, Texas Refinery after Power Blip Shuts ESP Unit September 13

Valero reported that emissions from its McKee refinery on Sunday morning were caused by a loss of power to the electrostatic precipitator (ESP). Refinery personnel restored power to the ESP and restarted the fields accordingly.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220125>

Sulfur Recovery Unit Upset Leads to Flaring at Phillips 66's 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery September 11

Chevron Phillips on Friday reported an upset at the Phillips 66 refinery Unit 34 had resulted in off-specification material being sent to the Chevron Phillips Borger Chemical Plant. Unit 34 is a sulfur recovery unit. Once aware of the refinery unit upset, operators at the chemical plant shut-in the refinery feed and attempted to process the off-spec hydrogen sulfide to minimize the subsequent flaring event.

Reuters, 15:33 September 11, 2015

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220085>

Instrumentation Malfunction Leads to Emissions at Delek's 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery September 13

Delek reported emissions from the No. 9 boiler stack at its Tyler, Texas refinery on Sunday morning were due to an instrumentation malfunction.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220113>

Tesoro Reports Normal Operations at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery September 14 after Unspecified Unit Shutdown

Tesoro reports it has safely resumed normal operations at the Martinez, California refinery following maintenance and an unspecified unit upset over the weekend.

Reuters, 11:03 September 14, 2015

Shell Reports Cogeneration Unit 3 Shutdown at Its 145,000 b/d Puget Sound, Washington Refinery September 7

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported cogeneration Unit 3 at its Puget Sound, Washington refinery shut down on September 7, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency that was made public on September 11.

Reuters, 19:14 September 11, 2015

Storage Tank Vandalism Causes Small Oil Spill in Ohio September 11

Dart Oil Co. reported about 60 barrels of crude oil and brine were released after a 3-inch valve was removed from a storage tank in Sandy Township, Ohio late last week. Officials were not sure whether the spill was the result of an attempted theft or an act of vandalism. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil and Gas and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency are monitoring the situation with representatives at the site.

<http://www.timesreporter.com/article/20150913/NEWS/150919705>

North Dakota Oil Output Down Slightly in July – State Regulators

North Dakota's daily oil production fell less than 1 percent in July, state regulators said on Monday, a drop far less than many feared and one showing the state's Bakken shale formation could continue pumping high volumes of crude for the foreseeable future despite sliding prices. The state had an output of 1,201,920 b/d in July, down from 1,211,328 b/d in June, according to the Department of Mineral Resources, which reports on a two-month lag.

Reuters, 11:54 September 14, 2015

Natural Gas

PennTex Midstream Partners' 200 MMcf/d Mt. Olive Natural Gas Processing Plant Placed Into Service by September 14

PennTex Midstream Partners, LP on Monday announced that its Mt. Olive gas processing plant and related residue gas and natural gas liquids (NGL) pipelines have been completed and placed into service, increasing the Partnership's natural gas processing capacity to 400 MMcf/d in the Terryville Complex in northern Louisiana.

Located near Ruston, LA, the Mt. Olive facility consists of a 200 MMcf/d cryogenic natural gas processing plant with onsite liquids handling facilities for inlet gas as well as additional residue gas and NGL pipelines. The 14-mile residue gas pipeline has throughput capacity of approximately 400 MMcf/d and provides market access for residue natural gas from the partnering processing plants. The 41-mile NGL pipeline has throughput capacity of more than 36,000 b/d and provides NGL transportation to downstream markets.

<http://investors.penntex.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=931359>

Other News

Coast Guard Closes Section of Mississippi River after Barge Incident September 11

The U.S. Coast Guard on Friday said it had closed a section of the Mississippi River in response to barges breaking away from their tow near Vicksburg, Mississippi late Thursday. The waterway was closed from mile marker 469 to mile marker 459 after 25 barges carrying grain and corn broke free of their tow, the agency said. The Coast Guard said southbound vessels were allowed to transit during daylight hours while northbound vessels would be allowed to transit at 7:00 p.m. local time. The Mississippi River is a major transportation route for petroleum vessels providing access to terminals and refineries in the Gulf Coast and Midwest.

Reuters, 17:57 September 11, 2015

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices September 14, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	44.02	46.44	92.89
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.66	2.67	3.93

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>

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