

# Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

## **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

Thursday Evening, December 02, 2010

## **Electricity**

# **Update: After Storms, Companies Restore Power to Most Customers across U.S. East Coast by December 2**

Companies restored power to most customers across 10 states and Washington, D.C. by December 2, after storms knocked out electricity to over 350,000 customers on December 1, multiple news and company sources reported. Some 25,631 customers remained without power, as of latest reports. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. East Coast Customer Power Outages  December 1 – 2, 2010				
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported	
BGE	MD	37,448	120	
Pepco	MD/DC	5,000	9	
CL&P	CT	33,000	287	
United Illuminating	CT	2,600	16	
National Grid	MA	30,000	0	
CVPS	VT	29,600	4,598	
Vermont Electric Cooperative	VT	11,000	7,055	
Green Mountain Power	VT	4,500	10	
Blue Ridge Electric	NC	26,065	0	
Progress Energy	NC	10,000	127	
Duke Energy	NC	9,000	868	
Dominion	VA	24,000	78	
LIPA	NY	19,360	365	
NYSEG	NY	15,400	750	
National Grid	NY	12,000	1,200	
Con Edison	NY	11,000	33	
Central Hudson Gas and Electric	NY	6,547	23	
RG&E	NY	6,500	6,500	
Orange & Rockland	NY	2,409	8	
JCP&L	NJ	18,500	1,500**	
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	15,500	59	
PSE&G	NJ	10,600*	1,500**	
Met-Ed	PA	5,700	500**	
PPL	PA	5,302	25	
TOTAL*		351,031	25,631	

<sup>\*</sup>PSE&G's peak includes 5,000 customers affected by a substation fire, apparently unrelated to the storms.

Sources:

BGE: http://www.bge.com/portal/site/bge/menuitem.42d31413f80c584606370f10d66166a0/

 $Pepco: \underline{http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/}\ , \underline{http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/thousands-without-power.html}$ 

CL&P: <a href="http://www.cl-p.com/outage/outagemap.aspx">http://www.cl-p.com/outage/outagemap.aspx</a>,

http://www.registercitizen.com/articles/2010/12/02/news/doc4cf722d8e30c3897424918.txt?viewmode=fullstory United Illuminating: http://www.ctnow.com/weather/ctn-windsor-adult-education-classes-1201,0,7435758.story

<sup>\*\*</sup>The latest figures for JCP&L, PSE&G, and Met-Ed are averages, based on estimates from company websites.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

National Grid (MA): http://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/stormcenter,

http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/beverly/2010/12/30000 in the north shore lost.html

CVPS: http://www.cvps.com/AboutUs/news/viewStory.aspx?story\_id=307\_, http://www.vtoutages.com/

Vermont Electric Cooperative: <a href="http://www.vermontelectric.coop/news-center/179-vec-makes-progress-in-outage-">http://www.vermontelectric.coop/news-center/179-vec-makes-progress-in-outage-</a>

restoration-, http://www.vtoutages.com/, http://www.vpr.net/news\_detail/89403/

Green Mountain Power: <a href="http://www.vermontbiz.com/news/december/gmp-winds-knocked-out-power-4500-phones-">http://www.vermontbiz.com/news/december/gmp-winds-knocked-out-power-4500-phones-</a>

affected , http://www.vtoutages.com/

forsyth-without-power-ar-581262/

Progress Energy: <a href="http://progress-energy.com/shared/outages/car/default.aspx">http://progress-energy.com/shared/outages/car/default.aspx</a>

Duke Energy: http://www.duke-energy.com/north-carolina/outages/current.asp#,

http://www.wcnc.com/news/local/Overnight-storms-cause-power-outages-111108519.html

 $Dominion: \underline{http://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp}\ ,$ 

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/thousands-without-power.html,

http://clarendon.patch.com/articles/photos-from-this-mornings-power-outage#photo-3586317

LIPA: <a href="http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/outagemap.html">http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/outagemap.html</a>

NYSEG: http://ebiz1.nyseg.com/cusweb/outage/,

http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/News/2010/12210eaststormfinal.html,

http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=13596534

National Grid: http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=13596534,

http://poststar.com/news/local/article 388adf3e-fe03-11df-b6a8-001cc4c03286.html

Con Edison: http://apps.coned.com/weboutageinfo/stormcenter/default.aspx,

http://www.lohud.com/article/201012011615/NEWS02/12010375

Central Hudson Gas and Electric: <a href="http://stormcentral.cenhud.com/default.aspx">http://stormcentral.cenhud.com/default.aspx</a>,

http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=13596534

RG&E: http://rocnow.com/article/local-news/201012020336

Orange & Rockland: http://wp1.coned.com/or stormcenter/default.aspx

JCP&L: <a href="http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state\_code=NJ">http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state\_code=NJ</a>,

http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2010/12/01/heavy-rains-to-soak-big-apple-wednesday/

Atlantic City Electric: <a href="http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/">http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/</a>,

http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2010/12/strong\_storm\_sweeping\_through.html

PSE&G: http://www.pseg.com/home/customer\_service/outage\_info/outagemap.jsp,

http://newvork.cbslocal.com/2010/12/01/heavy-rains-to-soak-big-apple-wednesday/

Met-Ed: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state\_code=PA\_,

http://www.ydr.com/premium/ci 16749351

PPL: https://selfserv.pplelectric.com/EUSelfServ/Outage/OutageMap.aspx,

http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20101201/NEWS/101209982/-1/NEWS01

## TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 42 Percent by December 2

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 1 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

## Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 2 in Connecticut at Full Power by December 2

The unit shut automatically on November 28 after the "loss of condenser vacuum" led to a "turbine trip," Dominion said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of December 1 the unit was operating at 76 percent.

http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20101129en.html

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

## Delta Power's 240 MW Crockett Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by December 1

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by December 1. http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201012011515.html

# Exelon Declares Unusual Event due to Leak at 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey December 1

Exelon declared an Unusual Event due to a "Reactor Coolant System leakage greater than 10 gpm" on December 1, the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The company stopped and isolated the leak and terminated the event in less than one hour. The plant was ramping up from a refueling outage at the time of the incident, a local news source said. That restart continued, as of this morning. The plant returned to 1 percent power by the morning of December 1, and 35 percent power by this morning, according to the NRC. http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/12/oyster\_creek\_nuclear\_plant\_ret.html

http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20101202en.html

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-12-02/exelon-has-pump-failure-during-oyster-creek-nuclear-plant-start.html?cmpid=yhoo

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

## PJM Board Approves \$1.25 Billion in Transmission Upgrades across U.S. East Coast and Midwest Territory December 1

More specifically, the PJM Board:

- Approved a plan to rebuild and expand a 500 kV transmission line that runs from the Mt. Storm substation in West Virginia to the Doubs substation in Maryland. The project is expected to increase the line's capacity by more than 60 percent.
- Reaffirmed the need to move forward with the proposed 765 kV, 277-mile, West Virginia-to-Maryland Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH). The line has a required in-service date of June 1, 2015

http://www.pjm.com/~/media/about-pjm/newsroom/2010-releases/20101201-pjm-board-authorizes-additional-1.25%20billion.ashx

## Update: CEC Reinstates Approval of Tessera Solar's Proposed 663.5 MW Calico Solar Power Project in California

The California Energy Commission (CEC) reinstated its approval of Tessera Solar's proposed 663.5 MW Calico solar power project in California by December 2, about two weeks after it temporarily rescinded the authorization. The CEC withdrew its approval on November 19 after the California Unions for Reliable Energy argued that the CEC had, in its original authorization, failed to file certain required documents.

Reuters, 16:23 December 1, 2010

Reuters, 19:39 November 22, 2010

# Northeast Utilities to Begin Construction Soon on Electric Transmission System Upgrade in Connecticut and Massachusetts

Two Northeast Utilities subsidiaries, Western Massachusetts Electric Co. and Connecticut Light & Power, plan to construct a 345 kV, 23-mile transmission line from Agawam, Massachusetts to Bloomfield Connecticut. The companies also plan to upgrade multiple 115 kV transmission lines, and enhance reliability along their transmission system. The project is scheduled for a 2013 completion.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/01/AR2010120104064.html

# Atlantic Ocean's Shallow Waters Could Yield over 212 GW of Wind-Based Electricity: National Wildlife Federation Report

Up to six GW of offshore wind projects have been proposed along the Atlantic Coast, and the Atlantic Ocean's shallow waters could yield over 212 GW of wind-derived power, the National Wildlife Federation found in a new report, "Offshore Wind in the Atlantic: Growing Momentum for Jobs, Energy Independence, Clean Air, and Wildlife Protection."

http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/Media-Center/News-by-Topic/Global-Warming/2010/~/media/PDFs/Media%20Center%20-%20Press%20Releases/12-01-10\_Offshore\_Atlantic\_Wind\_Report\_Release.ashx

# Federal Government Will Not Consider Most of Eastern U.S. Gulf of Mexico, or Mid- and South Atlantic Planning Areas for Potential Oil-and-Gas Development through 2017

Citing the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and a subsequent effort to employ new reforms, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar said on December 1 that the federal government would not consider certain areas – the part of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that remains under a congressional moratorium, and the Mid- and South Atlantic planning areas – for potential development through 2017. Salazar said the government would instead continue to consider the Western Gulf of Mexico, the Central Gulf of Mexico, the Cook Inlet, and the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas in the Arctic for potential leasing before 2017. The Interior Department, however, postponed the next two lease sales for blocks in the central and western Gulf of Mexico. Salazar also said the Department would use "utmost caution" in approving leases in the Arctic Ocean.

http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/Salazar-Announces-Revised-OCS-Leasing-Program.cfm http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/01/AR2010120107185.html http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/01/AR2010120105221.html

# Marathon Plans to Exercise Right of Termination on Noble Jim Day Ultra-Deepwater Semisubmersible in U.S. Gulf of Mexico, Should Unit Fail to Begin Operations by December 31, 2010

Marathon Oil Company alerted Noble Corporation that it planned to exercise its right of termination for the Noble Jim Day semisubmersible, should the unit fail to begin operations by December 31, 2010, Noble said on December 2. Marathon said it believed that the U.S. Department of the Interior's failure to finalize deepwater drilling and spill response regulations, as well as the Department's decision to withhold new deepwater drilling permits, constituted a force majeure event. The Noble Jim Day arrived in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico in late-September to begin its final acceptance process for Marathon.

http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/noble-corporation-provides-update-on-noble-jim-day-111188714.html

### Permit Delays Slow Shell's Efforts to Pursue Oil-and-Gas Projects in U.S. Gulf of Mexico

Permit delays in the wake of the U.S. government-imposed moratorium on deepwater drilling have slowed Shell's efforts to pursue multiple oil-and-gas projects in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, including at one location – Appomattox – that contains an estimated 250 million recoverable barrels of oil equivalent, the company said by December 1. <a href="http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/business/article/Slowdown-on-permits-delays-Shell-s-deep-water-850101.php">http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/business/article/Slowdown-on-permits-delays-Shell-s-deep-water-850101.php</a>

## BP Restarting Hydrogen Unit after Snag at 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery December 1

An electric problem forced shut a hydrogen unit at BP's 265,000 b/d Carson, California refinery on December 1, but the company was restarting the unit and the incident was not expected to impact production, sources familiar with the facility's operations said.

http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSWEN378520101201

# ExxonMobil Sees Minimal Impact on Production after Boiler Malfunction at 238,000 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery December 1-2

A boiler problem led to flaring at ExxonMobil's 238,000 b/d Joliet, Illinois refinery late on December 1, but a company spokesman said on December 2 that "production was minimally impacted and we will be able to meet all customer expectations.

DJN, 11:20 December 2, 2010

## Valero Restarts FCC after Brief Shutdown at 170,000 b/d Benicia, California Refinery December 1

A fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) shut at Valero's 170,000 b/d Benicia, California on December 1, but operators quickly restarted the unit, a company spokesman said. The shutdown led to flaring, Valero said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

 $\frac{http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/c8d75659c95afd6a882577ed0000267d?OpenDocument}{}$ 

http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-12-01/valero-cracker-unit-trips-at-benicia-oil-refinery.html

DJN, 10:22 December 2, 2010

## Leak Leads Chevron to Shut 15,000 b/d, Colorado-to-Utah Oil Pipeline December 1-2

The line leaked approximately 100 barrels of crude oil in Salt Lake City, Utah on December 1-2, but the oil did not seep into a nearby creek, according to a local fire official. It was not clear when the line might return to service. DJN, 09:42 December 2, 2010

Reuters, 10:43 December 2, 2010

# Update: After Months-Long Shutdown, PdVSA to Restart 335,000 b/d Isla Refinery in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles December 7-12

PdVSA expects to fully restart the refinery from December 7-12, a spokesman said. Power supply issues forced the facility to shut in March, and it has remained offline since. Reuters, 12:49 December 2, 2010

# ExxonMobil Increases Expectations for Production at West Qurna-1 Oilfield in Iraq – Company and Its Partners Plan to Produce 2.825 Million b/d, or 22 Percent More than Previously-Expected

http://www.energyintel.com/#latest

### Total's Tsimororo Project in Madagascar Could Yield 90,000 b/d of Oil

Total's Tsimororo project in Madagascar could produce 90,000 b/d of oil for 30-40 years, and its more-expensive Bemolanga field could yield far more, The Guardian reported on November 29. http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/nov/29/oil-oilandgascompanies

## Natural Gas

# El Paso Sees no Impact on Customers after Rupture along 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline in Louisiana November 30

A 30-inch, El Paso Corporation-owned natural gas pipeline ruptured in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana on November 30, but there was no customer impact because three adjacent pipelines were able to compensate for the lost capacity, a company spokesman said. The four pipelines, combined, deliver approximately 1 Bcf/d of natural gas from Texas to Louisiana, Mississippi, and the U.S. Midwest, the spokesman said. The leak led to some local evacuations, according to a local sheriff.

http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-12-01/el-paso-natural-gas-pipeline-ruptures-in-louisiana.html

## **Other News**

### Massev Energy Shuts MSHA-Cited Coal Mine in Kentucky

Massey Energy shut its Freedom Energy Mine No. 1 in Kentucky, the company said by December 2, approximately one month after the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) filed a motion for preliminary injunction against the mine. In its motion, the MSHA cited the mine for numerous safety issues. If the court had granted the motion, Freedom Energy – the mine's operator – would have been required to close the mine temporarily. Despite its decision to halt operations, Massey said that it still thought the mine was safe.

http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN0222806620101202 http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/MSHA/MSHA20101533.htm

### Darling International Plans 10 MMGal/Yr. Biodiesel Plant in San Francisco, California

The facility would process leftover cooking oil. The city's Port Commission approved the project on November 30. http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/12/01/BUSB1GK72T.DTL

## **Energy Prices**

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices  December 2, 2010				
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago	
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	87.55	83.00	76.83	
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.21	3.93	4.30	

Source: Reuters

## **Energy Notes**

Sempra Generation Completes Construction on 48 MW Copper Mountain Solar Power Facility in Boulder City, Nevada - Project is Largest Photovoltaic Solar Power Plant in Country

http://public.sempra.com/newsreleases/viewpr.cfm?PR\_ID=2557&Co\_Short\_Nm=SE

NRC Rejects U.S. Representative's Request to Keep Entergy's 563 MW Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant Shut until Workers Remove all Traces of Radioactive Water from Underneath the Plant

http://www.boston.com/news/local/new hampshire/articles/2010/12/01/feds deny nh pols request to shut vt nuk e plant/

State Official Reports Progress in Bid to Remove Tritium-Contaminated Water Under Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey December 1 <a href="http://finance.yahoo.com/news/NJ-Progress-made-on-nuclear-apf-3007016188.html?x=0&.v=1">http://finance.yahoo.com/news/NJ-Progress-made-on-nuclear-apf-3007016188.html?x=0&.v=1</a>

NextEra Energy Fixes Weld Flaw at 565 MW Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant in Iowa during Planned Shutdown in November 2010

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101201/NEWS/12010347/-1/watchdog/Flaw-is-repaired-at-Palonuclear-plant

Update: TVA Completes First-Phase of Cleanup from Late-2008 Coal Ash Spill at Kingston Coal-Fired Power Plant in Tennessee December 1 - Trains Have Taken 4 Million Tons of Coal Ash to Landfill

http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/dec/01/gone-bama-last-railcars-loaded-tva-ash-depart-toda/

Update: Buena Vista Biomass Power Receives County Planners' Approval to Construct 18.5 MW Biomass-Based Power Plant in California

http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20101202/A NEWS/12020324

Mercury Solar Systems and enXco Break Ground on Planned 17 MW Suffolk Solar Carport Project in New York December 2

http://www.state.nv.us/governor/press/120210GovPaterson-LocalStakeholders.html

SunPower to Install 11.2 MW, Combined, of Solar Power Capacity at 51 Schools in California

 $\frac{http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/mount-diablo-unified-school-district-awards-largest-solar-school-contract-to-sunpower-111185474.html$ 

# Broken Pipe Causes 1,300 Barrels of Petroleum to Spill at Chevron's Richmond, California Refinery November 30 – Leak Contained, as of Latest Reports

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci 16744520

 $\underline{\text{http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/51fa6b5baf2c7414882577eb0039a2aa?OpenDocument}$ 

# Car Crashes into Natural Gas Pipeline in Harrogate, Tennessee, Forcing Shut Local Highway by December 1

http://www.wbir.com/news/article/145622/2/Part-of-Highway-25E-back-open-after-car-hits-a-gas-pipeline

Fire Injures up to Three Workers at Inactive Gas Well Offshore Louisiana December 1 <a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6B059520101201">http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6B059520101201</a>

## Transmitter Malfunction Leads to Shutdown of Waha Gas Plant in Texas December 1 – Units Restarted within Hours

http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=147998

## SRU Shutdown Leads to Flaring at Sneed Booster Station in Texas December 1 http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=148016

## Turbine Shuts at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas December 1 – Seal Replaced on Turbine Door

http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=147999

## 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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov