



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, January 05, 2009

## ***Electricity***

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### **Winds Cut Power to an Additional 81,500 Customers in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania December 31-January 1**

Winds cuts power to an estimated 49,000 Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. (BGE) customers in Maryland, 22,500 Appalachian Power customers in Virginia, and 10,000 Peco Energy customers in Pennsylvania December 31-January 1, multiple sources reported. Those totals were in addition to the 115,640 customers reported without power on December 31 in the Energy Assurance Daily.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200881231066>

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.wind01jan01.0.6487988.story>

<http://www.wset.com/news/stories/1208/581610.html>

[http://www.philly.com/philly/news/pennsylvania/20090101\\_Trees\\_poles\\_toppled\\_leaving\\_some\\_without\\_power.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/news/pennsylvania/20090101_Trees_poles_toppled_leaving_some_without_power.html)

### **Snowstorms Knock Out Power to 28,160 Customers in Washington January 4-5**

Overnight storms cut power to more than 19,000 Seattle City Light customers, about 6,600 Puget Sound Energy customers and 2,560 Grays Harbor PUD customers in Washington State, a news source reported. Both Seattle City Light and Puget Sound Energy restored power to most affected customers by this morning.

[http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW\\_010509WXB\\_snow\\_power\\_outages\\_LJ.3e56b459.html](http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW_010509WXB_snow_power_outages_LJ.3e56b459.html)

### **Fire, Explosion at SRP's Unfinished Springerville Generating Station Unit 4 in Arizona**

A fire and explosion injured one person at Salt River Project's (SRP) unfinished Springerville Generating Station Unit 4 in Arizona December 31, the company said. The fire began in a switching room at about 10 AM, and triggered an electrical explosion. Unit 4, under construction since February 2007, had been scheduled to enter service in December 2009. It was not immediately clear if those plans might be altered. The fire did not result in any power outages, and no cause was known, as of early reports. The facility consists of three coal-fired units: the 425 MW Unit 1, the 425 MW Unit 2, and the 450 MW Unit 3.

<http://www.azfamily.com/news/local/stories/springerville-local-news-123108-srp-plant-fire.25f5b26e.html>

### **Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramped Up to 98 Percent by January 4**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 3 the unit was operating at 72 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **PPL's 1,105 MW Susquehanna Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 94 Percent by January 4**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 3 the unit was operating at 80 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **Exelon's 1,043 MW Clinton Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois Returns to 96 Percent by January 2**

The unit had slowed to 80 percent power by December 31, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported. Reuters, 07:14 January 2, 2009

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

## **Xcel's 578 MW Monticello Nuke Unit in Minnesota Ramped Up to 75 Percent by January 5**

Xcel Energy slowed the unit to 40 percent power by January 2 to carry out work on a feed water pump, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of January 4 the unit was operating at 40 percent.

Reuters, 07:49 January 5, 2009

Bloomberg News, 06:49 January 5, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

## **Luminant Shuts, Plans Restart of 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas January 2-5**

Luminant expected to shut the unit on January 2 to "replace a 1-B Heater Valve," it said in a filing with state regulators. It planned to restart the unit from January 4 to January 5, according to a separate filing. Operators had only just returned the unit to service on January 1, following boiler tube leak repairs, a third filing indicated.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118328>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118315>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118260>

## **AES's 498 MW Alamosa Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Shut by January 3**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by January 3.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200901031515.html>

## **Duke's 222 MW Southbay Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by January 2**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by January 2.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200901021515.html>

## **OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 2 in Ontario Shuts January 2**

The unit shut only hours after returning from a previous outage.

Reuters, 08:26 January 5, 2009

Reuters, 12:45 January 2, 2009

## **OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 3 in Ontario Shuts by January 5**

Reuters, 08:26 January 5, 2009

Bloomberg News, 09:01 January 5, 2009

## **TransAlta's 406 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 4 in Alberta Shuts January 4**

Reuters, 09:00 January 5, 2009

## **TransAlta Shuts, Restarts 406 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 6 in Alberta January 2-5**

Unit 6 shut on January 2, and resumed output early this morning.

Bloomberg News, 08:19 January 5, 2009

## **TransAlta Shuts 383 MW Keephills Coal-fired Unit 1 in Alberta January 3**

Bloomberg News, 10:32 January 4, 2009

## **Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 4 in Ontario by January 5**

The unit shut by December 29.

Reuters, 08:33 January 5, 2009

## **Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 8 in Ontario by January 5**

The unit shut by December 29.

Reuters, 08:33 January 5, 2009

## **Symbiotics LLC Plans 100 MW Hydroelectric North Eden Pump Project in Utah**

Symbiotics LLC plans to build a 100 MW hydroelectric pump storage facility near Bear Lake, Utah, the company said. The pump would operate at night, pumping water to the high point in the system. During the day the water would be released, generating electricity during times of peak demand.

[http://www.sltrib.com/business/ci\\_11371267](http://www.sltrib.com/business/ci_11371267)

## **SWEPSCO Files with PSC to Rebuild Patterson Power Plant in Arkansas**

Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPSCO) filed with the Arkansas Public Service Commission (PSC) to rebuild its existing Patterson Station in Arkansas, sources reported. SWEPSCO would upgrade the facility from a 138/115 kV station to a 138 kV breaker-and-a-half station. It would be sited less than a mile from its current location. If built, the station would serve much as a large transformer for SWEPSCO's nearby, planned coal-fired John W. Turk Jr. Power Plant, helping to reduce voltage levels. The John W. Turk facility is slated for 2012 completion.

[http://www.apscservices.info/pdf/08/08-168-u\\_2\\_1.pdf](http://www.apscservices.info/pdf/08/08-168-u_2_1.pdf)

<http://ap.thecabin.net/pstories/state/ar/20081231/372821351.shtml>

<http://www.arkansasbusiness.com/article.aspx?aid=111116.54928.123245>

## **Dynegy Announces Dissolution of Coal Power Joint Venture with LS Power**

Dynegy and LS Power agreed to dissolve the companies' development joint venture, Dynegy said in a release. Under the terms, LS Power will acquire full ownership and development rights associated with various "greenfield" projects under consideration in multiple U.S. states. Dynegy emphasized that the decision would not impact its planned 665 MW Plum Point power project in Arkansas, or its proposed 900 MW Sandy Creek power facility in Texas.

<http://investor.shareholder.com/dynegy/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=357286>

## **Petroleum**

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### **Update: After December 25 Fire, CHS May Resume Normal Operations in January at 59,600 b/d Laurel, Montana Refinery**

Cenex Harvest States Coop (CHS) may resume normal operations at its 59,600 b/d Laurel, Montana refinery by the second half of January, the company said. A December 25 fire forced shut an ultra-low-sulfur diesel unit. "Initial review shows the incident was the result of a pipe failure," a company spokeswoman said. The blaze did not cause any major equipment damage, she said. The refinery is running at reduced rates.

Bloomberg News, 10:33 January 2, 2009

### **Update: After More than Three Years, BP Restores Full Capabilities at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery**

BP finished restarting a 75,000 b/d reformer, and has now restored the 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas facility "to its full economic capability," a company spokesman said on January 2. The refinery has been at reduced capacity for more than three years, following Hurricane Rita.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/nb/bay/news/6192052.html>

Reuters, 16:01 January 2, 2009

### **Update: BP Restarts 96,000 b/d FCC at Carson, California Refinery over Weekend**

BP restarted a fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) at its 265,000 b/d Carson, California refinery over the weekend, a source close to the facility's operations said. The unit shut due to mechanical issues on December 14, another source said.

DJN, 1125 January 5, 2009

Reuters, 11:12 January 5, 2009

Bloomberg News, 12:11 January 5, 2009

### **Update: Valero Restarts 55,000 b/d FCC at 160,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery December 31**

Valero restarted a 55,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) at its 160,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey refinery, a spokesman said December 31. The company shut the unit in early December, and later extended the outage on weak gasoline margins.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200901/Valero\\_St\\_Charles\\_Corpus\\_FCCs\\_Down\\_In\\_14481.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200901/Valero_St_Charles_Corpus_FCCs_Down_In_14481.aspx)

### **Update: Valero FCCs to Remain Down Indefinitely at St. Charles, Louisiana and Corpus Christi, Texas Refineries**

Valero will keep fluid catalytic cracker units (FCCs) offline indefinitely at two refineries, the company said, as poorer gasoline margins squeeze profit potential. The company shut a 100,000 b/d FCC at its 190,000 b/d St. Charles, Louisiana refinery in December, and a 20,000 b/d unit at its 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas facility shortly thereafter.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200901/Valero\\_St\\_Charles\\_Corpus\\_FCCs\\_Down\\_In\\_14481.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200901/Valero_St_Charles_Corpus_FCCs_Down_In_14481.aspx)

### **Update: Flying J's 66,000 b/d Big West Refinery in California Shut for Routine Work**

Flying J's 66,000 b/d Big West refinery in California is shut for routine maintenance, it said last week, contrary to earlier concerns that it was shut for financial reasons. Flying J filed for bankruptcy on December 22, and the subsequent Big West shutdown stoked speculators' concerns that the facility was down on monetary concerns.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Big\\_West\\_Halts\\_Refining\\_Citing\\_Maintena\\_14472.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Big_West_Halts_Refining_Citing_Maintena_14472.aspx)

### **Militants Assault Agip's Burutu Pipeline in Nigeria, Shut in 200,000 Barrels of Oil**

Militants attacked and blew up Agip's Burutu oil pipeline at Okuntun village in Nigeria on January 2, shutting in 200,000 barrels of oil, sources reported. Repairs are underway along the affected line, which delivers crude from Agip production platforms to an Agip-owned oil flow station. The flow station was also down. Authorities suspected Nigerian youths were to blame for the attack.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gHJyop68FyJkZy4mhXIgmHhzZRvwD95FNSMO0>

<http://www.punchng.com/Articl.aspx?theartic=Art200901040483448>

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200901050405.html>

### **Chevron Eyes 2009 Production at 200-300 Million Barrel Frade Oil-and-gas Field Offshore Brazil**

Chevron plans to begin production this year at its estimated 200-to-300 million barrel of oil Frade field offshore Brazil, a news source reported.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=71235](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71235)

### **DOE to Resume Filling Strategic Petroleum Reserve in 2009**

Citing reduced oil prices, the Department of Energy (DOE) plans to begin re-filling the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in 2009, it said in a press release. DOE has issued a solicitation to purchase approximately 12 million barrels of oil. From May 2008 through the end of 2008, DOE was prohibited by law from acquiring petroleum for the SPR. Acquisitions in 2009 will fill the SPR to its current storage capacity of 727 million barrels and provide the U.S. with approximately 70 days of net import protection.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/6821.htm>

### **In Shrunk Oil Market, China Works to Fill its Reserves**

As oil prices wane, China, like the United States, is working to fill its strategic petroleum reserves, observers say.

The head of the nation's National Energy Administration said last week that, given demand conditions, China should seek to store more oil. China does not provide specific reserve figures, but analysts suspect it has been increasing its oil supplies for a significant stretch of time.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123110329174852017.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123110329174852017.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **AGL Developing 12 Bcf Natural Gas Storage Caverns in Texas**

AGL Resources plans to open one 12 Bcf natural gas salt dome in 2010, and a second in 2012. It has the option to develop an additional three.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/business/energy/6191966.html>

## ***Other News***

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### **DOE Receives 34 Applications in Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Loan Program**

The Department of Energy (DOE) received 34 applications for the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Incentive Program, a low-interest loan program meant to boost development of fuel-efficient vehicles. The program was established in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/01/02/ap5875273.html>

### **Coshocton Ethanol Hopes to Resume Production at 60 Million Gallon/Year Coshocton, Ohio Ethanol Plant on January 19**

Coshocton Ethanol shut the plant in December as low ethanol prices and higher corn rates squeezed profit margins. Anticipating an early-year reduction in corn prices, the company hopes to resume production on January 19.

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-30623/>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 5, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	47.73	37.97	97.77
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	5.41	5.44	7.51

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### **Ice on Power Lines Cuts Electricity to about 17,000 TXU Customers in Texas January 5**

<http://www.myfoxdfw.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=8192682&version=6&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

### **Windstorm Knocks Out Power to About 15,000 Puget Sound Energy Customers in Washington December 31**

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20090105/news/301059996>

### **South-Central Power Reports 11,062 Customers without Power in Ohio January 4**

[http://www.southcentralpower.com/ow/ow\\_map.aspx](http://www.southcentralpower.com/ow/ow_map.aspx)

### **Winds Cut Power Briefly to 11,000 Pacific Power Customers in Oregon January 2**

<http://www.nrtoday.com/article/20090102/NEWS/901029958/1063/NEWS&ParentProfile=1055&title=Wind%20blows%20out%20power%20across%20county,%20state>

### **Blizzard Knocks Out Power to More than 11,000 Nova Scotia Power Customers in Canada January 2**

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/01/02/atlantic-storm.html?ref=rss>

### **Update: SCE&G and Santee Cooper Select V.C. Summer Nuclear Station in South Carolina as Preferred Location for Planned Nuclear Facility**

<http://www.charlestonbusiness.com/news/26058-sce-amp-g-santee-cooper-select-nuclear-reactor-site-design?rss=0>

### **Update: Progress Energy Florida Inks Deal with Westinghouse Electric, Shaw Group for Engineering, Procurement and Construction of Two 1,105 MW Nuclear Power Units in Florida**

[http://pepei.pennnet.com/Articles/Article\\_Display.cfm?Section=ARTCL&SubSection=Display&PUBLICATION\\_ID=6&ARTICLE\\_ID=349284](http://pepei.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?Section=ARTCL&SubSection=Display&PUBLICATION_ID=6&ARTICLE_ID=349284)

### **Hydro Green Energy Installs One of Two Turbines in Texas at First U.S. Hydrokinetic Power Project**

PRN, 11:24 January 5, 2009

### **Line Plugging Triggers Flaring at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery January 2**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118353>



**Greka Oil and Gas Co. Pipeline Leaks About 1,600 Gallons of Crude on Broken Line, Operational Errors December 26-28**

<http://www.dailynexus.com/article.php?a=17929>

**Paramount Reports 750 Gallon Hydrochloric Acid Spill at 53,000 b/d Paramount, California Refinery December 30**

Bloomberg News, 11:17 December 31, 2009

**Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. Shuts One of Two Loading Docks at Alaska's Port of Valdez on Harsh Weather**

Bloomberg News, 15:52 December 31, 2009

**An Iranian Revolutionary Guard Commander Echoes Some Bahraini Leaders in Calling for Islamic Countries to Employ Oil as Weapon to End Fighting in Gaza**

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/world/story/452812.html>

**OPEC Exports, not Including Angola and Ecuador, to Drop by 250,000 b/d in Four Weeks Ending January 17—Oil Movements**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=71244](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71244)

**Update: MMS Denies Officials' Requests to Postpone Plans for Drilling Offshore Virginia**

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news\\_article.cfm?id=11747263](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=11747263)

**US BLM Okays Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Coal bed Methane Drilling in Montana**

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6070891.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

**EPA Cites Environmental Concerns with Planned Pipeline, LNG Terminal in Coos County, Oregon**

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/EPA\\_Takes\\_Issue\\_with\\_Jordan\\_Cove\\_Pipelin\\_14474.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/EPA_Takes_Issue_with_Jordan_Cove_Pipelin_14474.aspx)

**Scranton-Altoona Terminals Corp. Plans Ethanol Loading Facility in Pennsylvania**

<http://ethanol-news.newslib.com/story/6938-30629/>

**Truck Crashes in Vermont, Leaks Propane December 30**

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090101/NEWS03/901010348/1004/NEWS03>

**Somali Pirates Attempt to Board Greek Oil Tanker in Gulf of Aden January 2**

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gB7YMEDuCwwY9ncDOtPAkEI4-H2wD95F43JO0>

**Gunman Hijack Bourbon Oil Services Group Vessel Offshore Niger Delta January 4**

Reuters, 13:48 January 4, 2009

**EnCana Natural Gas Pipeline Targeted in Apparent "Deliberate Explosion" in British Columbia, Canada, RCMP Says January 5**

Bloomberg News, 12:33 January 5, 2009

**Tennessee Gas Pipeline Declares Force Majeure on Emergency Repairs at Compressor Station in New Jersey December 31**

<http://tebb.epenergy.com/ebb/notices/NoticeView.asp?sPipelineCode=TGP&sSubCategory=Critical&sNoticeId=124017>

**Compressor Shutdown at Andrews Booster Station in Texas December 31**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118304>

## Pipeline Failure along Southern Union Pipeline in Pecos County, Texas January 1

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118350>

## Houston Ship Channel Reopens after Fog-Related Weekend Shutdown

Reuters, 10:52 January 2, 2009

Reuters, 17:04 January 2, 2009

Reuters, 11:13 January 2, 2009

Reuters, 11:05 January 2, 2009

Bloomberg News, 02:10 January 5, 2009

## Links

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

### ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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