



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, October 08, 2015

Electricity

Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 71 Percent by October 8

On the morning of October 7 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Update: Entergy's 1,075 MW Waterford Nuclear Unit 3 in Louisiana at Full Power by October 8

On the morning of October 7 the unit was operating at 90 percent. The unit shut from full power on October 3 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>

Update: San Diego Gas & Electric's 575 MW Palomar Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by October 7

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 300 MW that began on October 6.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510071515.html>

Mountainview Power Company's 525 MW Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by October 7

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510071515.html>

Mariposa Energy's 196 MW Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by October 7

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510071515.html>

Progression Energy to Develop 400 MW Offshore Wind Energy Project Off Hawaiian Coast

Progression Energy and investors from Hawaii have formed Progression Hawaii Offshore Wind Inc. to develop a 400 MW wind farm off Barbers Point on the island of Oahu. The 400 MW of capacity is the amount that can be feasibly integrated into Oahu's power grid and provides economic pricing to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2015/10/06/another-1-6b-offshore-wind-energy-project-planned.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+bizj_pacific+%28Pacific+Business+News+of+Honolulu%29

Pennsylvania DEP Approves First Energy's Plan to Ship Coal Ash to Hatfield's Ferry Landfill

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) approved a permit modification during the week of September 21, which grants disposal access in the coal ash landfill at the closed Hatfield's Ferry Power Plant. First Energy will dispose its coal ash and scrubber waste from the landfill at its Bruce Mansfield Power Plant in Shippingport.

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/article/20151006/NEWS02/151009629>

Talen Energy Agrees to Sell Three Pennsylvania Power Plants

Talen Energy Corporation announced Thursday that it agreed to sell three Pennsylvania power plants with a total combined generating capacity of 996 MW for \$1.51 billion in gross cash proceeds. The sales of the Ironwood combined-cycle, natural gas-fired plant, and the Holtwood and Wallenpaupack hydroelectric projects are part of a requirement to divest certain assets in specific PJM regions to comply with a December 2014 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission order approving the transactions that formed Talen Energy. The 704 MW Ironwood plant is being sold to a subsidiary of TransCanada Corporation. The Holtwood and Lake Wallenpaupack hydroelectric projects, with a combined generating capacity of 292 MW, are being sold to a subsidiary of Brookfield Renewable Energy Partners L.P. Both transactions are expected to close in the first quarter of 2016, following the receipt of necessary regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions.

<http://talenergy.investorroom.com/2015-10-08-Talen-Energy-Agrees-to-Sell-Three-Pennsylvania-Power-Plants>

Petroleum

ExxonMobil Reports Equipment Malfunction at Its 502,500 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery October 7

ExxonMobil Corp confirmed flaring Wednesday night due to an equipment malfunction on a unit at its Baton Rouge, Louisiana refinery. The company said the flaring has since ceased.

Reuters, 9:31 October 8, 2015

Northern Tier Reports Crude Unit Restart at Its 90,500 b/d St. Paul Park, Minnesota Refinery October 2

Northern Tier Energy reported on Wednesday that the unplanned maintenance on the no. 2 crude unit at its St. Paul Park refinery in Minnesota was completed. The unit, which was taken down for work in September, was restarted and returned to service on October 2, the company said. Crude unit 2 has a capacity of 49,000 b/d, according to IIR Energy data.

Reuters, 17:44 October 7, 2015

FCCU at Marathon's 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery Shut for 3 Weeks – Sources

The 120,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at Marathon Petroleum Corp's Galveston Bay refinery in Texas will be shut for three weeks of repairs, sources familiar with plant operations said on Wednesday. FCCU 3, the larger of the two units at the refinery, was shut on October 1 due to an electrical power supply malfunction. According to the sources, Marathon then decided to keep FCCU 3 shut to repair a cyclone in the unit's regenerator.

Reuters, 19:37 October 7, 2015

Shell Reports Unit Shutdown at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 6

No additional details on the unit are available at this time.

Reuters, 19:46 October 7, 2015

Natural Gas

TransCanada's ANR Pipeline Declares Force Majeure on Its Michigan Leg North Segment in Michigan

TransCanada's ANR Pipeline on Thursday declared a force majeure event in effect for all natural gas transactions on its Michigan Leg North segment north of the Bridgman compressor station. The company said the line was shut down for unexpected repairs, and anticipates the inability to deliver a portion of the firm delivery volumes in this segment. The cause for the repairs was not specified. ANR connects markets in Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois and Ohio with supplies from Texas, Oklahoma and the Gulf of Mexico through its 9,400 miles of natural gas pipeline, according to TransCanada's website.

Reuters, 14:56 October 8, 2015

Kinder Morgan's 235 MMcf/d Pipeline Expansion in Georgia Faces Regulatory Delays

Kinder Morgan (KMI) disclosed on Wednesday that a planned expansion of pipelines, which would supply gas to a proposed liquid natural gas (LNG) export terminal in Georgia, may be delayed by one month to July 1, 2016 as the company waits for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve the projects. The planned expansion would deliver gas to Kinder Morgan's proposed Elba Island LNG export terminal near Savannah, Georgia, which is scheduled to begin service in late 2017. The company wants to add 235 MMcf/d of capacity to its Southern Natural Gas system by constructing a pipeline loop in Marengo County, Alabama, and adding compression in Georgia.
Reuters, 15:15 October 7, 2015

Other News

G3 Geomagnetic Storm Conditions Peak on October 7, G2 Conditions Expected to Remain October 8

A coronal hole began to affect Earth early on October 7 and G3 (strong) geomagnetic storm conditions were observed yesterday at 3:09 p.m. EDT. Conditions peaked yesterday and have since settled into the G1 - G2 (minor - moderate) range and are expected to continue through the rest of the day.

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/news/continued-g1-g2-minor-moderate-storm-levels-expected>

California's Renewable Energy Bill Signed into Law October 7

Governor Jerry Brown on Wednesday signed into law a bill requiring California to produce half its electricity from renewable sources by 2030, a goal he said was key to combating global climate change. The bill also requires a doubling of energy efficiency in buildings by 2030. Environmentalists cheered the move even though language to cut petroleum use by 50 percent over 15 years was stripped from the bill after objections from the oil industry and some lawmakers.

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=19153>

Reuters, 17:27 October 7, 2015

International News

Venezuelan Crude Exports to the U.S. Fell 10 Percent in September

Venezuelan crude exports to the U.S. declined 10 percent in September versus the previous month due to lower sales of heavy and medium grades to some of regular customers, according to Reuters trade flows data and PDVSA trade documents. State-run oil company PDVSA and its joint ventures sent 44 crude cargoes to the U.S. last month carrying 724,230 b/d, compared with 807,065 b/d in August. Sales of diluted crude oil (DCO) made with naphtha rose again to 348,200 b/d, from 311,130 b/d in August, but the increase was not enough to offset an export decline to regular clients including PDVSA's refining unit Citgo Petroleum, Motiva Enterprises, Phillips 66, and PBF Energy's Chalmette refinery.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=49439

Pemex Workers Return to Platform after Gas Leak in Gulf of Mexico

Personnel at Mexico's state-owned petroleum company, Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex), have returned after a gas leak caused 85 workers to be evacuated Tuesday, a Pemex spokesperson said. Reuters reported that 85 workers were evacuated from the Sihil A platform in the Gulf of Mexico Tuesday while the company worked to control a gas leak. According to Pemex, the evacuation was done as a preventive measure and no damage was reported to the facility.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/140988/Pemex_Workers_Return_to_GOM_Platform_after_Gas_Leak#sthash.nKYhml80.dpuf

Update: Libya's Total Oil Production at 400,000 b/d – NOC Official

Libya's total oil production is now running at more than 400,000 b/d, the spokesman for state-run National Oil Corporation (NOC) in Tripoli said on Thursday. Libya's petroleum sector has been battered by strikes, protests, and fighting between rival factions since the 2011 revolution ousted Muammar Gaddafi. Prior to the revolution, Libya produced about 1.6 million b/d.

Reuters, 12:00 October 8, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 8, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	49.41	44.70	87.41
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.46	2.47	3.87

Source: Reuters

Links

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

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>

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