



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 16, 2009

Electricity

FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuke Unit 1 in Ohio Shut by October 16

FirstEnergy shut the unit to investigate a water pump trip, a spokesman said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 15 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNewsAndPR/idUSN1634599520091016>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

TVA's 1,125 MW Sequoyah Nuke Unit 1 in Tennessee Reduced to 81 Percent by October 16

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 15 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Exelon's 1,022 MW Clinton Nuke Unit in Illinois Shut by October 16

The unit shut due to a pump system malfunction, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 15 the unit was operating at 97 percent.

http://www.pantagraph.com/news/local/article_8fce17ec-ba03-11de-990e-001cc4c002e0.html

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuke Unit 1 in California Reduced to 50 Percent by October 16

PG&E reduced the unit after storms forced kelp and other debris into the site's cooling water system, a spokeswoman said. The company expected to remove the debris and restart the unit shortly, she said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 15 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNews/idUSN1554013320091015>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Reduced by October 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 465 MW by October 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910151515.html>

AEP to Shut 675 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Power Plant in Texas October 16-18

American Electric Power moved up by one week a planned maintenance outage at its 675 MW Pirkey coal-fired power plant in Texas "due to unplanned fan repair work," the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130588>

Xcel Plans Shutdown of 347 MW Harrington Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas October 16

Xcel planned to shut the unit "for baghouse maintenance, boiler maintenance, and other general maintenance activities," it said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130628>

Update: Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Ramped Up to 61 Percent by October 16

Exelon took the unit offline for valve repairs by October 12, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 15 the unit was not operating.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1634361820091016>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Luminant to Restart 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas October 16-17

Luminant had expected to shut the unit “to repair a leak in the number 8 heater drain pump” on October 15-16, it said in a previous filing. The restart was slated to start late on October 16 and stretch until early on October 17, the company said.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130743>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130739>

Gulf Power Company to Convert Coal-fired Power Unit to Run on Biomass at 945 MW Lansing Smith Power Plant in Florida

Gulf Power plans to convert one coal-fired power unit to biomass at its existing four-unit, 945 MW Lansing Smith power plant in Florida, a company spokesman said on October 15. Two of the facility’s four units burn coal, a news source said.

<http://www.gulfpower.com/about/plants.asp>

<http://www.newsherald.com/news/power-78335-panama-biomass.html>

Agua Caliente Solar, LLC Plans 290 MW Solar Power Project in Arizona

NextLight Renewable Power, LLC’s Agua Caliente Solar, LLC plans to construct a 290 MW solar power project in Yuma County, Arizona, according to a news release. PG&E expects to purchase the electricity for its California customers, it said. The facility should begin initial deliveries in mid-2012 and reach full operations by late 2014.

http://www.pge.com/about/news/mediarelations/newsreleases/q4_2009/091015.shtml

ISO New England Releases 10-Year Power System Plan October 16

New England energy consumption will likely grow by an average 0.9 percent/year over the next decade, but the local grid should have enough capacity to meet demand, according to ISO New England’s “2009 Regional System Plan.” Several major transmission projects should improve regional reliability, the plan said. To read the plan, click on the first link below.

http://www.iso-ne.com/trans/rsp/2009/rsp09_final.pdf

http://www.iso-ne.com/nwsiss/pr/2009/rsp09_release_101609.pdf

NRC Rejects Westinghouse Nuclear Power Plant Design—Decision Could Push Back Multiple Companies’ Plans

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission rejected Westinghouse’s “AP1000” nuclear power plant design, saying the company failed to show “that certain structural components of the revised AP1000 shield building can withstand design basis loads.” The decision put into doubt plans for 14 new U.S. reactors, a news source said. A spokeswoman for one of the affected companies, Southern Nuclear, said it was too early to say if the decision would trigger a delay in its nuclear plans. The company planned to open two units at its existing Vogtle nuclear power plant in Georgia in 2016-2017, she said. South Carolina Electric & Gas Co. (SCE&G) said it still expected to install two nuclear units by 2019 at its V.C. Summer power plant in South Carolina. The NRC instructed Westinghouse “to provide modifications to the design, as well as testing that demonstrates the building will perform its intended safety function under design basis loads.”

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-173.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/16/science/earth/16nuke.html>

http://chronicle.augusta.com/stories/2009/10/16/met_552085.shtml

<http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2009/oct/16/nrc-raises-flag-about-reactor-safety/>

Flint Hills Plans Unit Shutdown at 288,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery

October 15-17

Flint Hills Resources expected to shut a Sat Gas Unit for maintenance at the west plant of its 288,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery from October 15-17, the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130768>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091016-705887.html>

Update: Suncor Sees Alberta Oil Sands Upgrader at Reduced Rates until October's End

Suncor expects to perform repairs at its oil sands upgrader in Fort McMurray, Alberta until the end of October, following a minor fire on October 12, it said in a release. The company did not provide specific production figures.

<http://www.suncor.com/en/newsroom/2418.aspx?id=3226>

Oil Sands Production to Top 4 Million b/d in Next 20 Years, Imperial Oil Official Says

Oil sands production is slated to top 4 million b/d in the next 20 years, according to an official with Canadian-based Imperial Oil.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=aaC1bLEpSFdA>

Natural Gas

Niska Gas Storage Completes 11 Bcf Expansion at Wild Goose Natural Gas Storage Facility in California by October 14

A Niska Gas storage subsidiary expanded its formerly-18 Bcf Wild Goose natural gas storage facility in California by 11 Bcf, to a total 29 Bcf, it said in a release. The company applied to the California Public Utilities Commission to expand the site by another 21 Bcf, to a total 50 Bcf, it said. Niska is also working to increase the site's maximum injection rates from 250 MMcf/d to 450 MMcf/d, and its maximum withdrawal rates from 450 MMcf/d to 700 MMcf/d, according to the release.

http://www.niskags.com/resource_centre/news.html

Companies Suspend at Least 70 Wyoming Natural Gas Wells on Low Prices

The Wyoming Board of Land Commissioners has approved company requests to halt work on at least 70 natural gas wells, as low prices discourage continued production, a news source said.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=13629441

ERCB Directs Companies to Shut in 158 Natural Gas Wells Seen as Threat to Alberta Oil Sands Production

The Energy Resources Conservation Board ordered shut 158 natural gas producing wells at the Athabasca Oil Sands in Alberta, Canada, sources said. The wells were seen as a threat to potential oil sands growth, a news source said.

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Sunshine-Oilsands-Ltd-1060797.html>

Other News

Coskata Plans 50-to-100 MMGal/Yr. Wood Chip-Based Ethanol Plant in Southeast United States

Coskata expected to open a small-scale, "semi-commercial" wood chip-based ethanol plant in Pennsylvania on October 15, but the company plans to build a 50-to-100 MMGal/Yr. facility in the southeast United States, its CEO said.

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-33680/>

Agriculture Secretary Urges EPA to Increase Allowable Ethanol Rate to 15 Percent

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack is urging the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to increase the allowable ethanol “blend wall” to 15 percent, he said on October 15. The science, according to Vilsack, shows that car engines can operate safely with a 15 percent ethanol blend. General Motors Co. and Ford Motor Co. have argued against the proposed increase, citing concerns over corrosion and decreased performance.
Bloomberg News, 00:01 October 16, 2009

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 16, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	77.16	71.66	70.60
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.88	4.24	6.64

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Snow Storms Knock Out Power to more than 10,000 Allegheny Power Customers in Pennsylvania October 16

<http://www.centredaily.com/news/local/story/1570568.html>

Power Failure Causes Two Hours of Operations Delays at Logan International Airport in Massachusetts October 16

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=111&sid=1787371>

Beacon Power Receives State Approval for Planned 20 MW Flywheel Frequency Regulation Plant in New York October 15

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Beacon-Power-Flywheel-Energy-bw-344185151.html?x=0&.v=1>

Entrepreneur Thomas Loehr Eyes Third Quarter 2011 Start Date for 28 MW Wood Waste-fired Power Plant in West Virginia

<http://www.dailymail.com/Business/200910151046>

State EPA Okays Permit Modification for AMP’s Planned 1,000 MW Coal-fired Power Plant in Ohio October 8

<http://columbus.bizjournals.com/columbus/stories/2009/10/19/story4.html>

To Reach Climate Change Goals, World Must Boost Wind Power Capacity from 120 GW at end of 2008 to 671 GW by 2020—IEA Official

DJN, 12:28 October 16, 2009

Multiple Flaring Events at Valero’s 210,000 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery by October 16

Bloomberg News, 07:28 October 16, 2009

Pontoon Compartment Leaks, Water and Debris Buildup and Tank Overfill Seen as Possible Causes of May 2009, 2 Million Gallon Gasoline-Grade Material Spill at Sinclair Oil's Rawlins, Wyoming Refinery—State Department of Environmental Quality

http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_d75eb434-b9ec-11de-a26b-001cc4c03286.html

Rosneft Expects to Begin Operations in 2013 at Estimated 500 Million Tonnes Yurubcheno-Tokhomskiye O&G Condensate Field in Russia

<http://www.itar-tass.com/eng/level2.html?NewsID=14438795&PageNum=0>

CNPC Completes Phase Two along Planned 400,000 b/d Kazakhstan-to-China Oil Pipeline by October 16

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=81481

Weld Malfunction to Blame for 430,600 Gallon, June 2007 Propane Pipeline Leak in Mississippi—National Transportation Safety Board

<http://ohsonline.com/Articles/2009/10/15/NTSB-Urges-Better-911-Coordination-by-Pipeline-Operators.aspx>

MEND Plans to Restart “Hostilities” against Nigerian Oil Industry and Army October 16

Bloomberg News, 21:37 October 16, 2009

Fayetteville Express Receives Environmental Approval for Planned, Arkansas-to-Midwest, Southeast and Northeast U.S. Fayetteville Express Natural Gas Pipeline Project October 15

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Suction Failure Triggers Brief Recompressor Shutdowns at Mallet CO2 Recovery Plant in Texas October 15

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130826>

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/wpst.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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