



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 18, 2013

Electricity

NRC Says OPPD's 482 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Plant in Nebraska Ready to Restart after 3-Year Shutdown

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has determined the Fort Calhoun nuclear plant is ready to restart after being shut down for nearly three years to address a number of significant performance deficiencies. The plant, operated by Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), is located near Omaha, Nebraska. The plant has been shut down since April 2011 for a refueling outage that was extended due to record Missouri river flooding. The plant remained shut down to correct a variety of concerns with plant equipment, programs, and processes. The plant will remain under increased NRC oversight until the agency determines that the plant's performance warrants returning it to the normal reactor oversight program.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2013/13-039.iv.pdf>

Update: Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey Restarts, Ramps Up to 1 Percent by December 18

Exelon Corp.'s Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in New Jersey restarted and ramped up to 1 percent power by early Wednesday, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit was shut December 14 for maintenance on a system that controls its turbine valves that cannot be performed while the plant is generating electricity.

Reuters, 6:40 December 18, 2013

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/20131218ps.html>

Update: Exelon's 1,022 MW Clinton Nuclear Unit in Illinois Ramps Up to 70 Percent by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit was operating at 23 percent, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit restarted by December 15 after reporting a manual reactor trip from 18 percent power during a feed pump swap on December 13.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 82 Percent by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit was operating at 91 percent, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

Petroleum

BP Completes Commissioning of New Units at Its 413,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery December 18

BP announced today all the major new units associated with the Whiting modernization project have been successfully brought on stream. The start-up of the new 102,000 b/d coker in mid-November marked the last major milestone of the multi-year, multi-billion dollar modernization project at the facility in Northwest Indiana. The refinery is working through post-start-up troubleshooting activities and expects to be ready to begin the ramp up of progressively higher Canadian crude processing from year-end through the first quarter of 2014.

<http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/press/press-releases/bp-completes-commissioning-of-whiting-refinery-units.html>

Tesoro Performs Unscheduled Maintenance at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 17

Tesoro Corp. said it was performing unscheduled maintenance on an unspecified unit at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California. The company said it did not anticipate any impact to product supply commitments as a result of this maintenance activity. Tesoro earlier reported a major unit shutdown at the refinery, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 17:53 December 17, 2013

Chevron Reports Flare Gas Compressor Offline at Its 245,000 b/d Richmond, California Refinery December 16

Chevron Corp. reported a flare-gas compressor tripped offline at its Richmond, California, refinery, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 17:04 December 17, 2013

Phillips 66 Reports Sulfur Dioxide Emissions at Its 238,000 b/d Linden, New Jersey Refinery December 17

Phillips 66 reported sulfur dioxide emissions at its Bayway refinery in Linden, New Jersey, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.

Reuters, 12:20 December 17, 2013

TransCanada's 700,000 b/d Gulf Coast Pipeline to Begin Service January 22 – Chief Executive

TransCanada Corp. expects its new Gulf Coast oil pipeline to begin service on January 22, the Chief Executive said on Tuesday. The company is currently filling the Cushing, Oklahoma, to Port Arthur, Texas, pipeline with the 3 million barrels of crude oil needed before it can be placed into normal operation. Initial testing is showing no issues with the line and shippers were told of the planned in-service date on Monday.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=41734

Imperial Oil Seeks Approval for 135,000 b/d Oil Sands Project in Alberta

Exxon Mobil Corp.'s Canadian subsidiary, Imperial Oil Ltd, said Tuesday it has applied to local regulators for approval to develop a new 135,000 b/d oil sands project in northern Alberta. Pending regulatory approval, Imperial Oil plans to make a final decision on whether to move ahead as soon as 2017 and begin production as early as 2020.

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304403804579264832877799694>

Natural Gas

NEB Approves Four Canadian LNG Export License Applications

The National Energy Board (NEB) approved applications for 25 year natural gas export licenses to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Prince Rupert LNG Exports Ltd., Pacific NorthWest LNG Ltd., WCC LNG Ltd., and Woodfibre LNG Export Pte. Ltd. Recent developments in gas production technology have resulted in a significant increase in the Canadian gas resource base and North American gas supply. One of the major impacts of this increase is lower demand for Canadian gas in traditional gas markets in the United States and eastern Canada. As a result, the Canadian gas industry is seeking to access overseas gas markets through exports of LNG.

<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/nws/nwsrsls/2013/nwsrsls35-eng.html>

Atlas Pipeline Reports Flaring Inlet Gas at Its 195 MMcf/d Midkiff Gas Plant in Texas December 16

Atlas Pipeline reported a process failure at its Midkiff gas plant. The plant had an emergency shutdown on high dust filter DP. The dust filters were swapped and the plant was put back online.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192060>

ExxonMobil Reports Cat-3 Unit Shut at Its 65 MMcf/d Dollarhide Gas Plant in Texas December 17

ExxonMobil reported the cat-3 unit shut down on compressor vibration at its Dollarhide gas plant. The operator tried to restart the unit which made a loud internal clanking noise and declared an emergency shutdown. The unit is waiting to be repaired and the LPC wells were shut in to mitigate flaring.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192075>

Southern Union Reports Units Shut at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas December 16

Southern Union reported the GMV unit and emperor units shut down at its Keystone gas plant. Unit 23 was already down for repairs. The emperor units were put back online and unit 23 will be put back online once work is completed.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192048>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 18, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	97.04	97.80	87.73
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.20	4.24	3.20

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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