



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, November 05, 2012

## ***Major Developments***

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### **OE/ISER Situation Report: Hurricane Sandy**

At 8:00 p.m. EDT October 29, the National Hurricane Center reported Hurricane Sandy made landfall near Atlantic City, New Jersey as a post-tropical cyclone. The storm has brought heavy rain, winds, and snow in higher elevations to the U.S. Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, and to portions of U.S. Midwest. For details on the impact of this storm on customer outages, energy infrastructure issues, and restoration efforts, see: Hurricane Sandy Situation Reports issued by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability (OE/ISER) at the following URL:

[http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/named\\_event.aspx?ID=67](http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/named_event.aspx?ID=67)

## ***Electricity***

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### **Constellation's 565 MW Nine Mile Point Nuclear Unit 1 in New York Automatically Shuts November 3 on Low Reactor Water Level**

Constellation Energy reported its Nine Mile Point nuclear Unit 1 on Saturday morning experienced an automatic reactor scram on low reactor water level, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Prior to the automatic scram, an unexpected high Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) water level was experienced, followed by a turbine trip and subsequent lowering of RPV water level to the RPV low level scram set point. The cause of the water level transient was unknown at the time of the filing. When the automatic scram occurred, Unit 1 was returning from an outage that began October 29 due to impacts from Hurricane Sandy. Operators restarted the unit on November 2 and brought it up to 25 percent power by November 3. Saturday's automatic scram is believed not to be related to the shutdown caused by the storm. Unit 2 remained at full power and was not affected during this event.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20121105en.html>

### **Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York Automatically Shuts from Full Power November 5 Following Turbine Trip**

Entergy Nuclear reported its FitzPatrick nuclear reactor scrambled just after midnight EST Monday on a valid reactor protection system activation caused by a main turbine trip, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The cause of the main turbine trip was under investigation at the time of the filing.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20121105en.html>

### **Entergy Shuts 730 MW Palisades Nuclear Unit in Michigan November 4 Due to Secondary Side Steam Leak**

Entergy Nuclear reported the Palisades nuclear reactor was manually shut at 12:30 EST Sunday after the primary coolant loop No. 2 was declared inoperable due to a small un-isolable steam leak on a drain valve of an atmospheric steam dump valve on the secondary side of the 'B' Steam Generator, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Based on the condition of the valve and operators' inability to evaluate with the steam generator pressurized, Palisades initiated a shutdown in accordance with technical specifications.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20121105en.html>

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/entergy-palisades-plant-shut-repair-153914008.html>

## **Dominion Seeks Approval to Build New 1,358 MW Brunswick Natural Gas-Fired Power Station in Virginia**

Dominion Virginia Power on Friday asked the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) to approve construction of a 1,358 MW combined cycle, natural gas-fired power station that would serve growing customer demand and replace electricity from aging coal-fired power stations that are being retired for economic and environmental reasons. If approved by the SCC, the power station would be built in Brunswick County for operation by the spring of 2016. Dominion said the Brunswick County Power Station is needed not only to address growing demand in the region, but also to replace more than 900 MW of coal-fired generation from the Chesapeake Energy Center and Yorktown Power Station, which will be retired by 2015 because new federal environmental regulations make them uneconomic to continue to operate.

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/2012-11-02-Dominion-Virginia-Power-Asks-State-Corporation-Commission-to-Approve-New-Natural-Gas-Fired-Power-Station>

## **Update: PPL's 1,111 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 90 Percent by November 5**

On the morning of November 4 the unit was operating at 71 percent. Susquehanna Unit 2 has been reduced since October 5 in preparation for turbine inspections.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>  
<http://www.power-eng.com/news/2012/10/08/ppl-susquehanna-nuclear-plant>

## **Update: Indiana-Michigan Power's 1,000 MW D.C. Cook Nuclear Unit 1 in Michigan at Full Power by November 4**

D.C. Cook Unit 1 returned from a reduction to 55 percent power, which began by October 30.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

## **Update: APS's 1,247 MW Palo Verde Nuclear Unit 3 in Arizona at Full Power by November 3**

Palo Verde 3 returned from an outage that began October 25, when operators shut the reactor to make unplanned repairs to a steam leak on a valve in the containment building. Operators restarted the unit by November 1.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

## **Update: CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Returns to Service by November 4**

The unit returned from a curtailment of 594 MW that began by October 31 and was due to planned and unplanned causes.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201211041515.html>

## **Calpine's 135 MW Calpine American I Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by November 4**

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201211041515.html>

## **Update: Great River Energy Plans to Restart Its Idled 99 MW Spiritwood Coal-Fired Power Plant in North Dakota by 2015**

Great River Energy (GRE) on Thursday notified the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that it intends to restart the Spiritwood Station for full operation by January 2015. Construction on the plant was completed in August 2011, when the plant then began testing and commissioning processes. The plant shut after a period of about 60 days due to a lack of demand for electricity, and it has remained idle since then. GRE believes demand will increase in 2015 if other plants at the Spiritwood Energy Park start up around that time, including the Dakota Spirit AgEnergy ethanol plant and the CHS Inc. nitrogen fertilizer plant.

<http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/172654/>

## **Petroleum**

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### **Update: Chevron Expects to Restart Fire-Damaged CDU at Its 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery in First Quarter of 2013**

Chevron Corp. reports that the crude distillation unit (CDU) damaged by an August 6 fire at its Richmond refinery in California is expected to restart sometime in the first quarter of 2013, company executives said in a conference call with analysts last week. Chevron had previously said only that the CDU would remain shut for the rest of this year. The refinery has been operating at unspecified reduced rates since the fire.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/11/02/chevron-results-outlook-idUSWEN841820121102?feedType=RSS&feedName=marketsNews&rpc=43>

### **Update: BP Restarts Residual Hydrotreater Unit at Its 455,790 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery November 2; Reports Flaring Due to Ultracracker Malfunction November 4**

BP Plc reported the residual hydrotreater unit at its Texas City refinery would resume normal operations Friday morning after a fire shut the unit October 30, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Emissions related to restart activities were expected to continue until this morning. On Sunday the refinery reported the ultracracker (ULC) experienced issues with the 127-J splitter bottoms pump Sunday morning, causing the unit to vent to flare, according to another TCEQ filing. The distillate desulfurization unit (DDU) flare and ULC flares are listed in the filing among the sources of emissions.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175585>  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175653>

### **Unspecified Malfunction Causes FCCU Emissions at Valero's 199,500 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery November 4**

Valero reported an unspecified malfunction in Complex 2 at its Texas City refinery on Sunday afternoon led to emissions from Complex 2 and from a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Emissions associated with this event continued until this morning, the filing said.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175649>

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Instrumentation Malfunction Shuts AGI Compressor at Regency's 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas November 3**

Regency Energy Partners reported an acid gas injector (AGI) compressor at its Waha plant shut down Saturday night on instrumentation/electrical issues with the scrubber solenoid/program logic controllers, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Emissions related to this event were expected to continue until Sunday night.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175634>

### **Unit Shutdowns Lead to Flaring at Southern Union's 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas November 2-4**

Southern Union Gas Services reported it began flaring low-pressure gas at its Keystone plant Friday morning after Unit 23 went down, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The flaring was expected to continue until the following morning, the filing said. On Sunday, operators reported the plant was flaring inlet gas after a field unit went down during pipeline pigging, according to another TCEQ filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175627>  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175638>

## **Other News**

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Nothing to report

## International News

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### Update: Shell Expects to Lift Nigerian Force Majeure by the End of November

Royal Dutch Shell expects to lift a force majeure on two grades of Nigerian crude oil by the end of November, a company executive said last week. Shell on October 19 declared force majeure on exports of Nigeria's Bonny and Forcados crude grades, cutting about 20 percent of the country's exports, due to damage caused by oil thieves and flooding affecting a third party supplier it did not identify.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/11/01/africa-oil-shell-idUSL5E8M161L20121101>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
November 5, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b>	84.97	85.96	93.82
\$/Barrel			
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b>	3.55	3.34	3.39
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

## 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 and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Thursday.

### ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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