



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, October 20, 2011

## *Electricity*

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### **Overnight Storms Cut Power to over 68,000 Consumers Energy, DTE, Commonwealth Edison, and Hydro One Customers in Michigan, Illinois, and Ontario October 19–20**

Strong winds and heavy rain over Wednesday night and continuing into the morning Thursday knocked out power to tens of thousands of customers in Michigan, Illinois, and Ontario. Consumers Energy reported that, at peak, 25,000 of its customers in Michigan lost power. A Consumers spokesman said Thursday morning that the utility company is expecting more interruptions throughout the day and cannot give any time estimates for restoration until further assessments are made. DTE Energy reported 20,000 customers were without power in metro Detroit. By 6:30 AM, DTE had restored power to half that number and expected to restore the remainder by the end of the day Thursday, according to a spokesman. In Illinois, Commonwealth Edison reported a peak of 8,300 customers without power due to the storm, and 3,100 customers remained without power Thursday morning. In Canada, Hydro One reported that almost 15,000 customers across southern and central Ontario lost power due to the storm.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/wind\\_storm\\_knocks\\_out\\_power\\_to.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/wind_storm_knocks_out_power_to.html)

[http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/local/grand\\_rapids/high-winds-heavy-rain-power-outages](http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/local/grand_rapids/high-winds-heavy-rain-power-outages)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2051369/Chicago-battered-60mph-winds-25ft-waves-residents-lock-houses.html>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/storm-zaps-power-to-almost-15000-ontario-residents/article2207589/>

<http://www.freep.com/article/20111020/NEWS05/111020019/Heavy-rain-winds-cause-power-outages-20-000-metro-Detroit?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE%7Cp>

### **Update: FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuclear Unit 1 in Ohio Restarts by October 19, Ramps Up to 36 Percent by October 20**

Operators shut Unit 1 on October 3 due to a transformer failure. Federal regulations require plant owners to maintain two transformers that can provide offsite power to the plant's safety equipment in the event of a plant shutdown. If one transformer fails, the owner must replace it within 72 hours or close the reactor down. FirstEnergy wanted to restart Unit 1 immediately, using back-up transformers and circuits, but was unable to get permission from federal regulators.

[http://www.cleveland.com/business/index.ssf/2011/10/firstenergy\\_moves\\_a\\_115-ton\\_el.html](http://www.cleveland.com/business/index.ssf/2011/10/firstenergy_moves_a_115-ton_el.html)

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **Water Pump Trip Shuts FPL's 839 MW Saint Lucie Nuclear Unit 1 in Florida October 19**

On October 19, operators manually tripped Unit 1 after an unplanned trip to the Circulating Water Pump 1A1 caused rising condenser backpressure. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 19 the unit was operating at 86 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20111020en.html>

### **Update: AES's 227 MW Huntington Beach Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by October 19**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage that began October 16.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201110191515.html>

### **Update: First Solar Says 550 MW Topaz Solar Power Project in California on Track for Completion by 2014 Despite Missing DOE Loan Deadline**

A senior First Solar executive told a press conference Wednesday that the company's 550 MW Topaz solar power project is on track despite its not securing a loan guarantee from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) because it missed a final application deadline on September 30. The company is in advanced talks with several potential buyers and expects financing within the next three to six months, according to the company executive, and does not expect to delay the completion of the project. First Solar is contracted to provide power from the plant to Pacific Gas & Electric by the end of 2012, and the project is scheduled for full completion by 2014.

Reuters, 19:47 October 19, 2011

### **NextEra Suspends Permitting Process on Its Proposed 150 MW Hyde County Wind Farm in South Dakota**

NextEra Energy Inc. (NextEra) has suspended the permitting process for its proposed 150 MW Hyde County Wind Energy Center in South Dakota, a spokesman confirmed yesterday, citing the need to secure a customer for the plant's output and to gain "greater clarity" on a number of other issues. The company asked the U.S. Energy Department (DOE) to cancel its environmental review of the proposed plant, which was initiated when NextEra requested permission to connect plant to the grid.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-19/nextera-energy-suspends-150-megawatt-wind-project-correct-.html?cmpid=yhoo>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: ConocoPhillips Reports Normal Operations at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery October 20 after Power Disruption**

A ConocoPhillips spokeswoman reported Thursday that the refinery is operating under normal conditions after experiencing a power blip that did not lead to a plant-wide outage. On Wednesday the company reported that some units at the refinery were upset by a transformer fire as they were in the process of restarting.

Reuters, 09:59 October 20, 2011

### **Hydraulic Constraints Upset Process Unit, Lead to Emissions at Valero's 93,000 b/d Three Rivers, Texas Refinery October 19**

Operators are adjusting unit operations as necessary.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=160803>

### **Instrument Failure Leads to FCC Unit Flaring at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery October 19**

An instrument failure on Wednesday caused two towers to overpressure and vent to flare, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators repaired the instrument and restored normal operations. The fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit was identified as a source of emissions.

Reuters, 17:58 October 19, 2011

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=160780>

### **Update: Only 400,000 bbls of Crude Remain in Storage at Yemen's Ras Issa Oil Export Terminal after Explosions Cripple Export Pipeline**

The pipeline has been shut down since tribesmen blew it up on October 8, the sixth act of sabotage on the pipeline this year. At Yemen's Ras Issa export terminal, which is supplied by the pipeline, only 400,000 barrels of oil are on board in the tanks kept for export order, according to a shipping source based in Yemen on Thursday.

Reuters, 12:24 October 19, 2011

Reuters, 07:04 October 20, 2011

### **Targa Resources Plans New 200 MMcf/d Natural Gas Plant in North Texas, Considers 100,000 b/d Expansion at Cedar Bayou Fractionation Facility in Mont Belvieu, Texas**

Targa Resources announced yesterday that it has ordered a new 200 MMcf/d cryogenic processing plant for its North Texas System to meet increasing production, continued producer activity, and expected volumes from significant new acreage dedications in the liquids-rich, oily areas of the Barnett Shale. The new processing plant, which will be located in Wise County, Texas, is expected to be operational in mid-2013, subject to regulatory approvals. In addition, Targa is currently evaluating an additional 100,000 b/d fractionation expansion (the CBF Train 5) at its Cedar Bayou Fractionators LP facility (CBF) at Mont Belvieu, Texas.

<http://ir.targaresources.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=616389>

### **Energy Transfer Partners to Construct 200 MMcf/d Natural Gas Plant, 450 MMcf/d Pipeline to Serve Woodford and Barnett Shale Regions**

Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (ETP) announced today its plans to develop natural gas gathering, processing, and transportation infrastructure from both the Woodford and Barnett Shale regions in Oklahoma and Texas. ETP plans to construct a 117-mile, 24- and 30-inch Red River Gathering Pipeline that will originate in Carter County, Oklahoma and have an initial capacity of 450 MMcf/d that can be expanded to exceed 550 MMcf/d. The pipeline is expected to be in service by the fourth quarter of 2012. ETP will also construct a new 200 MMcf/d cryogenic processing plant at its existing Godley processing facility in Johnson County, Texas. The new processing plant will increase ETP's processing capacity at Godley from 500 MMcf/d to 700 MMcf/d and is expected to be in service by the third quarter of 2013.

<http://ir.energytransfer.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=106094&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1619573>

### **Spectra Energy to Reactivate Aitken Creek Gas Plant as Part of Agreement to Provide 370 MMcf/d of Midstream Services to Progress Energy in British Columbia**

Spectra Energy Corp announced yesterday the execution of multi-year agreements between Spectra Energy and Progress Energy Resources Corp. (Progress) to provide a total 370 MMcf/d of natural gas gathering and processing services to support the development of Montney production in Progress's core development area in northeast British Columbia. These gathering and processing services will be provided to Progress at Spectra Energy's Highway, Jedney and McMahon facilities, and through reactivation of the Aitken Creek Gas Plant.

<http://www.spectraenergy.com/Newsroom/News-Archive/Spectra-Energy-and-Progress-Energy-Resources-Corp-Enter-Agreements-on-Midstream-Services-for-Montne/>

### **Update: Yemen LNG Expects to Resume Liquefaction at Belhaf LNG Export Terminal by October 30 after al Qaeda Pipeline Attack**

Production at Yemen LNG is expected to resume around October 30, a source close to the matter said. Al Qaeda insurgents blew up a natural gas pipeline feeding Yemen LNG's Belhaf liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal on October 15, forcing operators to declare force majeure. The terminal can produce up to 6.7 million tonnes a year of LNG.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFWEA868620111020>

## Other News

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Nothing to report

## Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 20, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	84.46	80.66	81.84
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.59	3.63	3.36

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

### Bearing Cooling Water Discharges into Lake Anna from Dominion's 1,806 MW North Anna Power Plant in Virginia October 14

<http://blogs.fredericksburg.com/newsdesk/2011/10/17/north-anna-leaks-water/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20111017en.html>

### Chevron CEO Says U.S. Energy Policy Should Boost Development of Fossil Fuels, Focus Less on Unproven Alternative Energy Sources

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=111929](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=111929)

## 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](http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EDT every Wednesday.

### *Natural Gas Weekly Update* from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM EDT every Thursday.

## ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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