



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, October 26, 2010

Major Developments

Storms, Winds Knock Out Power to nearly 390,000 Customers across U.S. Midwest October 26

Storms and heavy winds blasted the U.S. Midwest on October 26, disrupting air traffic, damaging homes, and cutting power to an estimated 388,066 customers across a seven-state territory, multiple news and company sources reported. Some 233,512 customers remained without power, as of this afternoon. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Midwest Customer Power Outages October 26, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Commonwealth Edison	IL	85,000	59,000
Ameren	IL	14,997	3,042
Duke Energy	OH/KY	52,742	30,017
AEP	OH	11,853	11,853
South Central Power	OH	9,049	7,512
Dayton Power & Light	OH	5,500	5,500
LG&E/KU/ODP	KY	9,902	3,341
Duke Energy	IN	45,000	8,100
Indianapolis Power and Light	IN	17,000	4,247
Indiana Michigan Power	IN/MI	13,490	6,367
NIPSCO	IN	3,721	2,994
Wisconsin Public Service	WI	37,406	34,500
We Energies	WI	15,000	14,000
Wisconsin Power and Light	WI	4,733	4,344
Ameren	MO	27,000	4,920
Consumers Energy	MI	14,500	14,500
DTE Energy	MI	12,000	12,000
Great Lakes Energy	MI	5,673	5,673
Upper Peninsula Power Company	MI	3,500	1,602
TOTAL *		388,066	233,512

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2010/US/10/26/midwest.weather/index.html>

ComEd: <https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/OutageMap.aspx> ,

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-10-26/powerful-midwest-storm-knocks-out-power-flights-in-chicago.html> , <http://edition.cnn.com/2010/US/10/26/midwest.weather/?hpt=T1>

Ameren (Illinois): <https://www2.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL>

Duke Energy (Ohio/Kentucky): <http://www.duke-energy.com/kentucky/outages/current.asp#>

AEP: <https://www.aepohio.com/outages/Default.aspx>

South Central Power: http://www.southcentralpower.com/OW/ow_map.aspx?county=0

Dayton Power & Light: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/dayton-news/worst-weather-gone-but-5-500-without-power-986450.html>

LG&E/KU/ODP: <http://stormcenter.eon-us.com/default.html>

Duke Energy (Indiana): <http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp#> ,
<http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?ID=1301141>

Indianapolis Power and Light: <http://apps.iplpower.com/outages/outagemap.aspx> ,
<http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?ID=1301141>
Indiana Michigan Power: <https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/>
NIPSCO: <http://www.nipscooutages.com/WSSNisourceOutageMap/outagemap.html?action=city&reloaded=true> ,
<http://www.jconline.com/article/20101026/NEWS07/101026002>
Wisconsin Public Service: <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx> ,
<http://www.wfrv.com/news/local/Storm-hits-Northeast-Wisconsin--105768958.html>
We Energies: <http://www.wqow.com/Global/story.asp?S=13390288> ,
<http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/105762028.html>
Wisconsin Power and Light:
<http://www.alliantenergy.com/UtilityServices/StormOutageCenter/ElectricalOutageSummary/index.htm>
Ameren (Missouri): <https://www2.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=MO> ,
<http://www.ameren.com/sites/aue/OutageCenter/Pages/default.aspx> ,
<http://www.semissourian.com/story/1675721.html>
Consumers Energy: http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/10/consumers_energy_reports_few.html
DTE Energy: <http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html> ,
<http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=264413&cID=2>
Great Lakes Energy: <http://www.gtlakes.com/storm-central/>
Upper Peninsula Power Company: <http://www.uppc.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx> ,
<http://www.wfrv.com/news/michigan/High-winds-causing-tree-limbs-to-fall-into-power-lines--105795333.html>

Electricity

Lightning Strikes Multiple Substations, Knocks Out Power to 27,000 Toledo Edison Customers in Ohio October 24

The company was reporting scattered outages, as of October 26. It was not clear, however, if those outages were related to the weekend disruption.

http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=OH
<http://www.wtol.com/Global/story.asp?S=13379983>

PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 2 in California Reduced to 52 Percent by October 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 25 the unit was operating at 76 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Work Could Force Offline Luminant's 593 MW Big Brown Coal-Fired Unit 1 in Texas 1 October 25

Luminant planned to "replace the standby auxiliary transformer breaker interlock" on October 25, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company said the work had "the potential to trip the unit."

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146518>

Luminant to Reduce 593 MW Big Brown Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas October 26

Luminant expected to reduce "unit load" as it performed "maintenance activities to repair grounded transformer rectifier (TR) sets," the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the unit might resume normal service.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146530>

Update: Capital Power, TransAlta Could Open 450 MW Keephills Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Alberta in Second Quarter 2011

Capital Power and TransAlta Utilities have begun commissioning their planned 450 MW Keephills coal-fired Unit 3 in Alberta, Canada, and the companies could connect the facility to the grid between April and June of 2011, according to a spokesman and the Edmonton Journal.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/Power+plant+upgrader+near+finish+line/3726431/story.html>

Update: U.S. DOI Okays Solar Millennium's Proposed 1,000 MW Blythe Solar Power Project on Public Lands in Riverside County, California October 25

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/Salazar-Approves-Sixth-and-Largest-Solar-Project-Ever-on-Public-Lands.cfm>

Update: Xcel Proposes to Install Pollution Controls on 352 MW Cherokee Coal-Fired Unit 4 in Colorado, Rather than Mothball Unit in 2022

Xcel Energy plans to install pollution-control equipment on its 352 MW Cherokee coal-fired Unit 4 in Colorado, instead of permanently shutting the unit in 2022, it said in a plan to the Colorado Public Utilities Commissions (PUC). The company, as directed by state law, had filed a \$1.3 billion proposal to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions. The Cherokee shutdown was part of that plan. The law, however, required the company to implement its plan by 2017. Since the Cherokee closure would not have occurred until 2022 – or five years after the deadline – the Colorado Independent Energy Association said Xcel's proposal was not in compliance.

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/economy/new-xcel-coal-to-gas-idea-keeps-1-coal-fired-unit-105731723.html>

http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_16433088

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Xcel-explores-earlier-closure-apf-1543231486.html?x=0&.v=2>

Petroleum

Update: Power Outage Forces Shut ConocoPhillips 238,000 b/d Bayway Refinery in Linden, New Jersey October 25

A power outage forced shut ConocoPhillips 238,000 b/d Bayway refinery in Linden, New Jersey on October 25. The plant appeared to be completely shut, based on multiple accounts. The facility was undergoing a planned turnaround at the time of the incident. The disruption was expected to extend that work, according to a source familiar with the facility's operations.

http://www.nj.com/news/local/index.ssf/2010/10/linden_refinery_relies_on_gene.html

Reuters, 08:49 October 26, 2010

Upset Triggers Flaring at ConocoPhillips' 239,400 b/d Westlake, Louisiana Refinery October 25

A "unit upset" resulted in flaring at ConocoPhillips' 239,400 b/d Westlake, Louisiana refinery on October 25, the company said in a filing with the National Response Center. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-26/conocophillips-has-unit-upset-at-westlake-oil-refinery.html>

Old Harry Prospect in Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada Contains Estimated 2 Billion Barrels of Oil and up to 5 Tcf of Natural Gas: Quebec Official

The province of Quebec, Canada expects to strike a draft deal this fall with the Canadian government to explore and drill the prospect, according to Minister of Natural Resources Nathalie Normandeau.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/old-harry-oil-and-gas-prospect-gets-a-new-lease-on-life/article1768086/>

Update: Update: Workers at Three French Refineries Vote to Resume Work, but Lack of Crude Supplies to Prevent Companies from Restarting Production

Workers at three French refineries – two owned by ExxonMobil and a third owned by Petroplus – voted to resume work on October 25, but a lack of crude supplies was expected to prevent the facilities from actually returning to production, according to a union official. At least four refineries, however, were delivering fuel from storage by October 26. Protestors continued to block deliveries from leaving at least seven refineries, as of latest reports. Striking workers were also preventing 80 vessels, including 57 delivering crude oil or oil products, from offloading at the Fos-Lavera port, as of October 25. Separately, Petroplus said today that it was shutting its 68,000 b/d Cressier, Switzerland refinery. The company cited the strike at the Fos-Lavera port.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101025-710238.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101025-703139.html>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE69P0L320101026>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-25/french-refinery-workers-halt-strikes-at-three-plants-as-shortages-persist.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101026-714599.html>

Update: PG&E Fixes Leaks along Natural Gas Pipeline System in California, Considers Replacing Manually-Operated Shut-off Valves with Automatic or Remotely-Controlled Valves

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is evaluating about 300 locations on its natural gas pipeline system in California that, according to the company, appear to be the most suitable for replacing manually-operated shut-off valves with automatically-or remotely-controlled valves, the company said on October 25. The evaluations are part of PG&E's recently-announced Pipeline 2020 program, launched in the wake of a fatal September explosion along the company's pipeline system in San Bruno, California. PG&E also reported the initial results of an accelerated survey of its system. In the first phase of the survey, PG&E focused on pipelines located in more populated areas. Crews found and dealt with four leaks on main transmission lines, and 34 leaks on other facilities. The company said it expected to complete the entire survey by mid-December. PG&E did not find any integrity issues requiring immediate repair along a nearly 16-mile stretch of pipeline in the San Bruno area. Separately, PG&E said it was taking steps to eliminate or minimize potential curtailments of natural gas deliveries to certain customers this winter. For example, the company said it was working with appropriate stakeholders on a plan to reduce gas deliveries to the Potrero Power Plant Unit 3 in San Francisco, and with numerous industrial and commercial customers to help them plan for the possibility of limited curtailments.

http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/newsreleases/20101025/pgampe_provides_new_reports_on_safety_and_operation_of_its_natural_gas_transmission_system.shtml

Enterprise Products Partners to Provide Midstream Natural Gas and Oil Services to Multiple Companies in Eagle Ford Shale, South Texas

Enterprise Products Partners L.P., through multiple subsidiaries, entered into agreements with Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc., Reliance Eagleford Upstream Holding LP and Newpek, LLC (the Pioneer JV) to provide midstream energy services to handle liquid-rich natural gas and crude oil production from the Pioneer JV's acreage in the Eagle Ford Shale play in South Texas. Enterprise plans to initially process the Pioneer JV's natural gas at its existing U.S. Gulf Coast facilities, but eventually expects to process the gas at its previously-announced, proposed 600 MMcf/d natural gas processing plant in South Texas. That facility is expected to come online in early 2012; it will have an initial capacity of 600 MMcf/d, and be able to extract up to 60,000 b/d of NGLs. Enterprise plans to transport the Pioneer JV's NGL production along a 60,000 b/d, 127-mile pipeline, slated to extend from the new natural gas processing plant to Enterprise's complex at Mont Belvieu, Texas. The pipeline is also expected to enter service in early 2012, and would be expandable to over 120,000 b/d. To accommodate the additional NGLs, Enterprise plans to complete, by early 2012, a fifth NGL fractionation train – with a 75,000 b/d capacity – at the Mont Belvieu facility. The company expects to launch the site's fourth NGL fractionation train (also 75,000 b/d) by the end of 2010. As part of the crude oil agreements, Enterprise plans to construct approximately 100 miles of supply laterals that will deliver crude oil production from the Pioneer JV into the new 140-mile pipeline that the company announced earlier in 2010.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1486454&highlight=>

Other News

Update: Flint Hills Resources Agrees to Transition its Texas Flexible Permits to Federally-Approved Clean Air Act Permits

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on October 22 that a process had been developed, through work with Flint Hills Resources (FHR) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), to transition FHR's four air pollution permits that contain Texas Subchapter G flexible air permits to State Implementation Plan-approved (SIP-approved) permits consistent with the Clean Air Act. The transition affects facilities in Corpus Christi, Port Arthur, and Longview. The effort began when EPA objected to a proposed minor revision of the Title V permit for FHR's East Refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas. The transition process that the EPA announced on October 22 and other changes to the FHR East Refinery permit resolved the EPA objections and cleared the way for TCEQ to act on the company's permit applications.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/6f25bd791c4b21cb852577c400552339!OpenDocument>

Baard Energy LLC to Break Ground in 2011 on Proposed 52,000 b/d Ohio River Clean Fuels Project in Ohio

Baard Energy plans to convert coal and other feedstocks into 52,000 b/d of diesel, jet fuel, and naphtha. It plans to break ground by late spring or early summer 2011.

<http://business-journal.com/baard-energy-ceo-says-financing-in-place-p17772-1.htm>

ME Bio Energy LLC Plans 10 MMGal/Yr. Expansion at Recently-Reopened 5 MMGal/Yr. Biodiesel Production Facility in Lilbourn, Missouri

http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/article.jsp?article_id=4493

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 26, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	82.47	80.98	78.65
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.18	3.36	4.88

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Storm Knocks Out Power to 20,000 Johnson City Power Board Customers in Tennessee October 25 – Company Restores Power to Most by October 26

<http://www2.tricitytimes.com/news/2010/oct/25/21/breaking-news-severe-weather-downs-power-lines-tre-ar-584921/>

Storm Cuts Electricity to 9,000 Georgia Power Customers and at Least 8,000 North Georgia EMC Customers in Georgia October 25

http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full_story/10034212/article-Storm-brings-needed-rain--also-knocks-down-trees--causes-power-outages?instance=home_news_lead_story

<http://www.newschannel9.com/news/tornado-995621-confirmed-one.html>

Winds Cut Power to more than 15,000 Puget Sound Energy Customers in Washington October 25 – Company Restores Power within Hours

<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/oct/25/storm-knocks-out-power-in-around-kitsap-north/>

Storm Knocks Out Power to 11,000 Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative Customers in Alabama October 25 – Company Restores Power to Most, as of Latest Reports

http://times-journal.com/news/article_7271acfa-e07b-11df-aa6f-001cc4c002e0.html

DTE Opens 40 MW Biomass-Fired E.J. Stoneman Power Plant in Wisconsin by October 25

<http://dteenergy.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=556>

FPL Spent \$179 Million from 2006-2009 to Strengthen Transmission Lines – Company Plans an Additional \$135-165 Million through 2012

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/storm/hurricane-wilma-five-years-later-storm-taught-hard-990977.html>

ExxonMobil, Shell, and Chevron Apply or Begin Process of Applying to Drill in Deepwater Prospects in U.S. Gulf of Mexico

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=100553

Update: BLM to Resume Oil-and-Gas Lease Sales for Parcels in Montana and Dakotas in December 2010 – BLM to Defer Approximately 24 Parcels, Citing Potential Effects to Wildlife

<http://www.kcautv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13371618>

Update: USCG, BOEMRE Investigators Receive 60-Day Extension to Complete Probe into Deepwater Horizon's Failed Blowout Preventer

http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/6900008187/articles/oil-gas-journal/general-interest-2/hse/2010/10/report-deadline_extended/QP129867/cmpid=EnlDailyOctober252010.html

Obama Establishes Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force October 5

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2010/10/05/executive-order-gulf-coast-ecosystem-restoration-task-force>

Aging Infrastructure Could Lead to Oil Spills, “Warrants Increased Vigilance, Corrective Actions and Oversight” on North Slope, Alaska: Draft State Report

<http://alaskadispatch.com/dispatches/energy/7259-aging-oil-field-could-cause-problems-draft-report-says>

Iran and Armenia to Break Ground in 2010 on Planned Iran-Armenia Oil Pipeline: Armenian Deputy Energy and Natural Resources Minister

<http://news.am/eng/news/35707.html>

Cops Nap Suspected Gasoline Thieves in Spokane, Washington October 24

<http://www.khq.com/Global/story.asp?S=13381628>

AGI Compressor Shuts, Restarts at Waha Gas Plant in Texas October 25

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146570>

Leak Leads to Flaring at Aker Gas Plant in Texas October 25-26

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146572>

DCP's Chapel Hill Booster Station in Texas Offline for Repairs by October 25

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146573>

Enbridge Discovers Two Small Dents, Reduces Pressure along 8-Inch New Hope-to-Pittsburg Natural Gas Pipeline in Texas October 25-26

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146561>

Pennsylvania Governor Expected to Issue Moratorium on Leasing State Forest Territory for Natural Gas Drilling October 26

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/25/AR2010102503024.html>

ECotality to Install Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Washington – Company Plans 1,200 Blink Level 2 and 22 Blink DC Fast Chargers

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/ECotality-Issues-EV-bw-3838564559.html?x=0&.v=1>

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/wpsr.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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