



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, January 02, 2014

Electricity

Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York at Full Power by January 2

On the morning of January 1 the unit was operating at 50 percent from full power on December 31, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Mirant's 337 MW Contra Costa Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Returns to Service by January 1

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began May 1.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201401011515.html>

Update: Ace's 118 MW Coal-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by January 1

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began September 28.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201401011515.html>

Cabrillo Power I, LLC's 106 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Shut by January 1

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201401011515.html>

Petroleum

Sulfur Dioxide Leak, Injuries Reported at Phillips 66's 139,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery December 31

Eleven people were treated for minor respiratory problems on Tuesday from a sulfur dioxide leak at Phillips 66's Wilmington, California, refinery. A hazardous materials team was on hand to investigate the scene and investigators said the problem was localized within the grounds of the refinery. The leak was reportedly contained and the incident posed no danger to surrounding community, according to officials.

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2013/12/31/9-hurt-in-leak-at-wilmington-oil-refinery/>

Northern Tier Reaches Agreement With Workers to Avoid Strike at Its 92,500 b/d St. Paul Park Refinery in Minnesota December 31

Northern Tier Energy has reached an agreement with its employees to avoid a shutdown of its St. Paul Park refinery. Teamsters Local 120, the union which represents refinery operators, maintenance workers, and others, had said that management wanted to cut some workers' pay, eliminates jobs, and undermine seniority in a way that compromises safety. The union was set to strike at midnight on Thursday which would have shut down pumps at 163 company-owned and 74 franchise-owned SuperAmerica gas stations.

http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/morning_roundup/2014/01/st-paul-park-refinery-strike-avoided.html

<http://www.startribune.com/business/238286681.html>

Update: Petroleum Federated Co-op's 130,000 b/d Regina Refinery in Saskatchewan Running at Reduced Rates After December 24 Explosion, Fire

Production at Petroleum Federated Co-op's Regina refinery on Tuesday was down to about 60,000 b/d of fuel after a December 24 explosion and fire. Senior Managers said production is expected to rise to about 90,000 b/d by late January as the refinery recovers. Investigators will review video of the scene and the incident and check engineering drawings of the area where the blast and fire occurred. In addition to the reactor, where the blast occurred, three other units have been taken offline for inspection.

<http://www.leaderpost.com/health/layoffs+refinery+production+slowly+reviving/9337677/story.html>

North Dakota Regulators Approve Byproduct Pipelines for Dakota Prairie Refining's New 20,000 b/d Diesel Refinery and Bakken Oil Express' 165,000 b/d Crude Oil Pipeline

The North Dakota Public Service Commission approved two pipelines that will carry petroleum byproducts from Dakota Prairie Refining's new diesel refinery near Dickinson, North Dakota, to Lario Shipping LLC's rail hub. The refinery is slated for startup in December 2014 and will use the 6- and 8-inch pipelines to transport the byproducts about 5,900 feet from the refinery's storage tanks to the rail hub. The refinery will process 20,000 b/d of Bakken crude, producing 7,000 to 10,000 b/d of diesel fuel that will be trucked to fueling stations within 50 miles of the refinery. The refinery also will produce byproducts that will be sent through the pipelines and shipped to market by rail. The commission also approved Bakken Oil Express LLC's application to construct a 38-mile, 16-inch-diameter crude oil pipeline will transport up to 165,000 b/d of oil from a facility near Killdeer to an existing rail hub owned by Bakken Oil Express southwest of Dickinson, according to documents filed with the commission. Construction is expected to take 12 to 14 weeks.

<http://www.prairiebizmag.com/event/article/id/17284/>

Update: BNSF Railway Reopens Track After December 30 Crude Oil Train Derailment, Fire in North Dakota

BNSF Railway Co. said it reopened the two mainline tracks that it shut after a crude oil train exploded after it hit a derailed grain train west of Casselton, North Dakota, on December 30. The company said it reopened one track at 3 a.m. CST and the other at 3:15 a.m. on Thursday. BNSF said customers might experience delays of up to 36 hours on shipments through that corridor. A 106-car eastbound BNSF train carrying crude oil crashed into a railcar of a derailed westbound BNSF grain train from an opposing track on Monday, setting off explosions and a fire that burned for more than 24 hours, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). No injuries were reported and the NTSB is investigating the incident.

Reuters, 11:50 January 2, 2014

TransCanada's Cushing, Oklahoma to Gulf Coast Pipeline to Begin Shipping Crude Oil January 22

TransCanada expects its pipeline between Cushing, Oklahoma, and the Gulf Coast to begin shipping oil January 22. The company began injecting crude oil into the 485-mile, 36-inch pipeline in early December. A spokesperson said the process involves injecting about 3 million barrels of oil into the system at Cushing and moving it to the Houston area. Once line-fill is complete, TransCanada's team will move into the final phase of commissioning for its meters, pump stations, and other related facilities. Regulatory filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission set January 3 as the date for rates, rules, and regulations to become effective to commence transportation services to the Gulf Coast. The pipeline is the southern leg of TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL pipeline, which would transport oil from Canada's oil sands and the Bakken Shale in North Dakota to refineries in the Houston area.

<http://www.krgv.com/news/okla-pipeline-to-gulf-coast-to-crank-up-jan-22-605788>

Natural Gas

Regency Reports AGI Compressor Shut at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas January 1

Regency reported the acid gas injector (AGI) compressor shut down on high third stage scrubber level. The scrubber level was checked and manually drained, and the compressor was reset and restarted.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192446>

Enbridge Reports AGIs Trip at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas December 31

Enbridge reported acid gas injector (AGI) no. 3 tripped due to fourth stage low discharge pressure and AGI no. 2 tripped due to a compressor motor fault. Plant personnel determined the issue was a malfunctioning fourth stage pressure relief valve. A technician was called out to investigate the cause of malfunction and determined the valve was not sealing correctly due to accumulation of debris on valve seat. The valve was cleaned and AGI no. 3 was started and stabilized. The electrical breaker on AGI no. 2 was reset and AGI no. 2 was started and stabilized.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192407>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Libya Says Protesters Agree To Reopen 350,000 b/d El Sharara Oilfield, Eastern Libya Oil Ports Remain Blocked

Libya hopes to resume oil production at its El Sharara oilfield within three days after protesters agreed to suspend their two-month stoppage, officials said on Thursday. Tribesmen calling for greater local power have blocked the 350,000 b/d oilfield since the end of October. The defense ministry said the protesters had agreed to suspend their strike after the government agreed to listen to their demands, a ministry spokesman said. In eastern Libya, there was no sign of an end to the blockage of three oil ports with the pro-autonomy group holding them reiterating the government needed to share oil revenues with other regions.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/130896/Libya_Says_Protesters_Agree_To_Reopen_Major_Oilfield#sthash.bcFMSkqE.dpuf

Reuters, 9:50 January 2, 2014

Kurdistan Oil Flow to Turkey via New Pipeline Begins at 300,000 b/d, Worldwide Exports Await Iraqi Consent – Turkish Energy Minister

Crude oil from Iraqi Kurdistan started flowing via a new pipeline to the Ceyhan, Turkey export hub but will not be shipped to world markets without the consent of Iraq, the Turkish Energy Minister said on Thursday. The Energy minister said he hopes a deal can be reached this month for exports to begin. Flows through the pipeline would start at 300,000 b/d and rise to 400,000 b/d.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/130895/Kurdistan_Oil_Flow_to_Turkey_Begins_Exports_Await_Iraqi_Consent#sthash.lJbsm9VE.dpuf

Natural Gas Pipeline Attacked by Gunmen in Sinai, Egypt – Security Sources

Unknown assailants attacked a natural gas pipeline in Sinai on Tuesday, Egyptian security sources said. The blast took place in the central region of Sinai on a pipeline that carried natural gas to an industrial area. There were no reports of injuries and security forces were investigating the cause of the blast.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/130883/Security_Sources_Gunmen_Blast_Natgas_Pipeline_In_Sinai#sthash.DLWx3qt7.dpuf

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 2, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	96.01	99.48	92.89
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.31	4.43	3.24

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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