



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, November 04, 2010

Electricity

Explosion Leads to Shutdown of STP's 1,251 MW South Texas Nuclear Unit 2 in Texas November 3

STP Nuclear Operating Company declared an unusual event after an explosion led to the shutdown of its 1,251 MW South Texas Nuclear Unit 2 in Texas on November 3, the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The incident occurred as "operators attempted to start the Unit 2 startup feedpump to support a two hour maintenance run." The feedpump's feeder breaker exploded, triggering "an undervoltage condition on Auxiliary Bus 1H and Standby Bus 1H" and "an automatic reactor trip due to reactor coolant pump undervoltage. There was no fire and the incident did not impact the site's other unit. The NRC reported that on the morning of November 3 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20101104en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 2 in California at Full Power by November 4

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of November 3 the unit was operating at 27 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Dominion's 925 MW North Anna Nuclear Unit 1 in Virginia Ramped Up to 96 Percent by November 4

Dominion shut the unit on October 22 "during physics testing due to problems with the rod control in hold out switch," the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of November 3 the unit was operating at 42 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20101025en.html>

<http://www.fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/102010/10262010/584102>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

After Brief Shutdown, Luminant to Restart 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas November 3

Luminant planned to restart the unit on November 3 after "low differential pressure in the boiler wall" led to "a unit trip," the company said in a filing with state regulators. The shutdown occurred earlier on November 3, according to a separate filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146973>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146978>

PSO's 720 MW Oklaunion Coal-Fired Power Plant in Texas Shuts November 4-6

The unit shut due to a steam leak, the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146930>

Bruce Power Eyes 2012 Restarts for Shuttered Units at Bruce A Nuclear Power Plant in Ontario, Canada

Bruce Power plans to begin commercial operations in the first quarter of 2012 at its 750 MW Bruce A Unit 2, and in the third quarter of 2012 at its 750 MW Bruce A Unit 1, the company said on November 3. The facility's previous owner, Ontario Hydro, shut the units for business reasons in the 1990s. Bruce Power had initially planned to restart the units by late 2009 or early 2010, but later said it expected to resume production by the end of 2011.

<http://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2830504>

<http://www.brucepower.com/uc/GetDocument.aspx?docid=2156>

<http://www.brucepower.com/uc/GetDocument.aspx?docid=2161>

Petroleum

Enbridge Shuts, Restarts 670,000 b/d, 34-Inch, Wisconsin-to-Indiana Line 6A November 2-3

Enbridge shut the 670,000 b/d crude oil pipeline late on November 2 due to high-pressure alarms, a company spokesman said. The spokesman referred to the shutdown as precautionary, and said the company resumed operations on November 3. The incident occurred along the same line that Enbridge shut for eight days in September after an oil spill near Romeoville, Illinois. The line had been operating at 80 percent pressure since restarting from that earlier outage.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0315128220101103>

Compressor Shutdown Leads to Flaring at ConocoPhillips 306,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery

ConocoPhillips reported flaring at its 306,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois refinery after a "wet gas compressor for the catalytic cracking units went offline," the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://tier2.iema.state.il.us/FOIAHazmatSearch/HazmatDetails.aspx?RptNum=H-2010-1206>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-04/conoco-s-illinois-catalytic-cracker-compressor-goes-offline.html>

Motiva Reports Ethylene Release as it Changes Pumps at 220,000 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery November 3

It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

00:40 November 4, 2010

Fire Forces Shut FCC at Citgo's 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery November 2

Citgo shut a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) for minor repairs after a brief fire at its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois refinery on November 2, the company said. The blaze was extinguished quickly.

Reuters, 15:33 November 3, 2010

Update: Total Restarts All Units at 119,000 b/d Feyzin Refinery in France by November 4

The Feyzin refinery, along with numerous other French refineries, are returning to service after weeks of nationwide and port workers' strikes.

Reuters, 06:32 November 4, 2010

Citing Equipment Issue and Production Declines, Marathon Expects Droshky Oil-and-Gas Development in U.S. Gulf of Mexico to Produce Just 15,000 Boe/d, Compared to Peak of 45,000 Boe/d

http://www.marathon.com/news/press_releases/Press_Release/?id=1490316

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6A15DV20101102>

Ivanhoe Energy to Begin 20,000 b/d of Production in 2013 at Tamarack Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

Ivanhoe Energy filed with the Government of Alberta for permission to develop its proposed 40,000 b/d Tamarack oil sands project in Alberta, Canada, the company said on November 4. Ivanhoe expects to open the project in two, 20,000 b/d phases. It plans to break ground in 2012 and open the first phase toward the end of 2013.

http://www.ivanhoeenergy.com/i/pdf/2010-11-04_NR.pdf

Peregrine Midstream Partners Considers Expansion after Successful Open Season for Proposed 15-35 Bcf Ryckman Natural Gas Storage Project in Wyoming

Peregrine Midstream Partners LLC received requests for more than 50 Bcf of capacity during a recent open season for its proposed 15 Bcf Ryckman Creek natural gas storage project in Uinta County, Wyoming, it said on November 3. The company plans to open the 15 Bcf facility in April 2012, and boost capacity to 35 Bcf by the spring of 2013. Based on the open season requests, the company is considering a Phase II expansion of up to 50 Bcf.

http://www.peregrinempllc.com/news/press_releases/peregrine_midstream_partners_ryckman_creek_open_season_oversubscribed_by_35_bcf

Southcross Energy Plans 12-Inch, Eight-Mile Natural Gas Pipeline in Jones County, Mississippi

The line will connect Southcross' existing system with the 1 Bcf/d, 274-mile Southeast Supply Header pipeline system. Southcross expects to open the line in April 2011.

http://www.southxenergy.com/website/News/news_101103.html

Copano Energy to Double Natural Gas Fractionation Capacity in Texas

Copano Energy plans to expand its Houston Central Complex fractionation facilities and its downstream NGL product handling facilities to accommodate producer demand in the Eagle Ford Shale of Texas, the company said on November 3. The fractionation expansion will double Copano's current capacity to 44,000 b/d. The company expects to complete the project in September 2011.

<http://www.copanoenergy.com/RSS/News.asp?releaseID=1490890>

Other News

MSHA Files Motion for Preliminary Injunction against Massey Energy-Owned Coal Mine in Kentucky – Move Could Force Operator to Temporarily Halt Operations

The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) filed yesterday with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky a motion for preliminary injunction against Freedom Energy Mining Co.'s Mine No. 1 in Pike County, Kentucky. Freedom Energy according to MSHA, is engaged in a pattern of failing to examine and maintain critical areas of its mining operations as evidenced by the quantity and gravity of violations in four critical spheres of safety: failure to clear the mine of excessive accumulations of coal dust; failure to protect the roof, face and ribs from falls and maintain an effective roof control plan; failure to test and maintain electrical equipment in a safe working condition so as to protect against fire or explosion; and failure to effectively ventilate the mine of noxious and explosive gases. If the court grants the motion, Freedom Energy will be required to close its mine temporarily and take specific actions before it can re-open. Massey Energy Co. owns the mine.

<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/MSHA/MSHA20101533.htm>

ICS-CERT Issues Alert on Search Engine that Allows Researchers to Identify Potentially-Insecure, Internet-Facing SCADA Systems

The Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) issued an alert on a search engine – SHODAN – that it said researchers had used to discover Internet facing SCADA systems using potentially insecure mechanisms for authentication and authorization. The identified systems spanned several critical infrastructure sectors and varied in their deployment footprints.

http://www.us-cert.gov/control_systems/pdf/ICS-Alert-10-301-01.pdf

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/11/02/scada_search_engine_warning/

American Lithium Minerals Starts Drill Program at South Borate Hills Lithium and Boron Deposit in Nevada by November 4

The Borate Hills Project is located 20 miles west of the only producing lithium mine in North America.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/American-Lithium-Starts-iw-2447459108.html?x=0&.v=1>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices November 4, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	86.38	82.16	80.22
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.35	3.37	4.33f

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Edison Mission Breaks Ground on Planned 30 MW Community Wind North Project in Minnesota – Company Expects to Complete Project by mid-2011

<http://www.edison.com/pressroom/pr.asp?id=7494>

ConocoPhillips Reports Process Upset, Flaring at 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery November 3

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146991>

Citing Improved Economic Outlook, OPEC Increases Forecast for 2014 Worldwide Oil Demand by 800,000 b/d

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=100942

Lundin Petroleum Says Avaldsnes Discovery Offshore Norway Holds Estimated 100-400 Million Barrels of Oil Equivalent (Boe) – Company Says Luno Project, also Offshore Norway, Contains 149 Million Boe

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=100922

Construction Workers Strike Natural Gas Pipeline, Exploding Home in Boston, Massachusetts November 3 – Nobody was Home at Time of Incident

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/nov/03/us-house-explosion/>

Pennsylvania DEP Looking to Hire More Inspectors as Natural Gas Production and Exploration Surges throughout State

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/business/s_707351.html

Pennsylvania DEP Orders Consol Pennsylvania to Fix Dam Damaged by Longwall Mining in Greene County

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/dep-orders-consol-pennsylvania-coal-co-to-repair-ryerson-station-dam-106626888.html>

U.S. Natural Gas Stockpiles Surged to 3.821 Tcf Last Week, Marking Highest-Ever Total for That Week: EIA

Reuters, 11:12 November 4, 2010

Anti-Virus Programs Did Not Prevent Emailed Virus from Affecting Computers at Salt River Project in Arizona during September Event – Same Virus Has Impacted NASA, Comcast, Google, and Others

<http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/110210-here-you-have-virus.html>

Obama to Shelve Cap-and-Trade Program, Pursue "Other Means" to Curb Greenhouse Gas Emissions

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101103/ap_on_bi_ge/us_obama_greenhouse_gases

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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