



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, December 18, 2008

Electricity

Update: About 77,000 Customers Remain Without Power in U.S. Northeast December 18

An estimated 77,324 customers remained without power across the Northeast, seven days after winter storms knocked out power to almost 1.4 million customers

Northeast Customer Power Outages			
December 11-18, 2008			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Public Service Co. of New Hampshire	NH	322,000	44,000
The New Hampshire Electric Cooperative	NH	41,000	1,290
National Grid (New Hampshire)	NH	24,000	150
Unitil (New Hampshire)	NH	50,000	4,055
National Grid (Massachusetts)	MA	294,000	14,312
Unitil (Massachusetts)	MA	25,000	8,944
Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	MA	20,879	3,320
National Grid (New York)	NY	229,000	1,028
Central Hudson Gas & Electric	NY	60,000	0
New York State Gas & Electric	NY	34,000	0
Long Island Power Authority	NY	7,590	81
Central Maine Power	ME	220,000	0
Bangor Hydro Electric Co.	ME	12,056	0
Central Vermont Power	VT	28,120	133
Connecticut Power & Light	VT	17,095	11
National Grid (Rhode Island)	RI	6,000	0
TOTAL*		1,390,740	77,324

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

Sources:

<http://www.psnh.com/aboutpsnh/mediacenter/stormupdates.asp>

<http://www.nhec.com/oms.php>

<https://www.nationalgridus.com/granitestate/stormupdate.asp>

http://services.unitil.com/content/unitilcom_messages/Storm%2BRestoration%2BUpdate12%252F18%252F2008%2B6%253A45%253A55%2BAM.pdf

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

<http://www.wmeco.com/community/stormcenter/restorationstatus.aspx>

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

http://www.cenhud.com/about_us/news/Dec17_08.html

<http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/News/2008/121808mechanicville2.html>

<http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/township.html>

<http://www.cmpco.com/OurCompany/News/2008/news081217d.html>

<http://www.bhe.com/about/outages.cfm#>

<http://www.cl-p.com/outage/default.aspx>

<http://www.cvps.com/CustomerService/outages/default.aspx>

<https://www.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/index.asp>

NRC Grants Progress Energy a 20 Year Extension for 950 MW Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant in North Carolina

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed a review of the plant's license renewable application and approved the relicensing for operation until 2046.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/business/story/1337376.html>

http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/12-17-2008/0004943915&EDATE=

Peabody Energy Abandons Plans for Proposed Thoroughbred Coal-fired Power Plant in Kentucky

The director of the Kentucky Division of Air Quality has confirmed that the project has ended after a six-year legal battle. A company spokesman said that the Thoroughbred project was cancelled after Peabody made the decision to partner with ConocoPhillips to build a coal-to-gas plant in the same central city area of Kentucky, which would yield the highest value. The permit review for the new proposal could take 12 to 24 months.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20081218/BUSINESS/812180337/1003>

Mississippi Power Proposes Clean Coal Generating Plant in Mississippi

The \$2 billion project would be the first full-scale clean-coal generating plant in the United States, which is anticipated to be operational between 2013 and 2015. The proposed plant will use Mississippi's 4 billion ton supply of lignite, and will be able to capture 50 percent of the carbon dioxide by-product through coal gasification technology.

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20081217/NEWS01/81217035>

Progress Energy to Retire Two Coal-fired Units at its Crystal River Energy Complex in Florida

Progress Energy has agreed to retire 440 MW Unit 1 and 525 MW Unit 2 at Crystal River to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than 5 million tons per year.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/>

NRG's 813 MW Limestone Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut December 18

The unit was taken offline due to high turbine bearing vibration. NRG did not indicate when the unit will return to service

Reuters, 09:58 December 18, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117869>

Sempra's 625 MW Termoelectrica De Mexicali Gas-fired Unit 1 in Mexico Shut by December 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by December 17.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812171515.html>

TransAlta's 383 MW Keephills Coal-fired Unit 1 in Alberta Shut December 18

Bloomberg News, 06:53 December 18, 2008

Update: SCE's 1,080 MW San Onofre Nuke Unit 3 in California Ramped Up to 19 Percent by December 18

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 17 the unit was not operating. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: AES's 498 MW Alamitos Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service December by 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage on December 17.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812171515.html>

Update: Reliant's 245 MW Coolwater Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by December 17

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 120 MW on December 17.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812171515.html>

Petroleum

Update: BP Doubles Production at Thunderhorse Field in Gulf of Mexico

Current production from the field is now over 200,000 boe/d after starting output from two new wells. BP plans to start additional production in the first half of 2009.

Bloomberg News, 10:36 December 18, 2008

http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/12-18-2008/0004944208&EDATE=

Power Outage Shuts Compressors at Valero's 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 17

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117843>

Power Outage Shuts PdVSA's 940,000 b/d Paragana Refinery Complex in Venezuela December 18

The refinery was partially shut for more than seven hours. The power outage also affected PdVSA's 300,000 b/d Cardon and 640,000 b/d Amuay refinery. PdVSA is working on restoring the Cardon refinery.

Bloomberg News, 11:14 December 18, 2008

Dow Jones, 11:18 December 18, 2008

Verkhnechonskneftegaz to Develop Verkhnechonskoe Oil and Gas Field in Eastern Siberia

Verkhnechonskneftegaz plans on producing 1 million tons of oil in 2009, and raise its annual production of the field up to 7-8 million tons by 2014.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=70790

Natural Gas

FERC Approves Startup of Dominion's Proposed Cove Point LNG Receiving Terminal Offshore Maryland

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index December 18, 2008, <http://intelligencepress.com/>

Turbine Shut at 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas December 17

The B-turbine went down on high egt temperature shutdown, which keeps the turbine from overheating.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117822>

Compressor Shut at 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas December 17

The compressor shut due to a communication failure.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117856>

Other News

Integrated Grain Processors Cooperative Commences Operation of a 150 Million Litre Ethanol Plant in Ontario December 17

<http://newsblaze.com/story/2008121715040200002.cc/topstory.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 18, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	38.89	48.03	90.91
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.79	5.67	7.16

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

**10,276 San Diego Gas & Electric Customers Lose Power December 17
1,593 Customers Still without Powers as of 4:00 PM December 18, 2008**

<http://www.sdge.com/outages/outageDetailsLists.shtml>

**Fog Halts Ship Traffic along U.S. Gulf Coast and at Beaumont and Port Arthur Oil Ports
in Texas and Lake Charles Oil Port in Louisiana, Interrupting Crude Shipments to
Refineries**

Reuters, 11:27 December 18, 2008

**Duke Energy Applies for Permit for Cliffside Coal-fired Unit 6 in North Carolina
New Permit would Exempt Duke Energy from Full Assessment of Plant's Emissions**

http://www.wfae.org/wfae/1_87_115.cfm?action=display&id=4583

**Previous Federal Estimates of Utah's Uinta Basin of 80 Billion Barrels of Shale Oil should
be Closer to 77 Billion Barrels of Crude-Oil Equivalent – USGS**

http://www.slttrib.com/News/ci_11257423

Well Head Explosion in Ventura, California December 17

<http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2008/dec/17/1-injured-well-head-explosion/>

Operations at Port Catoosa in Oklahoma Slowed due to December 16 Oil Spill

Dow Jones, 10:54 December 18, 2008

**Update: FERC Approves El Paso's Proposed 24.7 Bcf Black Warrior Gas Storage Project
in Mississippi**

Bloomberg News, 16:01 December 18, 2008

Fourteen U.S. Technology Companies to Build Plant for Advanced Electric Car Batteries

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122957206516817419.html>

**OPEC Exports (Excluding Angola and Ecuador) to Decrease 180,000 b/d by Early January
to 23.88 MMb/d – Analyst**

Reuters, 11:30 December 18, 2008

**Leading Gas Exporters to Meet in Moscow, Russia December 23 to Formalize the Gas
Exporting Countries Forum**

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=111&sid=1552053>

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>

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