



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, March 05, 2014

Electricity

Update: Nearly 8,800 Customers Remain Without Power March 5 in Texas, Mid-South After Winter Storm March 2-3

A severe snow and ice storm moved across Texas and the Mid-South on Sunday and into Monday, knocking out power to more than 135,000 customers across the area. As of 3:30 p.m. EST today, nearly 8,800 customers remained without power, according to affected utilities. Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLGW) reported 4,409 customers remained without power, down from a peak of 55,000 customers. Entergy Arkansas reported, 3,502 customers remained without power, down from a peak of 27,604 customers. It said that the hardest-hit areas should be restored by late Wednesday. AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) reported 885 customers remained without power, down from a peak of 16,415.

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ar.aspx>

http://www.mlgw.com/news/news_restorationmarch5_9am

<http://azimuth.mlgw.org/OutageSummary.php>

<http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=swepeco>

http://www.mlgw.com/news/news_cresrespondtowinterweather2014

<https://twitter.com/SWEPCoNews>

<https://twitter.com/EntergyArk>

Update: About 2,600 CenterPoint Energy and Entergy Texas Customers Remain Without Power in Houston Area March 5 After Ice, Freezing Rain March 4

A wintry mix that included freezing rain and ice hit the Houston, Texas, area March 4, leaving over 51,000 CenterPoint Energy and Entergy Texas customers without power. As of 3:30 p.m. EST today, CenterPoint reported 1,027 customers remained without power and Entergy Texas reported 1,591 customers without power. Entergy expected complete restoration by late Wednesday.

<http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/index.html>

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/tx.aspx>

<https://twitter.com/EntergyTX>

Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Shut March 4

Exelon reported unit 1 experienced a hot shutdown on Tuesday night from full power due to an electro hydraulic system failure resulting in all low pressure turbine intercept valves failing to close.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140305en.html>

Update: FPL's 510 MW Point Beach Nuclear Unit 1 in Wisconsin at Full Power by March 5

On the morning of March 4 the unit was operating at 58 percent. The unit was operating at full power on February 28 before reducing to 65 percent by March 1.

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

Update: Tesoro Says Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery Operating Normally, Alkylation Unit Back Online March 5

Tesoro Corp. said its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, was operating normally on Wednesday. The company had been working to bring an alkylation unit back online at the refinery after California safety regulators lifted an order prohibiting the use of the unit following a February 12 sulfuric acid spill that injured two workers. Reuters, 11:40 March 5, 2014

PBF Reports Leak in Fuel Gas Line at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery March 3

PBF Energy Inc. reported a leak in a fuel gas line at its refinery in Delaware City, Delaware, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. Crews were working to isolate the leak when the incident was reported on Monday, the filing said.

Reuters, 6:16 March 4, 2014

BP to Ramp up Heavy Crude Processing at Its Whiting, Indiana Refinery by 120,000 b/d

BP said its Whiting, Indiana refinery, which is currently processing 350,000 b/d, would ramp up processing of heavy crudes to 280,000 b/d in the next few months from the current 160,000 b/d. It said its target was to sustain heavy crude processing at 80 percent of capacity versus the previous 20 percent.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=42485

Phillips 66 Reports Emissions from Valve Release at Its 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery March 3

Phillips 66 reported emissions from a valve release at its refinery in Wood River, Illinois, according to a filing with state pollution regulators on Monday.

Reuters, 15:44 March 4, 2014

ExxonMobil Reports Crude Unit Start-up at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery March 3

ExxonMobil Corp. reported a crude unit started-up at its refinery in Joliet, Illinois, Monday evening, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 4:11 March 4, 2014

Fire Breaks Out in Coker Unit at ExxonMobil's 502,500 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery February 27

A fire broke out on Thursday afternoon in a delayed coking unit being overhauled at ExxonMobil Corp.'s Baton Rouge, Louisiana, refinery, sources familiar with refinery operations said on Friday. An ExxonMobil spokesperson confirmed a blaze broke out on an unidentified unit on Thursday at the refinery and was extinguished after about an hour. There were no injuries. Exxon began a planned, eight-week overhaul of a crude distillation unit and the coker along with other units on February 17, sources have told Reuters.

Reuters, 15:19 February 28, 2014

Valero May Shutter FCCU at Its 125,000 b/d Meraux, Louisiana Refinery by End of 2015

Valero Energy Corp. may shutter the fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU) at its Meraux, Louisiana, refinery sometime in 2015 as part of an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulators but may shut the unit earlier after the construction of a hydrocracker at the plant, the company's chief executive officer said.

Reuters, 18:43 March 4, 2014

Update: Valero's 290,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Back to Full Production after Repairs to Steam Line March 4 – Sources

Valero Energy Corp.'s Port Arthur, Texas, refinery was back at full production after repairs to a steam line that ruptured late last week, sources familiar with operations at the refinery said on Tuesday. A Valero spokesman said, however, the company had no immediate comment about the Port Arthur refinery's level of production. The steam line rupture on Friday caused minor injuries to one worker and cut steam needed by the refinery's two crude distillation units (CDUs). Production on the CDUs was cut back while the repairs were under way, the sources said.

Reuters, 11:22 March 4, 2014

Update: ExxonMobil Reports Its 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery Back to Normal March 1 after Malfunction

ExxonMobil Corp.'s Beaumont, Texas, refinery resumed normal operation on Saturday after a malfunction on an unidentified unit, according to a notice the refinery filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. A process compressor suddenly stopped operating, triggering the refinery's safety flare system, according to the notice. The refinery anticipates no impact to production, according to the notice.
Reuters, 17:46 March 2, 2014

ExxonMobil Reports No Production Impact from Hydrocracker Unit Emissions at Its 560,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery March 5

ExxonMobil Corp. said there was no impact to production due to emissions from hydrocracker unit 1 at its Baytown, Texas, refinery. Exxon had reported emissions from the unit, according to a filing with a pollution regulator.
Reuters, 11:42 March 5, 2014

Update: Phillips 66 Reports Unit 35 Heater at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery Back March 4 after Upset due to Cold Weather

Phillips 66 reported it brought back online a heater associated with unit 35 after an upset due to cold weather at its Sweeny refinery in Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
Reuters, 14:05 March 4, 2014

Valero Reports Cooling Tower Leak at Its 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery February 27

Valero Energy Corp. reported a leak from a cooling tower that resulted in emissions at the East plant of its refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Friday. The source of the leak was investigated and when identified, the equipment was isolated from the cooling tower, the filing said.
Reuters, 14:10 February 28, 2014

Alon Reports Crude Unit Flaring at Its 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery February 28

Alon USA Energy Inc. reported emissions from a crude flare due to a minor unit upset at its refinery in Big Spring, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The flaring was caused by a feed change that resulted in a crude desalter system upset and subsequent unit instability, the filing said. The upset lasted for about four hours, and the unit later returned to normal targets, the filing said.
Reuters, 17:54 February 28, 2014

Update: Delek Reports Unit Restart, Boiler Emissions at Its 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery March 4

Delek U.S. Holdings reported excess emissions at a boiler stack during a unit restart at its Tyler, Texas, refinery, according to a notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Tuesday. The company restored normal operation as quickly as practicable, according to the filing. The filing listed carbon monoxide boiler number nine and a catalytic cracker unit as sources of emissions.
Reuters, 18:18 March 4, 2014

TransCanada Files Description for 1.1 Million b/d Crude Oil Pipeline from Alberta to Quebec and New Brunswick

TransCanada Corp. said on Tuesday it had filed a preliminary project description of its \$10.8 billion Energy East oil pipeline project with regulators. The company said the filing to Canada's National Energy Board was the first formal step in securing regulatory approval for the line, which will carry 1.1 million b/d of crude oil 2,800 miles from Alberta to Quebec and New Brunswick. A full regulatory filing is expected to come later this year and the line is expected to be in service in 2018.
Reuters, 15:29 March 4, 2014

Update: Third Well Capped at Chevron Appalachia's Lanco Well Pad in Pennsylvania Over Weekend

Crews capped a third well at the Chevron gas well pad in Dunkard Township, Pennsylvania, after a February 11 explosion that killed a worker and injured another. Officials stated that a new well head was installed March 1 on the well that was not leaking but had been monitored. Wild Well Control had successfully capped the 6H well on February 25 and the 7H well on February 23.

<http://www.chevron.com/news/mediaresources/updates.news>

Wyoming Interstate Co. Reports Force Majeure at the Harold Burrow Compressor Station in Wyoming March 1

Wyoming Interstate Company, L.L.C. (WIC) experienced an outage at its Harold Burrow Compressor Station on Saturday, March 1, due to a mechanical failure. After further evaluation, WIC does not anticipate any impact to scheduled volumes at this time. As a result of the outage, WIC had reduced operational capacity from 745 MMcf/d to 620 MMcf/d.

<http://ebb.cigco.com/ebbmastertpage/Notices/NoticesAutoTable.aspx?code=WIC&status=Notice&name=Critical%20Notices&sParam1=0410&sParam3=8259&sParam14=D&details=Y>

Update: East Tennessee Natural Gas' Gainsboro Compressor Station in Tennessee Returns to Service March 4

East Tennessee Natural Gas (ETNG) resolved an unplanned outage that began February 26 at its Gainsboro Compressor Station on the 3100 line and has returned the station to full capability.

<http://infopost.spectraenergy.com/infopost/NoticeListDetail.asp?strKey1=43076&type=CRI&Embed=2&pipe=ET>

Natural Gas Pipeline Co. Reports Force Majeure at Compressor Station 311 in Illinois March 5

A Force Majeure event occurred at Compressor Station 311, located in Piatt County, Illinois. Natural Gas Pipeline (NGP) experienced an unexpected outage due to a mechanical failure on one of the compressor units requiring NGP to reduce the throughput capacity northbound out of the Gulf Coast Mainline Zone. The scheduling constraint will be at Compressor Station 309 (Segment 27 of Natural's Gulf Coast Mainline Zone). Any gas received south of Station 309 for delivery north of Station 309 (including transport associated with storage withdrawals) will be impacted. Effective for gas day Wednesday, March 5, Intraday 1 Cycle, and anticipated to continue through gas day Friday, March 7, NGP will schedule Primary Firm and Secondary in-path Firm transports to 87 percent of contract maximum daily quantity (MDQ) through Compressor Station 309 from the Gulf Coast Mainline Zone. The actual nomination levels and changes in pipeline conditions could result in changes to the percentage scheduled (lower or higher) on subsequent gas days.

<http://pipeline.kindermorgan.com/infoposting/noticeDetail.aspx>

Natural Gas Pipeline Co. Lifts Force Majeure at Compressor Station 194 in Kansas March 3

Natural Gas Pipeline on March 3 lifted a Force Majeure event that occurred earlier that same day at Compressor Station 194, located in Ellsworth County, Kansas. Transport scheduling resumed to normal operations.

<http://pipeline.kindermorgan.com/infoposting/noticeDetail.aspx>

Upton Reports Flaring at Its 112 MMcf/d Benedum Gas Plant in Texas March 4

Upton reported its Benedum gas plant experienced flaring of various inlet and plant gases due to high volumes of liquids entering into the plant from field gas and higher than contract allowed hydrogen sulfide levels in inlet gas. Operations responded to the high liquid levels by draining scrubbers and restarting units throughout the day. Operations had to flare the high hydrogen sulfide inlet gas and alert the suppliers of exceeding the plant's inlet gas specification. The site's flare was maintained in good working order, pilots were monitored, and no bypassing of the control device occurred.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=194998>

Enbridge Reports AGIs Trip at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas March 3

Enbridge reported acid gas injector (AGI) no. 3 tripped on fifth stage high discharge pressure resulting from the plant shut down due to the emergency shutdown (ESD) valve closing. AGI no. 2 tripped on low suction pressure. The ESD valve closing resulted in all four B/F inlet compressors to trip on high discharge pressure. W/K inlet gas was curtailed to reduce flaring due to the trip of AGI no. 2. The ESD was a result of the plant surge tank level dropping from 48 percent to 19 percent. Plant personnel drained liquid out of the surge tank level controller and calibrated the level control transmitter. B/F compressors were restarted and the plant equalized. As acid gas became available AGI no. 3 was restarted and stabilized. Gas flow through W/K was increased and as additional acid gas was available, AGI no. 2 was restarted and stabilized.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=194963>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 5, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	102.15	102.20	90.24
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.92	5.62	3.53

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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