



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, October 05, 2015

## Electricity

### Heavy Rain, Winds Knock Out Power to Over 86,000 Customers in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia October 3–5

Storms producing heavy rain and high winds knocked out power to 86,055 customers in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia over the weekend. Wind gusts up to 50 mph were reported in many areas causing trees to fall on power lines. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Monday, 23,782 customers remained without power. SCE&G, which reported 14,300 customers without power, said damaged and flooded roads were making it difficult for crews to restore power to the remaining 10,722 customers. Flooding was also impacting equipment in places, and crews would not be able to restore power until the water recedes, according to the utility. Additional resources were brought in to help with restoration and they should make significant progress today to those areas where they can gain access, SCE&G said.

Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia Customer Power Outages October 3–5, 2015			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Georgia Power	GA	20,000	510
Habersham Electric Membership Corp	GA	13,650	0
Jackson Electric Membership Corp	GA	5,000	47
Duke Energy	NC/SC	24,000	6,246
South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G)	SC	14,300	10,722
Horry Electric	SC	2,000	0
Appalachian Power	VA	4,405	5,668
Dominion Power	VA	2,700	589
<b>TOTAL*</b>		<b>86,055</b>	<b>23,782</b>

\*Total outages represent only electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

- <http://outagemap.georgiapower.com/external/default.html>
- <https://twitter.com/georgiapower?WT.svl=tw3&hp=rftwitter>
- <http://www.habershamemc.com/content/october-4th-outage-update>
- <http://outageview.habershamemc.com/outage.php>
- <https://www.jacksonemc.com/news/news-announcements/jackson-emc-9-pm-outage-update>
- <http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/ncsc/default.html>
- <https://www.sceg.com/outages-emergencies/power-outages/outage-map>
- <https://www.facebook.com/scegnews>
- <https://twitter.com/HorryElectric>
- <http://outages.horryelectric.com/>
- <https://www.appalachianpower.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
- <http://outagemap.dom.com.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/external/default.html>
- [http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/storm-causes-power-outages-in-triad-bigger-problems-on-the/article\\_37080a8f-5afc-5462-bba4-6778c084bbc7.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/storm-causes-power-outages-in-triad-bigger-problems-on-the/article_37080a8f-5afc-5462-bba4-6778c084bbc7.html)
- <http://www.charlestonbusiness.com/news/55837-storm-forces-closings-across-midlands-knocks-out-water-and-power?rss=0>
- <http://www.ajc.com/news/weather/heavy-rains-bring-down-trees-knock-out-power-in-ne/nntbp/>

## **Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 2 in Connecticut Shut Due to 'Unusual Event' October 4**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said a leaking relief valve caused an "unusual event" declaration at Millstone Power Station in Waterford, Connecticut. The incident occurred at about 9:30 a.m. EDT Sunday and there were no injuries or release of radioactivity into the environment.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>  
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/10/04/leaking-valve-causes-unusual-event-millstone/2qVuBNaHWGbZxz2AdF1CiJ/story.html>

## **Update: PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey at Full Power by October 4**

On the morning of October 3 the unit was operating at 45 percent after restarting on October 1. The unit shut from full power on September 28 following a trip of both reactor recirculation pumps.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150929en.html>

## **Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Shut by October 5**

On the morning of October 4 the unit was operating at 88 percent.

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

## **SCE&G's 966 MW Summer Nuclear Unit in South Carolina Shut by October 3**

On the morning of October 2 the unit was operating at 85 percent.

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

## **Entergy's 1,075 MW Waterford Nuclear Unit 3 in Louisiana Shut October 3**

The unit shut from full power due to an automatic reactor trip.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20151005en.html>

## **FPL's 512 MW Point Beach Nuclear Unit 2 in Wisconsin Shut by October 3**

On the morning of October 2 the unit was operating at 90 percent.

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

## **PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 1 in California Shut by October 4**

On the morning of October 3 the unit was operating at full power.

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

## **AES's 332 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by October 4**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510041515.html>

## **PG&E's 641 MW Colusa Gas-fired Unit in California Reduced by October 4**

The unit entered a planned and unplanned curtailment of 330 MW.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510041515.html>

## **Xcel Energy Plans to Retire 2 of 3 Coal-Fired Units at Its 2,222 MW Sherco Power Plant in Minnesota**

Xcel Energy announced a plan to retire two of the three units at its Sherco facility in Becker, Minnesota. The utility said it was part of a strategy to cut its carbon emissions 60 percent by 2030. Two coal-fired units at Sherco would be retired in 2023 and 2026. Other components of the proposal filed Friday include adding more wind and solar energy resources so that in five years, 28 percent of Xcel's energy mix will be from renewable sources, rising to 35 percent by 2030.

<https://twitter.com/XcelEnergyMN>  
<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2015/10/02/xcel-energy-plans-to-retire-2-of-3-coal-fired-sherco-units/>  
[http://www.xcelenergy.com/Energy\\_Portfolio/Electricity/Sherburne\\_County\\_\(Sherco\)\\_Generating\\_Station](http://www.xcelenergy.com/Energy_Portfolio/Electricity/Sherburne_County_(Sherco)_Generating_Station)

### **Coast Guard Reports Clean-Up Complete of 1,100-Gallon Diesel Spill in Columbia River in Oregon October 4**

The unified command composed of the Coast Guard, Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality, Washington State Department of Ecology, and responsible party completed the cleanup of diesel fuel spilled near Pier 1 of the Port of Astoria, Sunday. The motor vessel Global Gold a 565-foot Panamanian-flagged bulk carrier spilled 1,100 gallons of diesel fuel into the Columbia River after the vessel allided with the pier early Thursday night. Incident Management Division investigators from Coast Guard Sector Columbia River demobilized the cleanup contractors on scene at Pier 1, Sunday morning. All hard containment boom was removed from around the ship Saturday night and absorbent boom was removed Sunday. The Global Gold has a soft patch in place on the damaged section of the hull, and was not taking on water. All the diesel fuel was cleaned up or it dissipated. The cause of the spill is under investigation.

<http://d13.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2607722/>

[http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2015/10/coast\\_guard\\_cleaning\\_up\\_diesel.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2015/10/coast_guard_cleaning_up_diesel.html)

### **Shell Reports Unit Startup at Its Scotford, Alberta Facility October 4**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported restarting an unspecified unit at its Scotford, Alberta facility, according to a message on a community alerting phone line on Sunday. The message added there would be intermittent flaring for the next 48 hours. The Scotford facility houses a 100,000 b/d refinery and a 255,000 b/d oil sands upgrader.

Reuters, 9:51 October 4, 2015

### **Phillips 66 Reports Unplanned Flaring at Its 139,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery October 3**

Reuters, 1:04 October 3, 2015

### **Shell Says Operations Normal at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 2 after Major Unit Start-Up September 26**

Reuters, 1:32 October 2, 2015

Reuters, 1:15 October 2, 2015

### **Update: Canadian Oil Sands Resumes Normal Operations at Syncrude Project in Alberta October 2 after Fire August 29**

Canadian Oil Sands Ltd said normal operations resumed at Canada's largest synthetic crude project, Syncrude, following a fire on August 29. Syncrude had been running at reduced rates since the fire at an upgrading plant.

<http://www.cdnoilsands.com/Media-Centre/PressReleaseDetails/2015/Normal-Operations-Resumed-at-Syncrude/default.aspx>

### **U.S. Oil Drillers Cut Rigs for Fifth Week – Baker Hughes**

U.S. energy firms cut 26 oil rigs last week, the biggest reduction since April and the fifth straight weekly decline, data showed on Friday. The cutback for the week ended October 2 brought the total rig count down to 614, the least since August 2010. The latest rig count is less than half the 1,591 oil rigs in the same week a year ago and also far below the all-time high of 1,609 in October 2014.

Reuters, 1:42 October 2, 2015

### **DOJ Settles 2010 BP Oil Spill Claims for Over \$20 Billion**

The Justice Department (DOJ) on Monday said it settled its claims against BP PLC for more than \$20 billion. The rig explosion on April 20, 2010, the worst offshore oil disaster in U.S. history, killed 11 workers and spilled millions of barrels of oil onto the shorelines of several states for nearly three months. The settlement on Monday is the largest settlement with a single entity in American history, according to DOJ.

<http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/us-and-five-gulf-states-reach-historic-settlement-bp-resolve-civil-lawsuit-over-deepwater>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/10/05/us-bp-usa-idUSKCN0RZ14A20151005>

### **Sanchez Energy, Targa Resources Enter Into Midstream Joint Venture in South Texas to Construct a 200 MMcf/d Gas Processing Plant, Takeaway Pipeline**

Sanchez Energy Corporation (SN) today announced it entered into joint venture agreements with Targa Resources Partners LP to construct a new cryogenic natural gas processing plant and associated high pressure gathering pipelines near Sanchez Energy's Catarina asset in the Eagle Ford Shale. The processing plant, which will be located in La Salle County, Texas, is expected to have an initial capacity of 200 MMcf/d with the ability to increase to 260 MMcf/d. In connection with the joint venture agreements, Sanchez Energy intends to invest approximately \$115 million and receive a 50 percent ownership interest in the plant and the approximately 45 miles of high pressure gathering pipelines that will connect SN's existing Catarina gathering system to the plant. Targa will hold all of the transportation capacity on the pipeline, and the gathering joint venture will receive fees for transportation. The natural gas processing plant and gathering pipelines will be designed, built, and operated by Targa. The plant is expected to be operational by early 2017.

<http://investor.sanchezenergycorp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=248475&p=RssLanding&cat=news&id=2093907>

### **SDG&E Submits Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Enhancement Proposal to CPUC September 30**

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and Southern California Gas Co. on September 30 jointly asked the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for approval of the Pipeline Safety & Reliability Project to construct a 47-mile natural gas pipeline, which will implement new pipeline safety requirements, as well as increase the reliability of the clean natural gas the companies deliver daily to customers. The proposed pipeline, which is included in SDG&E's CPUC-approved Pipeline Safety and Enhancement Plan, would replace the transmission role of an existing pipeline that by law must be either pressure tested or replaced. Along with added safety features, the pipeline will be tested and inspected in accordance with SDG&E's pipeline integrity program. The proposed natural gas pipeline would begin near the Riverside County line and continue south near the Interstate 15 corridor approximately 47 miles and connect to an existing pipeline on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego County. The CPUC will determine the final design, construction, and route location after a thorough environmental review. SDG&E has requested CPUC approval in 2017 in order to achieve a pipeline in-service date of 2020.

<http://www.sdge.com/newsroom/press-releases/2015-09-30/natural-gas-pipeline-proposal-enhance-system-safety-and>

## Other News

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### **Hawaii, EPA, Navy Agree to Plan to Address Fuel Storage Tank Leaks October 1**

The U.S. Navy finalized a deal with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Hawaii State Department of Health October 1 to increase protective measures to prevent and detect leaks from 20 giant fuel storage tanks near Pearl Harbor that are built into the side of a mountain atop an aquifer vital to Honolulu's water supply. The agreement includes studying options for upgrading the tanks, which are used to fuel U.S. military ships and aircrafts, among other requirements.

[http://www.salon.com/2015/10/02/hawaii\\_epa\\_and\\_navy\\_agree\\_to\\_plan\\_to\\_address\\_tank\\_leaks/](http://www.salon.com/2015/10/02/hawaii_epa_and_navy_agree_to_plan_to_address_tank_leaks/)

## International News

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### **Update: Shell Lifts Force Majeure on Exports from Nigeria's Forcados Terminal**

Shell's Nigerian unit, Shell Petroleum Development Co, said it lifted a force majeure on exports from the Forcados terminal effective Monday following a reopening of the Trans Forcados Pipeline (TFP). The force majeure was declared September 30 following a leak on the line that affected crude receipts at the terminal. TFP is operated by the Nigerian Petroleum Development Co.

Reuters, 10:17 October 5, 2015

## Oil Exports from North Iraq Rise to 600,463 b/d in September – Ministry of Natural Resources

Oil exports from northern Iraq rose in September to an average of 600,463 b/d, the Kurdistan region's ministry of natural resources said on Monday. That represents an increase of around 127,000 b/d from August, when exports were hit by repeated sabotage of the pipeline carrying crude to Turkey's Ceyhan port from the autonomous Kurdistan region and Kirkuk fields.

Reuters, 6:16 October 5, 2015

## Shell Starts Production at Bonga Phase 3 Project in Nigeria

Shell Nigeria Exploration and Production Company Ltd (SNEPCo) announced Monday that production started at the Bonga Phase 3 project offshore Nigeria. Bonga Phase 3 is an expansion of the Bonga Main development, with peak production expected to be some 50,000 boe/d. This will be transported through existing pipelines to the Bonga floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) facility, which has the capacity to produce more than 200,000 b/d and 150 MMcf/d.

Reuters, 6:20 October 5, 2015

## Libya's Oil Output Drops to 300,000 b/d – Official

Libya's oil production has dropped to 300,000 b/d, less than a quarter of what it produced before the 2011 fall of Muammar Gaddafi, mostly because of insecurity and closed pipelines, a top official said. The top state oil official with the recognized government told a local television channel late on Sunday output was at 300,000 b/d because of fighting between various armed factions and the closure of 31,000 miles of oil pipeline.

Reuters, 10:39 October 5, 2015

## Blackout Ends at Two Major Venezuelan Refineries October 2 – PDVSA

An electricity blackout that hit the 645,000 b/d Amuay and 310,000 b/d Cardon refineries for most of the working day on Thursday ended, state oil company PDVSA said on Friday. PDVSA said a fault in the electricity system cut power to the refineries but did not cause any damage or injuries to workers. Power was restored by early evening Thursday, PDVSA said. Amuay was operating at roughly 400,000 b/d while Cardon was at 180,000 b/d on Wednesday before the outage, according to a union leader.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=49387](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=49387)

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 5, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	46.23	44.34	90.05
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	2.26	2.55	3.94

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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