



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 10, 2014

Electricity

Snowstorm Knocks Out Power to 51,000 Green Mountain Power Customers in Vermont December 9–10; More Snow Expected This Afternoon

A snowstorm hit Vermont Tuesday evening into Wednesday morning knocking out power to 51,000 Green Mountain Power customers. As of 3:30 p.m. EST, 14,071 customers remained without power. The company said repairs could take until Friday. A second storm could hit this afternoon with additional wet heavy snow causing more outages.

<https://twitter.com/greentmnpower>

<https://wss.greenmountainpower.com/customers/outages/>

<http://news10.com/ap/wet-snow-causes-22500-vermont-power-outages/>

PG&E, SMUD Make Preparations for Winter Storm Expected to Hit Northern California

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and PG&E are preparing for the expected big winter storm forecasted for Wednesday and Thursday. PG&E is implementing its emergency preparedness plans and utilizing advanced technology to be ready to restore service to impacted customers safely and as quickly as possible. SMUD has a full complement of customer service representatives ready to answer customer calls reporting outages and SMUD line personnel are ready to respond to and restore power to customers who may experience outages caused by storm activity. Forecasts vary but there is expected to be a lot of rain and gusty winds. SMUD has additional crews on call that can be brought in if necessary.

<http://www.pgecurrents.com/2014/12/09/pge-implementing-plans-for-pending-storm-urges-customers-to-have-preparedness-plan/>

<https://www.smud.org/en/about-smud/news-media/news-releases/2014/2014-12-09-storm-prep.htm>

Otter Trail Power Company Reports Major Mechanical Failure, Fire Shuts Its Coyote Station in North Dakota December 4

Otter Tail Power Company officials announced that the Coyote Station near Beulah, North Dakota, was closed until they can assess the amount of damage from a December 4 fire caused by a major mechanical failure at the plant. Authorities determined that one of the power plant's turbine-driven boiler pumps suffered a mechanical failure which prompted oil lines to rupture, causing a fire.

http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/mechanical-failure-shuts-down-power-plant/article_339b4092-7be8-11e4-bb8a-cb4d843b92d7.html

Update: PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 1 in California at Full Power by December 10

On the morning of December 9 the unit was operating at 50 percent, reduced from 85 percent on December 4.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Cabrillo Power, LLC's 110 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by December 9

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201412091515.html>

Update: North Dakota Industrial Commission Approves New Crude Oil Filtering Standards to Make Crude-by-Trail Transport Safer

North Dakota has approved strict new standards for oil, requiring every barrel of crude be filtered for dangerous types of volatile gases in order to make crude-by-rail transport safer. The new requirements come as federal, state and local officials struggle with how best to ensure the safe transport of North Dakota's crude oil, which has been linked to a string of fiery crude-by-rail explosions. Governor Jack Dalrymple and the two other members of the North Dakota Industrial Commission (NDIC) unanimously voted on Tuesday to require the more-than 1.1 million barrels of oil produced each day in the state be run through gas-liquid separators and/or emulsion heater-treaters that can remove much of the propane, butane and other volatile natural gas liquids (NGLs) naturally found in crude. The NDIC, which has direct oversight over oil wells, is requiring producers to heat crude to at least 110 degrees Fahrenheit at a pressure of 50 pounds per square inch (psi) starting next April. The regulations are designed to remove NGLs and leave the crude oil with a vapor pressure of no more than 13.7 psi. That would be similar to the pressure for automobile gasoline.

<https://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/Approved-or25417.pdf>

Husky Pushes Back Start Dates on Two 10,000 b/d Heavy Oil Projects in Saskatchewan

Husky Energy Inc pushed back its forecasts for first production from two new heavy oil projects in Western Canada on Wednesday although it said the slight delays were not related to falling oil prices. First oil from the 10,000 b/d Rush Lake heavy oil thermal project in Saskatchewan is now planned for the third quarter of 2015, while the 10,000 b/d Edam East project in Saskatchewan will come on stream in third-quarter 2016. Both projects are delayed by three months. Husky said its 3,500 b/d Edam West thermal project and its 10,000 b/d Vawn thermal development are both on track to begin production in fourth-quarter 2016.

Reuters, 13:24 December 10, 2014

http://www.huskyenergy.com/news/release.asp?release_id=1907753

Marathon Confirms Ultracracker Flaring at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery December 10

Reuters, 12:57 December 10, 2014

Valero's 330,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery Experiences Flaring Due to Operating Conditions December 10

Reuters, 12:40 December 10, 2014

Valero Reports Malfunction at Its 86,000 b/d Ardmore, Oklahoma Refinery December 10

Reuters, 12:57 December 10, 2014

Natural Gas

Update: ANR Pipeline Continues Michigan Leg North Capacity Reduction, Unplanned Engine Maintenance at Its Woolfork Compressor Station December 10

ANR continues unplanned engine maintenance at its Woolfork compressor station along its Michigan Leg North located in the Northern Fuel Segment (ML-7). This will reduce the total MLN southbound capacity by 800 MMcf/d, leaving 2,190 MMcf/d available, through March 31, 2015. Based on current nominations, it is anticipated that the above reduction may result in the curtailment of IT and Firm Secondary nominations.

<http://anrebb.transcanada.com/>

Dominion Reports Smithburg, Maxwell, and Collins Stations Out of Service for Unplanned Maintenance in West Virginia December 10

Dominion Transmission (DTI) reported its Smithburg, Collins, and Maxwell Stations were out of service for unplanned maintenance and that all field compression in bubble 4401 and 4413 was shut in immediately. Delivery nominations during this period from POD 3 will be kept whole by DTI.

https://escript.dom.com/jsp/info_post.jsp?&company=dti#

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 10, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	60.94	67.25	97.84
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.61	3.74	4.23

Source: Reuters

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 ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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