



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, September 17, 2009

Electricity

STP's 1,251 MW South Texas Nuke Unit 1 in Texas Shut by September 17

South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co. (STP) shut the unit to repair its extraction steam system, the company said in a statement on September 16. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at full power.

Bloomberg News, 10:11 September 17, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 76 Percent by September 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuke Unit 2 in Pennsylvania at Full Power by September 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at 90 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Update: DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuke Unit 2 in Michigan at Full Power by September 17

DTE reduced the unit to repair a cooling water system, a company spokesman said on September 16. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at 45 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:11 September 17, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

SCE's 1,070 MW San Onofre Nuke Unit 2 in California Ramped Up to 60 Percent by September 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was not operating.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

West Virginia Utilities Shut Coal-fired Power Plants on Lagging Demand

West Virginia utilities have shut multiple coal-fired power plants as mild weather and poor economic conditions stunt demand, company officials said. Allegheny Energy's 2,000 MW John E. Amos coal-fired facility has been down "for a couple of weeks," a spokesman said September 14. Two other Allegheny facilities—the 1,100 MW Fort Martin plant and 1,300 MW Pleasants station—have been offline, at times. AEP's Appalachian Power said it, too, had experienced shutdowns.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=66720>

Update: ITC Holdings Says National Renewable Energy Station Would Help Spur Development of Planned 3,000-mile, North Dakota-to-Indiana Green Power Express Transmission Line

ITC Holdings said it could build segments of the line without a national renewable energy standard, but that such a requirement would spur full development. The high-voltage line is intended to deliver wind-derived power from the U.S. Plains to cities like Chicago, Illinois, according to a news source.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=adAoazHATJRw>

California On Pace to Increase Solar Power by 120 Percent in 2009

California is on pace to increase its solar power capacity by 120 percent in 2009, even as global panel installations decline by 27 percent, a research report said on September 16. The state's installations are slated to jump another 68 percent in 2010, as global panel capacity increases by 54 percent, according to the report.

Reuters, 18:03 September 16, 2009

Petroleum

Update: Shell Reopens 155,000 b/d Muskeg River Oilsands Mine in Alberta, Canada September 16—Protesters Forced Facility Offline Briefly

Shell restarted its 155,000 b/d Muskeg River oilsands mine in Alberta, Canada on September 16, about six hours after protesters forced the facility offline, a spokesman said. Operators resumed full production within a few hours of the restart, according to the spokesman. Twenty-five environmental protesters, criticizing plans for "dirty oil-sands growth," chained together pickup trucks and barricaded a dump truck and hydraulic shovel, Greenpeace Canada said previously. Shell said it shut production to protect both its employees and the protesters.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Greenpeace+activists+enter+oilsands+protest/2000556/story.html>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=a98tRNZ1.NMU>

Exchanger Leak at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery September 15

Operators stopped a leak in an exchanger related to a gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery September 15-16. The incident resulted in flaring.

Bloomberg News, 16:28 September 16, 2009

BP Resumes Normal Operations after Equipment Fault at 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery by September 17

BP resumed normal operations at its 265,000 b/d Carson, California refinery by September 17, one day after an unspecified equipment malfunction, according to a source familiar with the facility's operations. The incident did not significantly impact production, the source said.

Reuters, 11:56 September 17, 2009

Exxon Mobil Resuming Normal Operations after FCC Malfunction at 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery September 14-17

Exxon Mobil began resuming normal operations by September 17, a few days after operators took offline a gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) for repairs, a spokesman said. The company "experienced an issue with the FCC" as it performed planned work on a diesel hydrotreater, according to the spokesman. "All customer needs are being met," he said.

Reuters, 10:48 September 17, 2009

Update: Chavez Says Russia and China Ventures to Produce Combined 900,000 b/d of Oil from Orinoco Fields in Venezuela

Venezuela and China expect to jointly develop oilfields in the Venezuelan Orinoco Belt, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on September 16. The project, paired with a separate, recently-announced Venezuela/Russia joint venture, will produce a combined 900,000 b/d of oil, according to Chavez. Chavez plans to complete the Chinese agreement in October 2009.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=80240

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090911-704186.html>

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601086&sid=aR9vgkncL_A4

Ivanhoe Energy's Reports Estimated 6.4 Billion Barrels of Oil at Pungarayacu Heavy Oilfield in Ecuador

Ivanhoe Energy's Pungarayacu heavy-oil field in Ecuador holds a Best Estimate of 6.4 billion barrels of original oil-in-place, according to industry consultant Gaffney, Cline & Associates. Ivanhoe Energy and Ecuadorian state oil companies Petrocaudor and Petroproduccion previously agreed to jointly explore and develop the field, Ivanhoe Energy said in a release. The company did not say when it expected to begin production.

http://www.ivanhoe-energy.com/i/pdf/2009-09-16_NRC.pdf

Natural Gas

American Exploration Corp.'s Haynesville Shale, Louisiana Leases Hold More than 2 Tcf of Estimated Natural Gas Reserves—Schlumberger

American Exploration Corp. Haynesville Shale, Louisiana leases contain estimated gas reserves of at least 300 Bcf/section, or more than 2 Tcf total, according to a Schlumberger analysis.

<http://www.americanexplorationcorp.com/pdf/AmExplore-NR-09-15-2009.pdf>

Other News

Ever Cat Fuels LLC Opens 3 MMGal/Yr. Biodiesel Plant in Isanti, Minnesota September 11—Company Expects to Expand Facility to 33 MMGal/Yr

Ever Cat Fuels opened its 3 MMGal/Yr. biodiesel plant in Isanti, Minnesota on September 11, and said it expected to expand the site's capacity to 33 MMGal/Yr. in the next three years, a news source reported. The facility use no water or chemicals, and creates no waste products, the source said.

http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=3719

Train Derails in Tennessee, Spilling Nearly 6,000 Gallons of Ethanol September 15

A train derailed in North Knoxville, Tennessee, overturning five cars and spilling nearly 6,000 gallons of ethanol on September 15, sources reported. Emergency responders returned the cars to the tracks by September 16, but cleanup crews continued to work at the site, according to latest reports. The train had been en route to the Coster Shop in North Knoxville; Norfolk Southern initiated the delivery in Chicago, Illinois, a news source said. Sources gave no cause for the derailment.

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33362/>

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33352/>

Big River Resources Holds Opening Ceremony at 100 MMGal/Yr. Galva, Illinois Ethanol Plant September 14

Big River Resources began production in June, but held a ribbon cutting ceremony at its 100 MMGal/Yr. Galva, Illinois ethanol plant on September 14.

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33363/>

Fire Forces Shut Didion Ethanol Plant in Cambria, Wisconsin September 14

The fire began in "equipment used to clean air emissions," a news source reported. The company expected to keep the facility offline for about two days as it performed repairs and investigated the incident, according to a Didion official. No one was injured, the official said.

<http://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/business/464627>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices September 17, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	72.36	71.56	93.53
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.28	2.72	7.76

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Tucson Electric Power Plans 25 MW Photovoltaic Array, 5 MW Concentrating Solar Power Plant in Arizona

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/TEP-Unveils-Plans-for-Giant-bw-1543933027.html?x=0&.v=1>

Vineland Solar One Partnership, SunPower Corp Complete 2.3 MW of Planned 4.1 MW Solar Power System in New Jersey September 17

http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/09-17-2009/0005095813&EDATE=

Maryland Energy Administration Seeks Developers' Interest in Possible Windmills Offshore State September 15

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/green/bal-md.windmill16sep16,0,7774897.story>

NRC Says 18 of 172 Sirens Fail in Emergency Test System at Entergy Nuclear's Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant in New York September 16

<http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=11142999>

Tullow Oil Says Ngassa-2 Development could be Largest Find in Uganda—Analyst Raises Field Estimate to 600 Million Boe of Oil

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090917-704468.html>

Update: Chevron Returns Cook Inlet, Alaska Oil Production to about 6,000 b/d, or Approximately 75 Percent of Prior Total—Mount Redoubt Volcanic Eruptions Forced Offline Production in Spring 2009

http://www.peninsulaclarion.com/stories/091609/new_493113018.shtml

Update: Affirming Previous Prediction, OPEC Expects Global Oil Demand to Fall Slightly in 2009, Rise in 2010

http://www.ogi.com/index/article-display/0285609526/s-articles/s-oil-gas-journal/s-general-interest-2/s-economics-markets/s-2009/s-09/s-opec-sees_world_oil.html

Envion Opens 50,000 Barrel/Year Plastic-to-Oil Converter in Maryland by September 14—Company Says Installations on National Scale Could Yield More than 150 Million Barrels of Oil/Year

<http://washington.bizjournals.com/washington/stories/2009/09/14/daily57.html>

Brazilian Oil Reserves to Last for 50 Years—Nation Expects to Double Oil Production to 3.8 Million b/d within 10 Years, Energy Minister Says September 16

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=80412

Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkmenistan Leaders Plan Kazakhstan-Caspian Transportation System to Deliver Oil from Kazakhstan to Existing BTC Pipeline

http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Central_Asia/KI18Ag01.html

MGM Energy Corp. Delays Arctic Natural Gas Drilling Plans on Delays to Proposed Mackenzie Pipeline from Northwest Territories to Alberta, Canada

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5hBxXeItO4ufH4yKgubIAVupJA7fA>

GreenField Ethanol Plans Expansion at Recently-Opened 53 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant in Ontario, Canada

<http://www.canada.com/Ontario+ethanol+plant+picks+steam/1984036/story.html>

DTE to Convert Demolished, Flood-Damaged Iowa Homes into Electricity at Biomass-fired Power Plant in Michigan

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/2533042/>

Kinder Morgan, Energy Transfer Partners Receives FERC Approval for Planned Expansion along 507-mile, Oklahoma-to-Alabama Midcontinent Express Natural Gas Pipeline by September 17

Bloomberg News, 10:46 September 17, 2009

Update: State Board of Public Utilities Approves South Jersey Gas' Planned 15-Mile Natural Gas Pipeline in New Jersey September 16

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/business/article_c5b1934e-a33c-11de-86d5-001cc4c002e0.html

Turbine Slowdown, Flaring at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas September 16

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129518>

Power Outage Forces Shut Seminole Booster Station in Texas September 16

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129520>

Equipment Malfunction at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas September 16

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129536>

Operators Plan Engine Shutdown on Equipment Issues at Keystone Gas Plant in Texas September 16-17

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129531>

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.

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/ead.aspx>

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