



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, December 28, 2012

Electricity

Update: More Than 106,000 Entergy and First Electric Cooperative Customers Remain without Power in Arkansas December 28

Utilities in Arkansas were working to restore power to customers affected by a powerful winter storm that struck the state last Tuesday, knocking out power to more than 220,000 customers at its peak. As of 4:00 p.m. EST today, 96,389 Entergy Arkansas customers and approximately 9,900 First Electric Cooperative customers remained without power. On Thursday, Entergy reported damage assessments were still under way as some 4,000 additional workers began arriving to help repair damage left by the storm, which brought freezing rain, sleet, and snow. The utility said customers in areas with the heaviest damage should expect an extended outage of seven or more days. Most affected customers will be restored sooner.

<http://viewoutage.entergy.com/ar.aspx>

http://www.entergy.com/news_room/newsrelease.aspx?NR_ID=2637

<http://outage.fecc.coop/>

http://arkansasmatters.com/fulltext?nxd_id=621652

Update: PPL's 1,111 MW Susquehanna Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Restarts December 27, Ramps Up to 15 Percent by December 28

Susquehanna Unit 2 is returning from an outage that began December 19, when the reactor automatically scrambled on low reactor pressure vessel level while transitioning the 'A' reactor feed pump from discharge pressure mode to flow control mode. Operators had been ramping up power on the unit following a previous outage that occurred on December 16, when an electrical connection problem caused an automatic shutdown during a scheduled turbine valve test. The unit had ramped up to 18 percent power when it automatically scrambled December 19. An unrelated issue with the positioning of a valve on one of the unit's main water pumps during start-up activities extended the outage, PPL said Friday.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://pplweb.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=12270&item=136440>

Update: TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Ramped Up to 89 Percent by December 28

Browns Ferry Unit 2 is returning from an outage that began December 22, when the unit automatically scrambled due to actuation of the Reactor Protection System (RPS) from loss of power to RPS. A control board had unexpectedly de-energized during post-maintenance testing, resulting in loss of power to the RPS. Operators restarted Unit 2 by December 26.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Dynegy's 754 MW Moss Landing Natural Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Shut by December 27

The unit entered an outage that was due to planned and unplanned causes.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201212271515.html>

Update: Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by December 27

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began by December 26.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201212271515.html>

Update: San Diego Gas & Electric's 575 MW Palomar Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by December 27

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 300 MW that began by December 26.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201212271515.html>

Update: MidAmerican Wind Announces Completion of 168 MW Pinyon Pines Wind I and 132 MW Pinyon Pines II Projects in California

MidAmerican Wind, a subsidiary of MidAmerican Renewables, today announced completion of its 168 MW Pinyon Pines Wind I and 132-megawatt Pinyon Pines Wind II projects, formerly known as Alta Wind VII and Alta Wind IX. The projects consist of a total of 100 Vestas 3-MW V90 wind turbines and are located near Tehachapi, California. Southern California Edison will purchase electricity from each of the projects under long-term power purchase agreements. The projects are interconnected to Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project.

http://www.midamericanrenewablesllc.com/news_renewables.aspx

PPL Electric Utilities Submits Northeast-Pocono Reliability Project to PUC for Approval

PPL Electric Utilities today announced it has submitted the Northeast-Pocono Reliability Project to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) for approval. The project would involve construction of three new electrical substations and a new 58-mile, 230-kV power line needed to meet rising demand in the region. The project is also needed because the existing network of 69-kV power lines in the area are no longer adequate to serve customer needs. The PUC review process generally takes about one year.

www.pplreliablepower.com/northeast-pocono

<http://pplweb.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=12270&item=136442>

Hurricane Sandy Prompts Utilities to Reconsider Their Disaster Plans, Bolster Infrastructure

The devastating impacts of Hurricane Sandy on the New York-New Jersey electrical grid has prompted utilities to reconsider their disaster plans. Utilities including Consolidated Edison and Public Service Enterprise Group are considering using flying drones to get fast snapshots of destruction, reinforcing power poles with concrete, and building "self-healing" networks that reroute electricity around damaged circuits.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-24/sandy-legacy-has-utilities-opening-wallets-for-drones.html?cmpid=yhoo>

Petroleum

Update: Chevron Sees Completion of Repairs at Its Fire-Damaged 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery in First Quarter of 2013

Chevron Corp. on Wednesday said the Richmond City Council issued permits that will allow operators at the Richmond refinery to proceed with repairs to bring the facility back to full production. The refinery has been operating at unspecified reduced rates since an August 6 fire caused by a failed pipe damaged the crude distillation unit. The company expects to complete repairs in the first quarter of 2013, a spokesman said. The council had earlier asked Chevron to delay the repairs until an investigation into the causes of the pipeline failure and fire was completed.

Reuters, 00:28 December 27, 2012

Irving Oil Receiving 90,000 b/d of Bakken and Albertan Crude Oil by Rail, Plans to Increase Shipments – Source

Irving Oil Corp. is moving more than 90,000 b/d of crude from North Dakota and Alberta by rail to its Saint John, New Brunswick refinery and plans to increase those shipments, according to a person familiar with the plans. Reports earlier in the year said the company planned to offload 70,000 b/d of Bakken and Western Canada grades at a new train terminal in Saint John, which was scheduled to become operational in September 2012.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-26/irving-refinery-said-to-get-90-000-barrels-a-day-by-rail.html>

Update: Enbridge Reports Delays on Project to Replace 243,000 b/d Crude Oil Line 6B in Michigan

Enbridge Energy LP last week said the project to replace its 243,000 b/d crude oil Line 6B, which runs from Griffith, Indiana through Michigan to Sarnia, Ontario, is facing delays because public opposition has prolonged the environmental permitting process and because the company hasn't secured all the necessary rights of way, according to a project manager. First announced in May, the project would involve building a new 36-inch pipeline adjacent to the existing line to increase capacity between Griffith and Stockbridge, Michigan and a new 30-inch pipeline from Stockbridge to eastern Michigan. After the new pipeline is installed, Enbridge will deactivate the old pipeline but leave it in place. Upon approval and completion of the project, the new Line 6B will have a capacity of more than 400,000 b/d. Enbridge initially estimated the new Line 6B would be in place by September 2013. The company now hopes to be ready to deactivate the existing line by October 2013, with the new line coming into service soon after that, the project manager said.

<http://www.14news.com/story/20416650/ind-work-on-new-oil-pipeline-delayed-until-spring>

Valero Shuts Alkylation Unit, FCCU to Repair Alkylation Unit at Its 135,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery December 21; Outage Not Expected to Last Long

Valero Energy Corp. on Friday said an alkylation unit and fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) were shut on December 21 to make repairs to the alkylation unit, according to a spokesman. The outage is not expected to last long, the spokesman said.

Reuters, 08:30 December 28, 2012

Unspecified Process Unit Malfunction Leads to Flaring at Phillips 66's 58,000 b/d Billings, Montana Refinery December 26

Phillips 66 reported an unspecified processing unit malfunction at its Billings refinery had caused flaring Wednesday afternoon, according to a company spokesman. Local media reports said a wet gas compressor failure in a fluid catalytic cracking unit had caused flaring at the refinery Wednesday.

Reuters, 15:45 December 27, 2012

Hess Reports Emissions at Its 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery December 27

Hess Corp. reported emissions at its Port Reading refinery Thursday, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.

Reuters, 14:49 December 27, 2012

Natural Gas

Turbine Shuts on Flow Transmitter Malfunction at DCP Midstream's 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant December 25

DCP Midstream reported a flow transmitter on a turbine at its Goldsmith plant froze late Tuesday night, causing the turbine to shut down, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177464>

Southern Reports Flaring at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas December 26

Southern Union Gas Services reported it was flaring low-pressure gas at its Keystone plant Wednesday afternoon after two field compressors upstream shut down, overloading the low-pressure system at the plant, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177482>

Enbridge Reports Emissions Due to Engine Shutdowns at Its 50 MMcf/d Reinecke Gas Plant in Texas December 25

Enbridge reported Engines 72833, 72834, 70427, 70539, and 77081 at its Reinecke gas plant shut down Tuesday morning due to high pressure because the plant froze up, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Unit 71050 also shut down Tuesday morning, due to problems involving compressor oil.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177487>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177488>

Compressor Motor Fault Shuts AGI Unit at Enbridge's Tilden Gas Plant in Texas December 27

Enbridge reported the No. 1 acid gas injector (AGI) unit at its Tilden plant went down Thursday afternoon due to a compressor motor fault, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=177514>

Other News

Nothing to report

International News

LUKOIL Cuts Iraq's West Qurna-2 Production Target by a Third

LUKOIL on Wednesday said that it has, in consultation with the Iraqi government, cut oil production targets at its West Qurna-2 oil field by almost a third, according to a company executive. Iraq has signed a series of contracts with foreign companies that target total oil production capacity of 12 MMb/d by 2017, but it has been considering a reduction in that target due to concerns about infrastructure and economics. LUKOIL is now targeting peak production at the West Qurna-2 oilfield of to reach 1.2 MMb/d, not 1.8 MMb/d as previously envisaged. In return for cuts, LUKOIL received an increase in the lifetime of the plateau production figure, which is now envisaged to last 19 years instead of the previous estimate of 12–13 years.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/27/lukoil-iraq-oil-idUSL5E8NR22020121227?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 30, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	90.61	87.96	99.72
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.31	3.35	3.07

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 and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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