



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 02, 2009

Electricity

Xcel's 578 MW Monticello Nuke Unit in Minnesota Reduced to 48 Percent by October 2

Xcel slowed the unit to perform a few days of maintenance, a spokesman said on October 2. He expected the unit to dip to about 30 percent power, though it was at 48 percent power by this morning, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of October 1 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0231630420091002>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Dynegy's 335 MW El Segundo Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by October 1

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by October 1.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910011515.html>

Update: Energy Northwest Restarts 1,107 MW Columbia Nuclear Power Plant in Washington by October 2

The unit went offline by September 28 due to issues with a pump and electrical equipment, a news source said.

Energy Northwest returned the unit to 1 percent power by this morning, October 2, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of October 1 the unit was not operating.

Reuters, 07:38 October 2, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Progress Energy's 872 MW Brunswick Nuke Unit 1 in North Carolina Ramped Up to 30 Percent by October 2

An emergency diesel generator snag forced shut both units at the Brunswick nuclear power station on September 20, a news source said previously. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 1 the unit was operating at 3 percent.

Reuters, 07:46 October 1, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Progress Energy's 811 MW Brunswick Nuke Unit 2 in North Carolina Ramped Up to 90 Percent by October 2

An emergency diesel generator snag forced shut both units at the Brunswick nuclear power station on September 20, a news source said previously. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 1 the unit was operating at 15 percent.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINN3020927220090930>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Reliant's 245 MW Coolwater Station Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by October 1

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 125 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910011515.html>

Update: Cabrillo Power's 110 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by October 1

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910011515.html>

Mirant to Shutter 674 MW of Gas-fired Power at Contra Costa Plant in California

Mirant agreed to retire its 337 MW Contra Costa-gas fired Unit 6 and its 337 MW Contra Costa gas-fired Unit 7 in 2013, sources said. The decision came as PG&E announced it would purchase electricity from a separate Mirant facility: the proposed 719 MW peaker plant near Antioch, California, is slated for mid-2013 completion. If the plans are approved by the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E announced that it will also acquire and operate a proposed 586 MW plant in Oakley, California expected to be in operation in 2014.

http://www.pge.com/about/news/mediarelations/newsreleases/q4_2009/091001.shtml

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091001-715887.html>

City of Vernon Abandons Plans for 943 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in California, Plans 330 MW Gas-fired Facility

The City of Vernon, California abandoned plans to construct a 943 MW combined-cycle power plant, and instead said it would seek to build a 330 MW gas-fired facility. New regulations and a legal challenge had hampered the city's efforts to obtain air emission credits for the proposed 943 MW "Southeast Regional Energy Center," a news source said. The facility would have included three gas-fired turbines and a steam turbine, according to a state website.

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/cityofvernon/index.html>

<http://egpnews.com/?p=13016>

Sempra Energy Plans 500 MW of Solar-Power Plants in Arizona

Sempra Energy plans to construct up to 500 MW of solar-powered generation capacity across 4,000 acres near Phoenix, Arizona, a company official said on September 30. Pending customer interest, Sempra could bring the units online as early as 2012, according to the official. The electricity would serve customers in Arizona and California, he said.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090930-718487.html>

NRC Finds Two Low-Level Safety Issues at Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey

Two emergency backup systems—a diesel generator and an isolation condensation chamber—did not operate correctly at Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in New Jersey, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a report. The NRC inspected the systems after an electrical storm forced shut the facility on July 12.

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/ocean/article_2557802a-add7-11de-b03f-001cc4c002e0.html

Petroleum

Update: Citgo to Restart Explosion-Downed Alkylation Unit at 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery October 10

Citgo plans to restart an alkylation unit on October 10 at its 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery, a union source said. The unit malfunctioned and triggered an explosion in July 2009.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091002-705184.html>

Update: Fire Debris Could Contain Asbestos at Tesoro's 100,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery, State Regulator Says

Fire debris from a downed coker unit could contain asbestos at Tesoro's 100,000 b/d Wilmington, California refinery, a spokesman for the South Coast Air Quality Management District said. The September 25 fire "centered on the facility's coker unit," Tesoro said previously.

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/business/63188902.html>

Frontier Oil Shuts FCC at 130,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas Refinery by October 2

Frontier Oil took offline a gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) at its 130,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas refinery by October 2, a news source reported. The source did not say why the unit went offline or when it might return to service.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0232027520091002>

BP, CNPC to Boost Production by 1.75 Million b/d at Rumaila Oilfield in Iraq

BP and China National Petroleum Corp. plan to increase production to 2.85 million b/d from the existing 1.1 million b/d Rumaila oilfield in Iraq, a news source said. The Rumaila field contains 17-to-20 billion barrels of oil, and already accounts for nearly half of Iraq's cumulative 2.45 million b/d oil production, the source said.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=80963

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Minor Fire Halts Production at POET Biorefining Ethanol Plant in Groton, South Dakota October 1—Company Set to Resume Production October 2

A minor fire forced shut POET Biorefining's Groton, South Dakota ethanol plant on October 1, but the company expected to restart production on October 2, news sources said. The incident might have been related to an electrical outage—caused by a bird in a substation—which occurred just before the blaze, a company spokesman said.

<http://www.argusleader.com/article/20091002/UPDATES/91002011>

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33538/>

Murphy Oil to Restart Newly-Purchased 110 MMGal/Yr. Hankinson, North Dakota Ethanol Plant

Murphy Oil purchased and said it would restart VeraSun's formerly-owned 110 MMGal/Yr. Hankinson, North Dakota ethanol plant, a company spokesman said. The plant shut after VeraSun filed for bankruptcy in 2008.

<http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/254903/group/Business/>

Suncor Energy to Double Capacity at Existing 53 MMGal/Yr. St. Clair Ethanol Plant near Sarnia, Ontario

Suncor Energy plans to boost production to about 106 MMGal/Yr. at its existing, approximately 53 MMGal/Yr. St. Clair Ethanol Plant near Sarnia, Ontario, it said in a release. The company expects to open the expansion in late 2010 or early 2011, according to the release.

<http://www.suncor.com/en/newsroom/2418.aspx?id=3211>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 2, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	69.04	65.44	94.69
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.91	3.56	7.41

Source: Reuters

Update: State Utilities Commission Okays Progress Energy's Proposal to Shutter Combined 400 MW of Coal-fired Power, Construct 950 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in North Carolina

<http://www.newsobserver.com/business/story/121875.html>

Update: State PUC Approves Alliant Energy's Plan to Construct First, 200 MW Phase of Proposed Bent Tree Wind Farm in Minnesota October 1

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/alliant-energy-receives-approval-to-bring-more-green-power-to-wisconsin-power-and-light-company-customers-63116907.html>

KazMunaiGas, SOCAR Ink Deal to Deliver Oil from Kazakhstan's Kashagan Oilfield along Azeri Oil Infrastructure, Beginning in 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSL220049320091002>

Grand Vista Oil Plans 2.2 MMGal/Yr. Plastic-to-Heating Oil Facility in Fairborn, Ohio

<http://dayton.bizjournals.com/dayton/stories/2009/10/05/story3.html#>

EPA Requests \$7 Million Fine over Claims that Frontier Oil Illegally Dumped Hazardous Materials into Pond near 52,000 b/d Frontier Oil Refinery in Cheyenne, Wyoming

<http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=11243290#>

OSHA Cites Alon for 27, Potentially Dangerous Violations at 70,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery

Bloomberg News, 12:24 October 2, 2009

U.S. Gasoline Demand Hit Peak in 2007—Biofuel, Hybrid Car Development to Lead Further Decline, Exxon CEO Says October 1

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0182993220091002>

Gas Storage Tank Explosion Injures Worker in Florida September 29

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/breaking-news/story/1257617.html>

U.S. Congressmen Form Caucus to Promote Value of Natural Gas as Energy Source

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=13535627

New York Regulators Propose Rule that Would Require Natural Gas Drillers to Reveal Chemicals Used During "Hydraulic Fracturing"—Move Comes after Concern over the Process' Impact on Water Supplies

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=80941

Wyoming Interstate Co. Ltd. Receives FERC Okay to Start-up Phase II Compression Expansion Facilities along Piceance Natural Gas Lateral in Colorado by October 2

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Update: Bion Environmental Technologies Pushes Forward with Plans for 50 MMGal/Yr. Integrated Beef Cattle and Ethanol Production Project in New York

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33553/>

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.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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