



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday, November 30, 2006

Electricity

Update: PPL's 1,135 MW Susquehanna Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramps Up to 40 Percent November 29

The unit ramped up to 40 percent of capacity by early Thursday, after exiting an outage on Wednesday. The unit automatically shut on November 25 when a transmission breaker failed.

Reuters, 07:15 November 30, 2006

TXU's 1,150 MW Comanche Peak Nuke Unit 1 in Texas Back at Full Power November 30

The unit was back at full power today after being reduced last night so that workers could fix a malfunctioning feedwater heater drain valve. An NRC report this morning listed the unit as operating at 88 percent.

Reuters, 11:12 November 30, 2006

Update: TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas to Restart November 30

The company planned to restart the unit today after it was shut on Tuesday to fix a boiler tube leak. A TXU spokesman said that the company delayed work on a natural gas-fired power plant and readied it to operate this week to meet anticipated demand.

Reuters, 12:27 November 30, 2006

Reuters, 19:30 November 29, 2006

Update: TXU's 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas to Restart November 30

The company planned to restart the unit today after it was shut on Monday to fix a boiler tube leak.

Reuters, 12:17 November 30, 2006

Southern Company Proposing to Replace Two Coal-fired Units at Georgia Power Plant

The company is proposing replacing two coal-fired units its 581 MW Jack McDonough power plant in metropolitan Atlanta with an 800 MW combined cycle natural gas unit. The company said that replacing the units would be more cost effective than retrofitting them with expensive environmental controls. The new gas plant would also help the company meet growing regional demand for power.

Reuters, 12:48 November 30, 2006

Petroleum

Total Shuts Two Units at Port Arthur, Texas Refinery November 29

According to a filing with Texas regulators, Total shut Units 836 and partially idled Unit 819 at its 240,000 b/d refinery in Port Arthur, Texas due to excessive levels of acid gas in a knockout drum. Sources say that Unit 819 is a reformer. Total has not commented on how much fuel production might be affected.

Reuters, 20:28 November 29, 2006

Bloomberg News, 10:19 November 30, 2006

Valero Has 'Excessive Flaring' at Texas City, Texas Refinery November 29

According to media reports, there was "excessive flaring" at Valero's 210,000 b/d refinery in Texas City, Texas. Valero said that the flaring had no material impact to production. A spokesman for the company was unsure which unit was causing the flaring.

Reuters, 16:28 November 29, 2006

Update: Shell to Begin Cat Cracker Restart at Deer Park, Texas Refinery Early Next Week

Early yesterday Deer Park Refining (a joint venture between Shell and Pemex) began restarting the alkylation unit, which is part of the catalytic cracking system at its 340,000 b/d refinery in Deer Park, Texas. The company said that it plans to finish the overhaul of its 67,000 b/d catalytic cracking unit this week and begin restarting the unit early next week. Yesterday, a filing with Texas regulators said that catalytic cracking unit was restarting. The unit was shut on November 4 for repairs on its regeneration section. A restart of the unit was delayed from mid-November in order to complete repairs. Crude intake at the refinery was slightly reduced by the shutdown of the cat cracker and an alkylation unit in early November
Reuters, 08:19 November 29, 2006

ConocoPhillips Retrofitting Billings, Montana Refinery to Handle Canadian Heavy Oil

The company is planning to invest in upgrading its 60,000 b/d refinery in Billings, Montana to process the heavier, dirtier crude flowing from the oil sands of northern Alberta. The company said that it is studying both an expansion and a capability improvement at the refinery.

<http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2006/11/30/news/local/20-oil.txt>

Angola, Ecuador and Sudan May Join OPEC, IEA Concerned About Foreign Investment

On Thursday, Angola, Ecuador and Sudan all said they may join OPEC, a move that the International Energy Agency (IEA) says could impede investment in those countries oil sectors and slow the growth of spare production to shield consumers from supply shocks. Combined, the three countries produce about 2 million b/d and supply about 5.5 percent total U.S. oil imports.

Reuters, 11:40 November 30, 2006

Natural Gas

Phase V Expansion of Jonah Gathering System in Wyoming Now Operating

TEPPCO Partners LP and Enterprise Products Partners LP's new pipeline loop, which was constructed as part of the Phase V expansion of the Jonah Gas Gathering System in southwest Wyoming, has begun operation. The loop will serve producers in the Jonah and Pinedale fields. The Phase V expansion project is ultimately expected to increase capacity of the system from 1.5 Bcf/d of natural gas to 2.4 Bcf/d and reduce wellhead pressures in order to increase production rates.

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Reuters, 14:47 November 29, 2006

Update: FERC Authorizes Construction of Equitrans LP's 130 MMcf/d Big Sandy Pipeline in Kentucky

On November 29, the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) authorized the construction of Equitrans LP's Big Sandy Pipeline, which will help ease pipeline capacity constraint problems in eastern Kentucky that have led to natural gas production being shut in over the past two years. FERC approved the project two weeks ago.

<http://powermarketers.netcontentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8kowu%5D%5BjqmfhhpZTjg%22EN%26bfel%5Dv>

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/8739125.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Other News

Catawba Nuke Station in South Carolina Being Inspected

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) officials this week launched an inspection of degraded protective seals at the Catawba Nuclear Station in York County, South Carolina. Several incidents involving water leakage prompted the inspection. The NRC plans to issue a report on their findings within 30 days of the inspection.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=7472896

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
November 30, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	63.06	56.79	57.33
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	8.32	7.57	11.73

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Winter Storm Knocks Out Power to 15,000 CU Customers in Missouri November 30

<http://www.news-leader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061130/BREAKING01/61130008>

Worldwide Energy Consumption Growth Could be Cut Over Next 15 Years Through Aggressive Energy Efficiency Efforts

<http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/11/29/business/energy.php>

Calderon to be Sworn in as Mexican President Tomorrow, Leftists Planning Street Protests

Reuters, 23:22 November 29, 2006

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/index.aspx>.

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