



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, January 03, 2014

Electricity

RRI Energy, Inc.'s 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by January 2

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201401021515.html>

Petroleum

Motiva Reports Benzene Release at Its 285,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 1

Motiva reported benzene was released from the 1886 gasoline tank due to an operations issue at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1069942

Department of Transportation Issues Warning About Bakken Crude Oil Shipped From North Dakota, Montana January 2

A safety alert was issued Thursday by the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to notify the general public, emergency responders, and shippers and carriers that recent derailments and resulting fires indicate that the type of crude oil being transported from the Bakken region may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil. Based upon preliminary inspections conducted after recent rail derailments in North Dakota, Alabama, and Lac-Megantic, Quebec involving Bakken crude oil, PHMSA said it was reinforcing the requirement to properly test, characterize, classify, and where appropriate, sufficiently degasify hazardous materials prior to and during transportation. The announcement said that the Bakken's light, sweet crude oil may be different from traditional heavy crudes because it is prone to ignite at a lower temperature. Experts say lighter crudes, which contain more natural gas, have a much lower flash point. The amount of oil moving by rail in the U.S. has spiked over the last several years; from just more than 10,000 tanker cars in 2009 to a projected 400,000 cars in 2013.

http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/1_2_14%20Rail_Safety_Alert.pdf

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/warning-issued-oil-shipped-mont-21400646>

Natural Gas

Enbridge Reports AGIs Trip at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas January 2

Enbridge reported acid gas injectors (AGIs) no. 2 and no. 3 tripped on low suction pressure after the BF compressors tripped due to high liquid levels resulting from an unexpected large quantity of liquids received from a pigging activity. Plant personnel separated the slug catcher down to operating level, manually blew down the BF inlet separator, and started the BF compressors. The plant was started and as acid gas became available, AGIs no. 2 and no. 3 were restarted and stabilized.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=192484>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Iraq Stops Pumping Oil After Kirkuk-Ceyhan Pipeline Bombing January 3

Militants bombed a major oil pipeline in northern Iraq that runs to the Turkish port of Ceyhan, on Thursday, causing a fire and forcing pumping to be suspended, an official from the North Oil Company said. Blasts hit the pipeline in Salaheddin province to the north of Baghdad, the official said, adding that the fire was extinguished and repairs had begun. Officials are aiming to increase production capacity to 9 million b/d by 2017, a target that the International Monetary Fund and International Energy Agency have warned is over-optimistic.

Reuters, 19:13 January 2, 2014

Iraq's Basra Oil Exports Cut to 888,000 b/d Due to Bad Weather

Bad weather in the Persian Gulf cut crude exports from Iraq's southern port of Basra to 888,000 b/d on Thursday from about 2.44 million b/d a day earlier, a shipping source said. High winds disrupted loading operations and lowered shipments leaving only one single-point mooring in operation, the source said.

Reuters, 16:04 January 2, 2014

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 3, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	94.60	100.34	93.10
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.32	4.40	3.30

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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