



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, October 22, 2013

Electricity

Xcel Returns 844 MW Sherco Coal-fired Unit 3 in Minnesota to Service After Two Years of Repairs

Xcel Energy reported unit 3 at its Sherburne County (Sherco) Generating Station in Becker, Minnesota, returned to service following completion of repairs after a failure that occurred on November 19, 2011. The failure occurred during turbine testing as unit 3 was being returned to service following a maintenance outage. The event caused extensive damage to the turbine, generator, and associated plant systems. An investigation by external experts found extensive cracking in one row of turbine blades due to stress corrosion.

http://www.xcelenergy.com/About_Us/Energy_News/News_Releases/Repairs_complete;_Sherco_Unit_3_returns_to_service

FPL's 1,250 MW Riviera Beach Next Generation Clean Energy Center in Florida Finalizes Initial Testing, On Track for 2014 Completion

Florida Power & Light (FPL) today announced it successfully completed a series of operational tests on the first of three natural gas-powered combustion turbines at its new Riviera Beach Next Generation Clean Energy Center. The high-efficiency power plant is on track to begin generating power for FPL customers during the first half of 2014. Initial testing, which began in late September, included a variety of assessments and operating the combustion turbine at 25 MW of electricity. When completed in 2014, the plant will be capable of generating up to 1,250 MW.

<http://newsroom.fpl.com/2013-10-22-FPLs-Riviera-Beach-Next-Generation-Clean-Energy-Center-successfully-completes-initial-testing-generates-electricity-for-first-time>

Minnesota Power Files Application for 500 kV Great Northern Transmission Line to be in Operation by 2020

Allete, a division of Minnesota Power, on Monday outlined the public need for a 500 kV Manitoba-Minnesota transmission line citing the benefits of additional clean energy to power electric growth across a stronger regional electric grid. The company filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) a Certificate of Need application for the approximately 240-mile, 500 kV Great Northern Transmission Line, which will link to a Manitoba Hydro transmission line at the Canada-U.S. border, and will carry renewable hydro power from the province of Manitoba, Canada, to a Minnesota Power electric substation on Minnesota's Iron Range. The international transmission interconnection is needed to support delivery of hydroelectric energy from Manitoba Hydro to the U.S. from two new generating stations under development in northern Manitoba that will be capable of producing more than 2,000 MW of renewable electricity. Subject to receipt of permits, construction is anticipated to begin in June 2016 and take approximately 48 months to complete.

<http://investor.allete.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=798802>

Southern's 856 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Shut October 21

Southern Co. said it shut down unit 1 at its Hatch nuclear power plant on Monday to correct problems with a long cycle return valve. Unit 2 at the Hatch plant was operating at full power, the company said.

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

Reuters, 9:55 October 22, 2013

Update: Southern's 1,149 MW Vogtle Nuclear Unit 2 in Georgia Restarts by October 21, Ramps Up to 25 Percent by October 22

On the morning of October 21 the unit was operating at 2 percent after exiting an outage that began October 19 due to a tripped turbine, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Update: Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts Ramped Up to 75 Percent by October 22

On the morning of October 21 the unit was operating at 18 percent after restarting October 21, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit tripped due to a high reactor water level condition on October 19 while attempting to restart from a forced outage that began October 14 when it lost offsite power from a 345 kV NStar line.

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

Duke Energy Reports Water Containing Tritium Spills at Its 1,129 MW Catawba Nuclear Plant in South Carolina October 19

Duke Energy reported a spill of more than 100 gallons of water, containing a low-level tritium concentration with the potential to reach groundwater, at its Catawba nuclear plant. The tritium levels in this water were 8,314 picocuries per liter.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2013/20131022en.html>

Update: Dynegy's 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by October 21

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 260 MW that began October 20.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201310211515.html>

Petroleum

New Jersey Offers Grants to Enhance Retail Fuel Station Access to Back-Up Power to Address Future Emergency Fuel Supply Challenges

New Jersey Governor Christie's Administration yesterday announced a \$7 million grant program that will allow targeted retail fuel stations, on and near evacuation routes, faster and more reliable access to back-up power during an energy emergency. The action was taken to address future emergency fuel supply challenges highlighted during Superstorm Sandy. New Jersey will make funding available under the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to more than 250 fuel stations located along key thoroughfares identified by state homeland security and emergency management personnel. Eligible station owners will use the funds to purchase generators or permanent connection points for mobile generators, also known as "quick connects." Stations were targeted for the program based on factors including proximity to evacuation routes and fuel storage capacity. Currently, all 22 gas stations located on the Garden State Parkway, the New Jersey Turnpike, and the Atlantic City Expressway are equipped with back-up power for outages. Under this generator incentive program, a significantly broader reach of gas stations within a quarter of a mile of key evacuation routes across the State would benefit from quicker access to back-up energy.

<http://nj.gov/governor/news/news/552013/approved/20131021b.html>

Update: CN Railway's Main Line to Pacific Remains Closed Due to Burning Rail Cars After Alberta Derailment

Canadian National (CN) Railway's main line to the Pacific coast remained closed October 21 as burning rail cars from Saturday's derailment take longer to burn out than initially thought. Thirteen cars derailed including nine carrying LPG and four carrying crude oil. One of the derailed LPG cars exploded and set two other leaking LPG cars on fire. CN punctured holes in the remaining cars containing propane to speed up the burning process and had expected the gas to be burned off by Monday morning, allowing residents who had been evacuated to return home. But by late Sunday the cars still contained some propane and the railway called off the operation. CN said the derailment could cause delays of 48 hours for customers seeking to ship goods between Vancouver and Edmonton, although some shipments were being detoured.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=41129

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=41117

Update: Tesoro Says No Date Set to Restart Ruptured Segment of High Plains Pipeline in North Dakota

Tesoro Logistics LP said on Monday it still did not have a date to restart a North Dakota oil pipeline that ruptured in September and spilled 20,600 barrels of crude onto North Dakota farmland. The company said it was continuing to clean up the site and so far collected 3,400 barrels of the spilled oil. A portion of the six-inch pipeline has been removed and sent for analysis. The ruptured pipeline runs 35 miles from Tioga to Black Slough in North Dakota. Reuters, 18:10 October 21, 2013

EIA Forecasts 60,000 b/d Oil Growth in November From U.S. Shale Plays

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) said, in its Drilling Productivity Report, oil production from the the Bakken, Eagle Ford, Haynesville, Marcellus, Niobrara, and Permian basins and formations is projected to increase by 60,000 b/d in November from October. The largest growth in production will come from the Bakken formation, mostly in North Dakota, and the Eagle Ford, mostly in Texas. Bakken oil output is projected to rise by 25,000 b/d to 960,000 b/d in November from 935,000 b/d in October, and Eagle Ford is expected to increase 24,000 b/d to 1.09 million b/d from 1.07 million b/d.

<http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/drilling/>

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/129729/EIA_Sees_60000_Bpd_Oil_Growth_In_Nov_From_US_Shale_Plays

Chevron Reports Catalytic Reformer Restarted at Its 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi Refinery October 21

Chevron Corp. reported the 55,000 b/d catalytic reformer was restarted at its Pascagoula, Mississippi, refinery on Monday. The unit had been down since October 19.

Reuters, 17:55 October 21, 2013

Valero Reports Reformer Upset at Its 93,000 b/d Three Rivers, Texas Refinery October 21

Valero Energy Corp. reported the 23,000 b/d catalytic reformer at its Three Rivers, Texas, refinery experienced an upset on Monday.

Reuters, 7:41 October 22, 2013

Valero Reports Small Fire at Its 88,000 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery October 22

Valero Energy Corp. reported a small fire at the west side of its Houston, Texas, refinery.

Reuters, 11:08 October 22, 2013

Tesoro Restarts Unit at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 20

Tesoro Corp. reported a unit restart on Sunday at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 15:31 October 21, 2013

Natural Gas

Enbridge Reports Power Outage Shuts Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas October 21

Enbridge Inc. reported its Tilden gas plant shutdown due to the loss of electrical power from the grid. Once electrical power was restored, the facility restarted all units. As acid gas came available, the acid gas injectors were started and stabilized.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=189818>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 24, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	99.03	102.03	89.54
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.77	3.81	3.43

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