



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, December 31, 2015

Electricity

Update: Power Restoration Continues to Over 40,000 Customers in Illinois, Oklahoma December 31 after Strong Storms Hit December 27–28

Restoration efforts were continuing on Thursday in Illinois and Oklahoma after strong storms producing damaging winds knocked out power to 447,604 customers Sunday and throughout the day Monday. As of 1:30 p.m. EST Thursday, 40,823 customers remained without power. Ameren Illinois said more than 162,000 customers have had power restored and its crews will continue efforts until all customers are restored. Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives said progress was continuing across the state as crews work around the clock to bring power back on for its customers. Public Service Company of Oklahoma said complete service restoration could take until 10:00 p.m. CST, January 1. OG&E expects the majority of power to be restored by January 1 although some of the hardest hit areas won't be restored until January 3.

Illinois, Oklahoma Customer Power Outages December 27–31, 2015			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Ameren Illinois	IL	172,000	7,827
Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives	OK	82,293	23,336
Public Service of Oklahoma	OK	133,311	1,102
OG&E	OK	60,000	8,558
TOTAL*		447,604	40,823

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

Sources:

<http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL>

<https://twitter.com/AmerenIllinois>

<https://twitter.com/OAECoops>

<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=December+27+Winter+Storm+in+Western+Oklahoma>

<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>

<https://www.facebook.com/OGEPower>

<https://oge.com/wps/portal/oge/outages/systemwatch!/ut/p/a1/>

Wind Knocks Out Power to 20,000 Matanuska Electric Association Customers in Alaska December 30

All 20,000 Matanuska Electric Association customers in Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska had power restored after strong winds hit on Wednesday. About 15,000 of those outages were due to a downed transmission line, which plays a major role for serving the Palmer, Wasilla, and Big Lake areas, according to a utility spokesperson.

<https://www.facebook.com/matanuska.electric>

<https://ebill.me.a.coop/woViewer/mapviewer.html?config=Outage+Web+Map>

<http://www.alaskapublic.org/2015/12/30/early-morning-mat-su-outage-leaves-up-to-20k-without-power/>

Update: NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuclear Unit in Nebraska at Full Power by December 31

On the morning of December 30 the unit was operating at 55 percent, reduced from full power on December 29.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramps Up to 84 Percent by December 31

On the morning of December 30 the unit was operating at 59 percent. The unit was reduced from 97 percent due to scheduled power-suppression testing.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Reuters, 8:43 December 29, 2015

Petroleum

Spectra Shuts Its 164,000 b/d Platte Oil Pipeline; Kinder Morgan Confirms Terminal Closures Due to Flooding Near St. Louis Metropolitan Area December 30 – Sources

Spectra Energy shut its Platte crude oil pipeline from Guernsey, Wyoming to Wood River, Illinois as a precautionary measure due to flooding along the Mississippi River. The 932-mile Platte Pipeline transports up to 164,000 b/d of crude oil from Casper, Wyoming, to Guernsey, Wyoming, and 145,000 b/d from Guernsey to Wood River, Illinois near the St. Louis metropolitan area. The Platte pipeline is the second crude system delivering into Wood River to shut as a result of flooding. On Tuesday, Enbridge confirmed its 200,000 barrel-per-day Ozark pipeline, which runs from Cushing, Oklahoma, to Wood River, shut due to the flooding. Phillips 66 operates a 336,000 b/d refinery in Wood River and confirmed operations were running normally amid flooding conditions on Tuesday, December 29. Kinder Morgan Inc. declared force majeure and shut its Cahokia terminal in Sauget, Illinois, and its Cora terminal in Rockwood, Illinois, a company spokesman said.

Reuters, 17:40 December 30, 2015

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-12-30/floods-shutting-midwest-oil-pipeline-seen-worsening-record-glut>

Valero's 180,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee Refinery and ExxonMobil's Memphis Refined Products Terminal Prepare for Flooding along Mississippi River December 30

Valero was preparing its 180,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee refinery for potential flooding along the Mississippi River as early as this weekend, a company spokesman said on Wednesday, December 30. The spokesman clarified, "We are preparing for potential flooding in the Memphis area, but we don't expect it to affect operations of our docks or our refinery." A source familiar with Valero's preparations said this weekend's high water was not expected to reach levels seen during flooding in 2011, when the refinery's docks were nearly inundated. Valero's docks sit at a higher elevation than the nearby ExxonMobil terminal docks. The Valero refinery is a major supplier of jet fuel to the FedEx hub in Memphis. In addition, Bloomberg News reported on Wednesday that ExxonMobil was closing a refined products terminal in Memphis ahead of possible flooding, however; an Exxon spokesman declined on Wednesday night to confirm the terminal would be shut, add that the company was monitoring the weather and potential flooding in the Memphis area.

Reuters, 23:40 December 30, 2015

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-12-30/floods-shutting-midwest-oil-pipeline-seen-worsening-record-glut>

Update: FCCU to Remain Shut at Marathon's 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery after Regenerator Piping Leak December 29 – Sources

The 120,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking unit #3 (FCCU 3) was shut on Tuesday at Marathon Petroleum Corp's Galveston Bay refinery in Texas will remain down for months as part of a previously scheduled overhaul that begins early next week, sources familiar with plant operations said on Wednesday. The planned overhaul of FCCU 3 and the hydrotreating units was scheduled to begin in early January and run through the first week of April, said the sources. Marathon also plans to shut one of the two 218,000 b/d crude distillation units at the refinery, in the third quarter of 2016, according to the sources. Early this month, Marathon executives said the company was planning to upgrade one of the crude units as part of a plan to integrate the Galveston Bay Refinery with Marathon's neighboring 84,000 b/d Texas City Refinery by 2020. Marathon shut FCCU 3 on Tuesday after working for nearly a month to plug a leak in piping on the unit, sources said on Tuesday.

Reuters, 21:40 December 30, 2015

Tesoro Reports Flaring at Its 257,300 b/d Carson, California Refinery December 31

Tesoro Corp reported flaring due to ongoing maintenance work at its Carson, California refinery.

Reuters, 10:28 December 31, 2015

Valero Repairs Pipe after Crude Oil Spill at Its 265,000 b/d Jean-Gaulin, Quebec Refinery December 30

Valero Energy Corp on Thursday said it was in the process of recovering crude oil and repairing a pipe following a leak at its Jean-Gaulin refinery in Quebec, Canada on Wednesday that led to the closure of some refining units. The units will be restarted once the process was completed, the company said. About seven cubic meters of oil leaked from the pipe.

Reuters, 21:12 December 30, 2015

Reuters, 10:46 December 31, 2015

U.S. Oil Drillers Cut Rigs for Six Out of Last Seven Weeks – Baker Hughes

U.S. energy firms cut oil rigs for a sixth week in the last seven, data showed on Thursday, a sign drillers were still waiting for higher prices before returning to the well pad. Drillers removed 2 oil rigs during the week ending December 31, bringing the total U.S. rig count down to 536, oil services company Baker Hughes said. That decrease brought the total rig count down to about a third of the roughly 1,500 oil rigs operating a year ago. Since the end of the summer, drillers have cut 136 oil rigs.

Reuters, 13:05 December 31, 2015

Natural Gas

Enbridge Reports SRU Shut at Its Pittsburg Gas Plant in Texas December 27

Enbridge reported its Pittsburg gas plant experienced mechanical issues with a diverter valve which caused a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) at the refinery to shut down. The equipment was brought back online and to mitigate emissions during startup, the thermal oxidizer and plant flare were utilized.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=225027>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 31, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	37.08	37.52	52.61
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.27	1.62	3.12

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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