



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, September 21, 2011

## *Electricity*

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### **Brief Power Outage Affects 168,000 SCE Customers in Ventura County, California September 20**

A power outage blacked out a wide area of Ventura County, California Tuesday afternoon, causing 168,000 Southern California Edison (SCE) customers and 24 substations to lose electricity. A SCE spokesperson told news sources that power started coming back on ten minutes later, and electricity has now been restored to all affected customers.

<http://www.modbee.com/2011/09/20/1868907/power-outage-hits-ventura-county.html>

<http://ovnblog.com/?p=5001>

### **Update: Dominion Expects to Restart North Anna Nuclear Plant's 903 MW Unit 1 in Virginia by September 30**

Dominion officials said September 20 that after safety testing and authorization from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Unit 1 should be ready to start by the end of this month. Unit 2, which also has a capacity of 903 MW, has begun a planned refueling outage. Both units at the plant have remained idle since August 23, when they tripped offline following an earthquake which had its epicenter only 12 miles from the plant. The NRC rejected Dominion's original plan to restart the units within five weeks of the quake.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/20/utilities-operations-dominion-northanna-idUSS1E78J0PP20110920>

### **Update: Southern's 856 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Ramped Up to 98 Percent by September 21**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 20 the unit was operating at 54 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **Update: Entergy's 730 MW Palisades Nuclear Unit in Michigan Ramped Up to 72 Percent by September 21**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 20 the unit was operating at 2 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **ERCOT Endorses ETT's 163-Mile, 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Texas**

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) Board of Directors has formally endorsed a 345 kV transmission line project proposed by Electric Transmission Texas (ETT), a joint venture between subsidiaries of American Electric Power and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company. ERCOT says the project is "critical to reliability." The project includes the construction of approximately 163 miles of 345 kV transmission lines to connect ETT's Lobo Substation near Laredo, Texas, with substations north of Edinburg, Texas. ETT expects to file an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2012, and, if approved, hopes to complete the project in 2016.

[http://www.renewgridmag.com/e107\\_plugins/content/content.php?content.7366](http://www.renewgridmag.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.7366)

## **TradeWind Energy Developing 300 MW Chisholm View Wind Farm in Northwest Oklahoma**

TradeWind Energy will sell renewable electricity from the 300 MW Chisholm View Wind Farm to Alabama Power customers in southern Alabama, according to a 20-year power purchase contract signed by the two companies this week. The wind farm is located within Garfield and Grant Counties, Oklahoma, and is expected to enter service by December 2012.

[http://newsok.com/northwest-oklahoma-wind-farm-will-provide-power-to-alabama/article/3606072?custom\\_click=rss&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+newsok%2Fbusiness+%28NewsOK.com+RSS+-+business%29](http://newsok.com/northwest-oklahoma-wind-farm-will-provide-power-to-alabama/article/3606072?custom_click=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+newsok%2Fbusiness+%28NewsOK.com+RSS+-+business%29)  
<http://www.tradewindenergy.com/Project.aspx?id=1598>

## **Update: Duke Energy Could Retire Five Coal-Fired Units Equaling 664 MW at the Wabash River Station in Indiana Due to EPA Regulations by 2014**

Reuters, 14:47 September 20, 2011

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Crude Distillation Unit, Other Units Restarted at Valero's 170,000 b/d McKee, Texas Refinery September 21**

Valero Energy Corp. said Wednesday that it restarted a crude unit at its 170,000 b/d refinery in McKee, Texas after taking the unit out of service on Sunday for repairs to the piping circuit. Other units, including the hydrocracker and hydrotreater units, were also restarted and are ramping up to planned rates.

Reuters, 10:18 September 21, 2011

### **SRU Shut at Tesoro's 93,000 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery September 20**

According to Tesoro, the unscheduled Sulfur Recovery Unit (SRU) shutdown led to venting of excess gas vapors to the facility's flare, but otherwise had no impact on operations. SRU operations returned to normal that evening.

Reuters, 9:52 September 21, 2011

### **Unplanned Maintenance Shuts Some Units at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery**

Alon USA Energy reports that it is repairing a leak in the flue gas line running from the fluid catalyst cracker (FCC) boiler. Its filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality states that only a minimal impact to operations will occur during the repairs.

Reuters, 9:31 September 21, 2011

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFWNAB759720110921>

### **Update: Fire at Continental Resources's Oil Rig in Watonga, Oklahoma Stops Burning**

The natural gas well exploded and caught fire Monday night outside Oklahoma City after oilfield services provider Patterson-UTI Energy Inc. drilled into a natural gas pocket. State officials said Wednesday that the first has stopped burning. Continental Resources originally expected the well to burn for a few days.

Reuters, 11:52 September 21, 2011

### **Buckeye's 10-Inch Auburn-Rochester Product Pipeline Ruptures, Spills 70-80 Barrels of Gasoline in New York September 20**

Buckeye Partners said the 10-inch pipeline ruptured after a farmer installing a drainage pipe hit it with a piece of farm equipment in Aurelius, New York. The company shut the line on Tuesday but did not say when it expects to resume operations.

Reuters, 10:46 September 21, 2011

[http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2011/09/turnpike\\_road\\_remains\\_blocked.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2011/09/turnpike_road_remains_blocked.html)

### **Pacific Rubiales Shuts-In 225,000 b/d of Oil Production in Columbia after Violent Protests Block Internal Routes at its Rubiales and Quifa Fields September 20**

Reuters, 10:16 September 20, 2011

<http://ca.finance.yahoo.com/news/Pacific-Rubiales-halts-capress-3815239055.html?x=0>

## Natural Gas

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### BP's Pascagoula Gas Processing Plant to Restart, Lift Force Majeure September 23

BP has completed all repairs and plans to terminate the force majeure effective at 9:00 AM EST, September 23, 2011. Force Majeure has been in effect since September 7 when the plant sustained damage following Tropical Storm Lee.

<http://bpglgnoms2.com/enotice/CriticalDetail.aspx?codeKey=des2011264.103617>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1E7870WB20110908>

### Update: Force Majeure Remains in Effect for TransCanada's 407 MMcf/d Bison Natural Gas Pipeline in Wyoming

TransCanada continues to work with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to return the 30-inch Bison Pipeline to full capacity. A July 20 rupture shut the line and led the company to declare force majeure on contracted shipments. The force majeure will remain in effect until PHMSA approves a return to full capacity. Until then, operational capacity for the pipeline's shippers will be 230,000 Dth/d. The Bison Pipeline transports gas from the Powder River Basin in Wyoming to the Northern Border Pipeline in North Dakota, which transports the natural gas to customers in the Midwest.

[http://www.bisonpipelinellc.com/WebIPReports/NoticeDescription.aspx?seqNum=30&isDownload=false&environmentAndPipe=PROD\\_bison](http://www.bisonpipelinellc.com/WebIPReports/NoticeDescription.aspx?seqNum=30&isDownload=false&environmentAndPipe=PROD_bison)

### Update: FERC Notifies EQT to Proceed with Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion in Pennsylvania and West Virginia

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) today gave notice to Equitrans to proceed with its Sunrise Project, which will expand its existing mainline transmission system to support the development of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation in the central Appalachian Basin. The Sunrise Project comprises plans to install 41.5 miles of 24-inch pipeline and 2.7 miles of 16-inch pipeline running from Wetzel County, West Virginia to Greene County, Pennsylvania, as well as a new compressor station near Jefferson in Greene County. The pipelines will interconnect with MarkWest's Mobley processing complex, allowing producers to transport liquids-rich natural gas to Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern markets.

Reuters, 12:06 September 21, 2011

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/21/idUS171938+21-Sep-2011+BW20110921>

## Other News

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### U.S. House Energy Panel Approves Pipeline Safety Bill September 21

The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee today unanimously approved a new measure that would raise maximum fines for pipeline safety violations and require new pipelines to have remote-controlled shut-off valves, among other safety measures. The pipeline bill would also require the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to conduct new studies, draft new regulations, and make its inspection results public on a monthly basis. The measure will now move to the full House for consideration.

DJN, 11:55 September 21, 2011

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices September 21, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	86.95	90.21	72.64
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.84	3.93	3.95

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Western Wind Energy Corp. Announces 80 Percent Completion of its 120 MW Windstar Project, Full Completion Expected by Year-End

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/windstar-update---80-of-project-now-complete-130251338.html>

### PNM Integrates Solar Plant with 250 kW Battery Storage into Smart Grid in New Mexico September 20

<http://www.chron.com/news/article/PNM-solar-storage-project-comes-online-2179705.php>

### Loss of Power Briefly Causes Keystone Gas Plant in Texas to Shut September 20

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159444>

### Feed Variability Causes Swing in Treater, Briefly Shuts All Engines at Fullerton Gas Plant in Texas September 20

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159433>

### Constellation Energy and Chromatin Announce Partnership to Test Sorghum Biomass as Supplement Fuel at Rio Bravo Poso and Rio Bravo Fresno Power Plants in California

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/topix/20110921005409/en>

### Typhoon Roke Makes Landfall in Japan September 21; No Reported Damage to Quake-Damaged Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

DJN, 11:57 September 21, 2011

### U.N. Forecasts 90 to 350 Additional Nuclear Reactors Worldwide by 2030

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/un-agency-lowers-expected-growth-in-nuclear-power-following-fukushima-disaster/2011/09/20/gIQAxBfXiK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/un-agency-lowers-expected-growth-in-nuclear-power-following-fukushima-disaster/2011/09/20/gIQAxBfXiK_story.html)

## 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 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

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*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>

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