



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, October 27, 2011

## *Electricity*

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### **Update: Xcel and Poudre Valley REA Report over 40,000 Customers Are Still Without Power after Heavy Snowfall in Northeast Colorado October 27**

Utility companies are still working to restore power to thousands of customers in northeast Colorado after wet, heavy snow fell for nearly two days, breaking tree branches and knocking down power lines. As of 11:45 AM Mountain Time (MT), Xcel Energy reported it had restored power to over 80 percent of its 200,000 customers who lost power, but 37,358 Xcel customers were still without service late Thursday morning. The utility estimated it would have the vast majority of its customers back in service tonight and to all its customers by tomorrow afternoon. At 7:00 AM MT, Poudre Valley REA reported that it has restored power to more than 5,000 customers as the storm abated overnight. The utility said approximately 2,300 customers were still without power Thursday morning.

[http://www.xcelenergy.com/About Us/Energy News/Emergency Notices/Colorado Snowstorm Causes Outages](http://www.xcelenergy.com/About%20Us/Energy%20News/Emergency%20Notices/Colorado%20Snowstorm%20Causes%20Outages)  
<http://www.pvrea.com/>

### **AES Announces Operation of 98 MW Laurel Mountain Wind Generation Plant and 32 MW Energy Storage Project in West Virginia**

AES Wind Generation and AES Energy Storage have announced the commercial operation of AES Laurel Mountain, a wind generation plant that will produce 98 MW of wind-generated power and includes a 32 MW integrated battery-based energy storage project, the largest of its kind. AES will deploy 61 GE 1.6 MW wind turbine generators along a 13-mile stretch of Laurel Mountain, located in Randolph and Barbour counties near Elkins, West Virginia.

<http://pdf.reuters.com/htmlnews/8knews.asp?i=43059c3bf0e37541&u=urn:newsml:reuters.com:20111027:nBw276259a>

### **Update: TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama at Full Power by October 27**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 26 the unit was operating at 40 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **Update: Indiana-Michigan Power's 1,000 MW D.C. Cook Nuclear Unit 1 in Michigan Ramped Up to 35 Percent by October 27**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 26 the unit was operating at 19 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **Calpine's 525 MW Sutter Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by October 26**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage on October 26.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201110261515.html>

### **Power Blip Reduces Feed to FCC Unit at ExxonMobil's 572,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery October 25**

ExxonMobil reported that a power blip shut the wet gas compressor in the fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit 2 on Tuesday. Operators reduced feed to the FCC unit and restarted the compressor, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161050>

### **FCC Unit Shut at Chevron's 279,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery - Traders**

Operators shut a gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit at the Chevron Corp. refinery, traders said. Reuters, 11:36 October 27, 2011

### **Update: ConocoPhillips and Cenovus Energy Expect Upgrade at Wood River, Illinois Refinery to be Operational by Mid-November**

ConocoPhillips and its partner Cenovus Energy Inc. expect construction on the coker and the refinery expansion to be completed this month with operation by mid-November. The project will allow the refinery to process 130,000 b/d more heavy oil, raising the capacity of those grades to 240,000 b/d. The refinery currently has a crude distillation capacity of 362,000 b/d.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/breaking/chi-conocophillips-expects-ill-refinery-upgrades-to-be-done-next-month-20111026.0,2847096.story>

### **Update: Expansion of Motiva's Port Arthur, Texas Refinery 90 Percent Complete; Operations Scheduled to Begin First Half of 2012**

Motiva, a Royal Dutch Shell and Saudi Aramco joint venture, has completed 90 percent of the expansion of its Port Arthur, Texas refinery and expects operations to begin in the first half of 2012, Shell reported Thursday. The refinery currently has an input capacity of 275,000 b/d and will increase to 600,000 b/d when the expansion project is complete.

Reuters, 09:36 October 27, 2011

<http://www.motivaexpansionproject.com/pages/projectinfo.aspx>

### **ConocoPhillips to Sell Its Stake in 350,000 b/d Seaway Crude Oil Pipeline from Houston to Cushing; New Ownership Could Reverse Line, Ease Cushing Oil Glut**

ConocoPhillips said Wednesday that it is attempting to sell its 50 percent share of the 350,000 b/d Seaway pipeline, which brings crude oil from the Gulf of Mexico to storage hubs in Cushing, Oklahoma. Selling its share of the pipeline could ease the glut of oil supplies in the central United States, which has depressed crude prices. Refiners have asked ConocoPhillips and Enterprise Products Partners, which owns the other half of the Seaway pipeline, to reverse the pipeline's flow to send crude from Cushing to the Gulf. ConocoPhillips, which operates refineries in the Midwest and benefits from cheap crude prices, has argued against reversing the pipeline's flow. A new owner might be more receptive to reversing the flow. Enterprise could also oppose the reversal, however, as it might hamper the company's recently announced Wrangler pipeline project, a venture to build an 800,000 b/d crude pipeline from Cushing to the Gulf Coast for operation by the middle of 2013.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203687504577000264148482688.html>

### **Update: Shell to Restart Third and Final CDU within Days at Its 500,000 b/d Singapore Refinery after Fire**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc will restart its thirds and final crude distillation unit (CDU) at reduced rates at its refinery in Singapore, according to industry sources on Thursday. Restarting the CDU will bring just over 50 percent of the plant's 500,000 b/d capacity back on stream. A massive fire late last month caused extensive damage and forced Shell to shut the entire plant.

Reuters, 04:21 October 27, 2011

## **Saudi Aramco Expects to Raise Domestic Refining Output Capacity to 3.5 MMb/d by 2016 with the Launch of Three 400,000 b/d Refineries**

A Saudi Aramco executive said on Monday that the state-owned oil company plans to raise its domestic refining output capacity from the current 2.26 MMb/d to 3.5 MMb/d by 2016 by launching three new 400,000 b/d refineries, already under development. These include a joint venture in Jubail with Total, planned to go into service in 2012; the Yanbu refinery, planned to go into service in 2014; and the Jizan refinery, planned to go into service in 2016.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=28356](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=28356)

## **Update: Shell and Partners May Complete Kashagan Oilfield Expansion in Caspian Sea by 2017**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported to news sources that its project to expand development in the Kashagan offshore oil field, a joint venture along with its partners Eni SpA, ExxonMobil Corp., and Total SA, may be finished by 2017 or 2018, up to a year earlier than it previously estimated. Developers still have to finalize plans for the field's development and secure government approvals. Output at Kashagan, which has been delayed three times since 2005, is expected to initially produce 370,000 b/d and rise to 450,000 b/d by 2015 or 2016.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-26/kashagan-expansion-may-finish-earlier-kazmunaigaz-ceo-says.html?cmpid=yhoo>

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Stingray Shuts 16-Inch Natural Gas Lateral in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, Declares Force Majeure after Reports of Potential Leak October 26**

Reports of a potential natural gas pipeline leak in the area of the West Cameron Block 543 prompted Stingray to take precautionary measures by requesting that the operators of West Cameron 544 and High Island A260 platforms to shut in until further notice. Stingray closed a valve downstream of its 16-inch lateral until it completes its investigation. The Stingray pipeline system transports natural gas and injected condensate from approximately 53 fields in the High Island, West Cameron, East Cameron, Vermillion and Garden Banks Offshore Gulf areas and has a total capacity of 560 MMcf/d.

<http://www.enbridgeus.com/Main.aspx?id=558&tmi=242&tmt=4>

<http://apps.enbridgeus.com/ENotices/NoticeEntryPage.aspx?selnoticecode=stry2011299.174640>

### **Southern Union Gas Services Makes Line Repairs at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Plant, Unable to Accept Gas from Whiting's Keystone Cattle Facility October 26**

Whiting Oil & Gas Co. reported flaring Wednesday when Southern Union Gas Services (SUGS) stopped accepting its gas due to line repairs, according to a filing with state regulators. SUGS completed its repairs, resumed accepting Whiting's gasses, and Whiting operators stopped flaring excess gasses from the Keystone Cattle facility.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161041>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161043>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161047>

## **Other News**

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Nothing to report

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 27, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	93.40	84.46	81.17
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.65	3.59	3.28

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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**Exelon Says U.S. Can Meet EPA's Tighter Pollution Standards without Excessive Impact to Electricity Supplies if Industry Focuses on Natural Gas-Powered Generation**

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/fb5465d2-0049-11e1-8441-00144feabdc0.html#axzz1btlyW7cq>

**Pennsylvania Officials Say U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials is Concerned about Lack of Marcellus Shale Inspectors**

<http://www.wtae.com/r/29575037/detail.html>

**Royal Dutch Shell Plc and Partners Announce Purchase of Kitimat Marine Terminal on British Columbia Coast, Considers Using Site to Export LNG**

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=28354](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=28354)

<http://mobile.reuters.com/article/Deals/idUSN1E79J0U520111020?irpc=932>

**U.S. Installs over 1,200 MW of Wind-Generated Power in Third Quarter of 2011, an 80 Percent Increase over Last Year – American Wind Energy Association**

<http://m.trust.org/alertnet/news/us-installs-over-1200-mw-of-wind-power-in-q3-awea/>

[http://www.awea.org/learnabout/industry\\_stats/index.cfm](http://www.awea.org/learnabout/industry_stats/index.cfm)

## Links

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***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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*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EDT. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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