



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, September 17, 2015

## ***Electricity***

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### **Tree Contact with PG&E Power Line May Have Ignited Butte Fire – PG&E, CAL FIRE**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) on Wednesday said that it was cooperating fully with an investigation by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) into the source of ignition for the Butte Fire. In a CAL FIRE incident briefing, a PG&E executive said that while the company did not have all the facts yet, a tree may have contacted a PG&E power line in the vicinity of the ignition point. The company is cooperating fully with CAL FIRE in an investigation of whether this could have been a source of ignition for the Butte Fire. As part of its support for CAL FIRE's investigation, the company is reviewing its inspection and patrol data for 2014 and 2015 in the area and will be sharing the results of those inspections and patrols with CAL FIRE.

[http://www.pge.com/en/about/newsroom/newsdetails/index.page?title=20150916\\_pge\\_cooperating\\_fully\\_with\\_cal\\_fire\\_investigation\\_of\\_butte\\_fire\\_ignition](http://www.pge.com/en/about/newsroom/newsdetails/index.page?title=20150916_pge_cooperating_fully_with_cal_fire_investigation_of_butte_fire_ignition)

### **PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 2 in California Ramped Up to 97 Percent by September 17**

On the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at 50 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 79 Percent by September 17**

On the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at 95 percent.

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

### **AES's 336 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 4 and 498 MW Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Return to Service by September 16**

AES reported that Alamos Unit 4 returned from an unplanned outage, and Unit 5 returned from an unplanned curtailment of 158 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509161515.html>

### **RRI Energy's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by September 16**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201509161515.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Marathon Reports FCCU Pump Malfunction, Flaring at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery September 17**

Marathon Petroleum Corp reported that flaring from its Galveston Bay refinery was due to a malfunction involving the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) No. 1, according to filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators reset the transformers and resumed normal operation.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220295>

### **Update: Flint Hills Reports SRU Shutdown at Its 290,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery September 15**

Flint Hills Resources reported that on September 15 an emission event occurred at its West Refinery as a result of the shutdown of the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) No. 2, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Due to the shutdown, acid gas that would normally be treated at the SRU was flared. In response, operators expedited the restart of the SRU No. 3, which had been in the process of being shut down for maintenance activities.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220246>

### **LyondellBasell Reports Line Leak on HDS Unit, Flaring at Its 263,776 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery September 17**

LyondellBasell Industries reported a line leak on the 633 hydro-desulfurization unit (HDS) resulted in flaring. Reuters, 15:33 September 17, 2015

### **Shell Shuts Its 200,000 b/d San Pablo Bay Pipeline after Small Crude Spill near San Francisco, California September 17**

Shell Pipeline on Thursday said it shut its 200,000 b/d San Pablo Bay pipeline system in Tracy, California after a spill of about 500 barrels was discovered from a segment of the line. A release was confirmed from a segment about half a mile away from the Tracy pump station, the company said, noting there were no immediate waterways, residences, or businesses in the area. The company did not confirm if supply to any refineries in the area was affected due to the shutdown. The 24-inch pipeline runs from Coalinga, California to refineries in the San Francisco Bay Area, the company said. Legal documents indicated that refineries operated by Royal Dutch Shell and Tesoro Corp in Martinez, and by Valero Energy Corp in Benicia, receive crude shipped from Chevron Corp's production operations near Bakersfield through the affected pipeline.

Reuters, 15:12 September 17, 2015

### **Update: Nexen Energy Resumes Full Production at Its Long Lake, Alberta Oil Sands Facility by September 17**

Nexen Energy ULC said on Thursday that it has resumed full production at its Long Lake oil sands and upgrader facility in northern Alberta after regulators amended a pipeline suspension order. The Alberta Energy Regulator last month ordered Nexen to shut-in 95 pipelines at the Long Lake facility as part of an investigation into a pipeline spill discovered in July. Nexen said the AER lifted the suspension order on 10 pipelines on Wednesday. That move was in addition to a September 6 amendment to the suspension that allowed the company to restart 40 pipelines and maintain about 75 percent of production. The two orders together mean the Long Lake facility can return to full production. It was producing around 50,000 b/d of synthetic crude before the July spill. A further 45 pipelines, which Nexen said are not currently required for operations, remain closed "until Nexen can demonstrate that the pipelines can be operated safely and within all requirements," the AER said in a statement on Wednesday. The investigation into the Nexen Long Lake pipeline failure is ongoing.

Reuters, 10:24 September 17, 2015

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Compressor Malfunctions Leads to Flaring at Southern Union's 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas September 15**

Operators reported that flaring at the plant on Tuesday was the result of two compressor malfunction trips.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=220240>

## Other News

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### Department of Energy Releases Plan to Double U.S. Energy Productivity by 2030

The U.S. Department of Energy on Wednesday released a strategic plan laying out a path for businesses, state and local governments, consumers, and other stakeholders to double U.S. energy productivity by 2030. The report, *Accelerate Energy Productivity 2030: A Strategic Roadmap for American Energy Innovation, Economic Growth, and Competitiveness*, identifies strategies and actions to advance energy efficiency. Strategies include: states securing energy productivity through updating vehicle product codes and standards, providing energy performance information to consumers, utilities and regulators designing rates and related policies that more effectively align energy efficiency with utility business models, and businesses reinvesting avoided energy costs.

<http://www.energy.gov/articles/secretary-moniz-unveils-roadmap-double-us-energy-productivity-2030>

## International News

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### Libyan Government Captures Russian-flagged Tanker Suspected of Oil Smuggling

Military forces allied with Libya's self-declared government in Tripoli said on Wednesday they had captured a Russian-flagged oil tanker and its crew, which were trying to smuggle oil from the port of Zawara. A senior official with Tripoli-allied naval forces said that 11 Russian crew had been detained and the tanker had been taken to Tripoli port.

Reuters, 17:23 September 16, 2015

### Ecopetrol and Occidental to Increase Output at Colombia's La Cira Field to 50,000 b/d in 10 Years

Colombia's state-run oil company Ecopetrol and U.S.-based Occidental Petroleum Co will invest up to \$2 billion over 10 years to increase production at the La Cira-Infantas oil field from its current rate of 40,000 b/d to 50,000 b/d, Ecopetrol said on Wednesday. Ecopetrol and Occidental have jointly operated the field since 2005. Production has increased from 5,000 b/d to 40,000 b/d during the last 10 years.

Reuters, 19:01 September 16, 2015

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
September 17, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	46.88	45.80	94.06
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	2.68	2.73	3.85

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***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](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>

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