



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, November 04, 2011

Major Developments

Update: 427,000 Customers in the U.S. Northeast Remain without Power November 4

As of 4:00 PM ET on Friday, utility and news reports indicated more than 427,000 customers remain without power from the Mid-Atlantic to New England nearly a week after a storm that began October 29 brought heavy, wet snow and ice, breaking tree limbs and bringing down power lines. The total customer outages are down from roughly 693,000 customers without power at about the same time yesterday. At least 4.3 million customers have lost power at some point due to the storm. Connecticut Light & Power customers were the hardest hit by the storm, and nearly 295,000 remained without power Friday afternoon. The utility has stated that its goal is to restore the vast majority of its customers by Sunday, November 6. It has posted restoration estimates for all the cities and towns it serves on its website.

U.S. East Coast Customer Power Outages			
October 29 – November 4, 2011			
Electric Utility	State	Customers Affected	Latest Reported
Connecticut Light & Power	CT	831,000	294,496
Western Massachusetts Electric	MA	154,000	41,420
Massachusetts Electric (National Grid)	MA	400,000	37,572
Public Service of New Hampshire	NH	289,615	3,267
New England Subtotal		1,674,615	376,755
Jersey Central Power & Light (FirstEnergy)	NJ	356,000	13,274
PSE&G	NJ	500,000	7,400
Orange and Rockland	NJ/NY/PA	122,438	5,472
Con Edison	NY	129,000	2,439
NYSEG	NY	82,000	6,073
PPL Electric	PA	318,000	2,861
PennPower, Penelec, Met-Ed (FirstEnergy)	PA	292,000	12,952
Mid-Atlantic Subtotal		1,799,438	50,471
TOTAL*		3,474,053	427,226

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

Sources:

- <http://outage.cl-p.com/outage/outagemap.aspx>
- <http://www.wmeco.com/outage/outagemap.aspx>
- <http://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/stormcenter/>
- <http://psnhnews.com/displaypage.cfm?pgid=112>
- https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=NJ
- <http://www.pseg.com/info/media/news.jsp>
- http://wp1.coned.com/or_stormcenter/default.aspx
- <http://apps.coned.com/weboutageinfo/stormcenter/default.aspx>
- <http://www.nyseg.com/Outages/outageinformation.html>
- <https://selfserv.pplelectric.com/EUSelfServ/Outage/OutageMap.aspx>
- https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=PA

Electricity

Dynegy's 335 MW El Segundo Gas-Fired Unit 3 and 335 MW Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Shut by November 3

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage on November 3.
<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201111031515.html>

Petroleum

Coker Wet Gas Compressor Trips Offline at ExxonMobil's 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery November 3

ExxonMobil reported that the coker wet gas compressor tripped off-line Thursday and led to flaring, according to a filing with state regulators. Operators were restarting the compressor and normalizing operations, and they expected only minimal impact to production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161341>

ConocoPhillips Reports a Minor Fire in the Petroleum Coke Pit at Its 120,000 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery November 3

Refinery operations were unaffected by a fire Thursday morning in a petroleum coke pit, a company spokeswoman said. Petroleum coke, a coal substitute made from residual crude oil, is dumped into the pit after it's produced in a delayed coking unit.

Reuters, 20:28 November 3, 2011

President Obama, Not State Department, to Make Permit Decision on TransCanada's Keystone XL Pipeline

President Obama said in an interview Tuesday that, rather than delegating the decision to the U.S. State Department, he would make the final decision on whether to approve or deny a permit to TransCanada to build its proposed Keystone XL pipeline, a 700,000 b/d oil sands-derived crude pipeline that will extend 1,700 miles from northern Alberta to Texas Gulf Coast refineries.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=28446

Natural Gas

Columbia Gas Transmission Shuts 16.6 Bcf Artemas Underground Gas Storage Facility and Associated Pipelines after a Major Fire at Compressor Station November 3

A fire broke out at the compressor station early Thursday morning, destroying two buildings and damaging several others before officials brought the situation under control many hours later. Operators shut the Artemas gas storage field as well as four associated pipeline segments: Artemas, Artemas West, Seneca, and Seneca West. The Artemas storage facility is composed of two depleted reservoirs with a combined working gas capacity of 16.6 Bcf and a maximum deliverability of 292 MMcf/d. According to posting on Columbia Gas Transmission's website, the shutdown will not affect the company's ability to serve current markets.

<http://www.ngtsinfo.com/full/default.aspx?t=2>

<http://times-news.com/local/x459214584/Gas-explosion-fire-forces-evacuations>

<http://times-news.com/local/x57156447/Orleans-chief-Fire-worst-of-24-year-career>

Columbia Gas Transmission Lifts Force Majeure on 250 MMcf/d Line 10100 in West Virginia After Repairs November 3

On November 1 the company announced that it would be repairing a section of Line 10100 that has been exposed due to longwall mine subsidence in Marshall County, West Virginia. As a result, the company declared force majeure and restricted capacity on a segment of the line from Smithfield to Adaline, from 240 to 150 MMcf/d, for the duration of the outage. The Grapevine Ridge meter station was also shut down due to its proximity to the repairs.

<http://www.ngtsinfo.com/full/default.aspx?t=2>

Regency Energy Partners Shuts 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas Due to Approaching Wildfire November 2

The entire plant was shut and personnel were evacuated due to an approaching wildfire. Once officials had had the fire under control, operators restarted plant operations later that night.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161331>

Enbridge Reduces Rates at 100MMcf/d Aker Gas Processing Plant in Texas after Plant Upset November 3

Enbridge reported a plant upset Wednesday when an electrical fault overwhelmed the C-401 fuel scrubber pump and shut the C-401 unit, resulting in emissions. Operators reduced gas flow to the A and B plant and shut-in the sulfinol flow, and then they drained and reprimed the scrubber. Emissions were routed to the flare until operators returned the C-401 unit to service and restored normal operations.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161328>

Other News

EPA Finalizes Plan to Study the Effects of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said Thursday that it has finalized its plans for the study and will release its initial findings by late 2012. Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a process that uses a blast of sand, water, and chemicals to break up rock holding back supplies of natural gas and oil deep underground.

Reuters, 14:22 November 3, 2011

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
November 4, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	93.82	93.17	86.38
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.39	3.59	3.35

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

First Solar to Build and Operate 66 MW Alpine Solar Project in California for NRG Energy; Pacific Gas and Electric to Purchase Power under 20-Year Agreement

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/External.File?item=UGFyZW50SUQ9MTE0MDI1fENoaWxkSUQ9LTF8VHlwZT0z&t=1>

NRC Inspection Flags Two Problems of 'Very Low' Safety Significance at Ameren's 1,190 MW Nuclear Plant in Missouri

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/NRC-cites-2-issues-at-Ameren-apf-65225078.html?x=0&.v=1>

Sempra Energy Plans to Ask DOE for Approval to Build LNG Export Terminal at Its Cameron, Louisiana LNG Import Facility

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/sempra-to-ask-doe-ok-to-build-gas-export-facility-2011-11-03>

Marathon Plans to Refine Up to 12,000 b/d of Crude Oil from Utica Shale Wells Early Next Year at Its 78,000 b/d Canton, Ohio Refinery

<http://www.cantonrep.com/news/business/x2086386014/Marathon-eyes-Utica-oil-for-Canton-refinery>

Buckeye Launches Operations of New Inland Dock Capable of Handling Panamax Tankers at 14.5 Million Barrel BORCO Product Storage Facility on Grand Bahamas Island

<http://www2.buckeye.com/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=0yLntU4qptw%3d&tabid=83&mid=1635>

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 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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