



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, October 09, 2013

Electricity

Update: Black Hills Power Reports 5,000 Customers Remain Without Service October 9 as Restoration Continues in South Dakota Following Friday's Winter Storm

Black Hills Power reported 5,069 customers remained without power as of 8 a.m. EDT today after a winter storm on Friday knocked out power to 28,000 customers. The company said helicopter crews were out assessing lines to properly plan for restoration in remote areas. Approximately 100 additional tree crew members and over 40 people in 14 crews from partner utilities in South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming were assisting in the restoration effort.

<http://www.blackhillspower.com/report-outage-or-problem/current-outages>

<https://www.facebook.com/blackhillspower>

Equipower to Shutter 1,538 MW Brayton Point Coal-fired Power Plant in Massachusetts by June 2017

Equipower announced that it intends to shutter its Brayton Point Power Station as of June 2017 after having closed on the purchase of the plant just five weeks ago. The decision was prompted by failure to agree with the region's power grid managing company, ISO New England, which cut one-third from Brayton Point's proposed pricing arrangement for future years. The Conservation Law Foundation has been very critical of Brayton Point, issuing a study last winter concluding that operating the power plant no longer made sense economically, given changes in the energy supply system, especially natural gas. Brayton Point was built in the 1960s, burns tens of thousands of tons of coal annually, and is the biggest coal-fired power station in New England, with four large generators and a smaller diesel one.

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20131008/NEWS11/131009756/-1/news>

<https://www.dom.com/about/stations/fossil/brayton-point-power-station.jsp>

LG&E, KU Announce Plans to Build 700 MW Natural Gas Combined-Cycle Generating Station, 10 MW Solar Generation Facility in Kentucky

Louisville Gas and Electric (LG&E) and Kentucky Utilities (KU) companies announced on October 3 that they plan to file for a certificate of public convenience and necessity with the Kentucky Public Service Commission for permission to construct a second natural gas combined-cycle generating station (NGCC) and a solar generating facility. The NGCC plant will be located in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. Due to increased federal environmental regulations, LG&E and KU previously announced they are retiring 800 MW of older coal-fired generation—at Cane Run, Green River, and Tyrone stations—and building a 640 MW NGCC unit at Cane Run. The plant is expected to have about 700 MW of capacity and cost approximately \$700 million to construct. Additionally, the companies will be seeking to construct a 10 MW solar facility costing approximately \$25 million at one of its existing generating stations. Several sites are still being evaluated in order to determine the optimal location.

http://www.lge-ku.com/newsroom/archive2013/news_100313.asp

NB Power Works With Canadian Rivers Institute to Study Future Options for 660 MW Mactaquac Hydropower Generating Station in New Brunswick

NB Power said it has until 2016 to determine the future of its Mactaquac hydropower plant due to a problem with the concrete in the powerhouse. The generating station will reach the end of its lifespan by 2030. NB Power has identified three possible options for the station—rebuilding the station with a new powerhouse and spillway, maintaining the earthen dam and spillway only, or restoring the river to its natural state. To help with the evaluation of options, NB Power said it will work with the Canadian Rivers Institute, which will evaluate key environmental challenges, including river health, fish passage, and flow management.

Reuters, 12:38 October 8, 2013

http://www.nbpower.com/html/en/about/media/media_release/2013/10-08-EN_Mactaquac.html

Update: Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey Ramped Up to 62 Percent by October 9

On the morning of October 8 the unit was operating at 8 percent after exiting an outage, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit shut on Sunday due to a problem with the condenser vacuum.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Restarts by October 9

The unit exited an outage, that began October 5, and ramped up to 1 percent power by early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/20131009ps.html>

Update: Southern's 870 MW Hatch Nuclear Power Plant in Georgia Ramps Up to Full Power by October 9

Southern Co.'s Hatch nuclear power plant, in Georgia, ramped up to full power by early Wednesday from 90 percent power early Tuesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/20131009ps.html>

PG&E's 119 MW Belden Hydro Unit in California Shut by October 8

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201310081515.html>

Petroleum

Update: 13 Notable Oil Spills in Flood-Impacted Colorado Have Released 1,027 Barrels Total – COGCC

The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) is continuing its assessment of the area impacted by floods in mid-September. The agency has developed a formally mapped area called the "flood-impact zone," which expands its previous assessment area. The agency's estimate of assessed area remains at approximately 80 percent. COGCC inspectors have evaluated 1,355 well sites and the agency is tracking 13 notable releases of oil totaling 1,027 barrels (43,134 gallons). The agency is also tracking 17 releases of produced water, totaling 628 barrels (26,385 gallons). The reduction in notable releases from 15, on October 2, to 13 is the result of updated information from two locations with damaged facilities where COGCC is continuing its investigation but has not confirmed notable releases.

http://cogcc.state.co.us/Announcements/Hot_Topics/Flood2013/COGCC2013FloodResponse.pdf

Shell Restarts Unit at Its 100,000 b/d Scotford, Alberta Refinery by October 9

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported it was restarting a unit at its Scotford refinery near Edmonton, Alberta, according to a message posted on a community information line. There could be intermittent flaring over the next 48 hours, but there is no material impact to production due to the activity, the company said.

Reuters, 10:14 October 9, 2013

Natural Gas

Northern Natural Gas Reports Explosion, Fire on Pipeline in Oklahoma October 8

Northern Natural Gas reported an explosion and fire on one of its pipelines located in Harper County, Oklahoma, on Tuesday night. An investigation into the explosion was underway and repairs were expected to begin on Wednesday. Gas was rerouted and there was no disruption to deliveries on the pipeline that runs from Texas to the Upper Midwest. There was no timeline yet for when the isolated section of the line would return to service.

<http://www.northernnaturalgas.com/layouts/NoticePopup.aspx?ID=26389>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/10/09/us-naturalgas-explosion-oklahoma-idUSBRE9980IY20131009>

Southern Union Reports Amine Unit Upset, SRU Shutdown at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas October 8

Southern Union reported the amine unit experienced an upset causing the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) to have an emergency shutdown. The amine unit was repaired and the SRU was put back online.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=189275>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Striking Power Plant Workers Leave 21 Million People Without Power in India

Protests against a plan to split a southern Indian state entered a fourth day, leaving about 21 million people without power. Striking workers shuttered power plants and impeded distribution, extending blackouts that started October 6 in six districts of Andhra Pradesh, India. The protesters oppose Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's move last week to divide the state before national elections due by May. More than 30,000 employees of AP Power Generation Corporation, AP Power Transmission Corporation, AP Southern Power Distribution Company and AP Eastern Power Distribution Company have launched an indefinite strike demanding the Centre immediately withdraw the move to bifurcate the state. Another 20,000 contract workers also joined the strike, throwing the entire power generation and distribution system in 13 Seemaandhra districts out of gear since October 6. Prior to the strike, AP was getting 11,000 MW, now the available power has dropped to 8,500 MW, resulting in power blackout in coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema besides disruption in supply to Hyderabad city. Another report said eight power plants in East Godavari district, two of them hydro projects, were unable to produce electricity due to the employee strike.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-10-08/southern-india-protests-leave-21-million-people-without-power.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 9, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	101.41	103.65	92.16
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.72	3.57	3.18

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>

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