



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, January 07, 2015

Electricity

Update: Methane Fire Extinguished at Longview Power's 695 MW Coal-Fired Power Plant in West Virginia January 6

A fire at a methane tank at Longview Power's power plant near Morgantown, West Virginia was extinguished January 6 after igniting January 5. The evacuation order for 10 homes was lifted 2 hours after a fire. The fire burned itself out and was contained to the transferring equipment without disrupting operations.

<http://triblive.com/news/adminpage/7502618-74/wolfe-plant-power>
<http://www.longviewpower.com/>

Update: TVA's 1,126 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Unit 2 in Tennessee at Full Power by January 7

On the morning of January 6 the unit was operating at 86 percent. The unit was reduced to 77 percent from full power by January 5.

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

Update: FPL's 565 MW Duane Arnold Nuclear Unit in Iowa Ramps Up to 89 Percent by January 7

On the morning of January 6 the unit was operating at 54 percent, reduced from 91 percent power by December 1.

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

BrightSource Energy's 175 MW Aggregate Solar Units 3-7 in California Reduced by January 5

The units entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201501061515.html>

SDG&E Completes, Energizes New East County Substation Project in California January 6

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) announced on Tuesday that the new East County (ECO) Substation project has been energized and is operating as an integral part of SDG&E's electric transmission system. The entire project includes a new 58 acre substation in the East County community of Jacumba, an upgraded substation in Boulevard, and a 14-mile transmission line connecting the two substations. The ECO Substation project was designed to enhance electric reliability in the region and to help facilitate the delivery of renewable wind and solar energy to SDG&E customers. Construction began in May 2013 and the 500kV transmission substation in Jacumba was completed about one year later in June 2014. Construction recently wrapped up on the reconstruction and modernization of the existing Boulevard substation. Both the reconstructed Boulevard substation and new 14-mile 138kV transmission line connecting the two new substations were placed into service last week. The ECO Substation project interconnects with the existing 500kV Southwest Powerlink transmission line, strengthening this part of the transmission system.

<http://www.sdge.com/newsroom/press-releases/2015-01-06/sdge-completes-and-energizes-new-east-county-substation-project>

Pioneer Natural Resources, Apache Corp Say Severe Winter Weather Impacts Production and Drilling Operations in West Texas

Pioneer Natural Resources Company on Tuesday announced that severe winter weather in West Texas significantly impacted production and drilling operations in the Spraberry/Wolfcamp area. At the beginning of January, the Spraberry/Wolfcamp area experienced heavy icing and freezing temperatures that resulted in extensive power outages, facility freeze-ups, trucking curtailments, and limited access to production and drilling facilities. An extensive recovery period is expected and it is likely to be several weeks before the full impact of this event can be determined. Apache Corp said on Wednesday it suffered a modest impact from the freezes last week. Energy intelligence service Genscape said lost output last week in the Permian amounted to about 2.3 million barrels. <http://investors.pxd.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=90959&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2004423>
Reuters, 13:56 January 7, 2015

U.S. Crude Oil Exports Hit Record High 501,766 b/d in November

U.S. crude oil exports reached a record high 501,766 b/d in November, an increase of nearly 126,000 b/d from the month prior, foreign trade data from the U.S. Census Bureau showed on Wednesday. The exports were the highest recorded since data was available in 1920, eclipsing the previous high from 1957. According to the U.S. Census data, most of the exports headed to Canada, which saw a nearly 104,000 b/d increase to 455,000 b/d. A U.S. law dating back to the oil shortages of the 1970s generally bars exports of domestically produced crude, but shipments to Canada are broadly allowed, as are re-exports of foreign oil. The figures combine domestically produced and re-exported crude oil. Reuters, 11:08 January 7, 2015

White House Says it Will Veto Bill to Approve Keystone XL Oil Pipeline

The White House on Tuesday threatened to veto a bill approving the much-delayed Keystone XL oil pipeline. Hours after supporters of the bipartisan bill, which is sponsored by all 54 Senate Republicans and six Democrats, announced its introduction, the White House said for the first time that President Barack Obama would veto it. White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Tuesday legislation shouldn't undermine the review process underway at the State Department or circumvent a pending lawsuit in Nebraska over its route. The project would move oil sands from Canada 1,179 miles south to Gulf Coast refineries. <http://news.yahoo.com/first-bill-gop-run-senate-seeks-approve-oil-170858907--finance.html>

British Columbia Bans Transport of Oil in Pipelines Built for LNG

British Columbia banned the transport of oil on pipelines built specifically for proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminals, in response to concerns raised by Aboriginal leaders and environmental groups that pipelines built to serve British Columbia's nascent LNG industry could ultimately be used to transport crude oil or diluted bitumen. The regulation covers six proposed pipelines, which would all carry natural gas destined for LNG export terminals planned for the province. The government said the legislation could also be applied to future gas pipelines. http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=45912

Valero Reports FCCU Startup Causes Flaring January 6, HCU Emissions January 7 at Its 330,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 7

Valero Energy Corp reported unexpected emissions during startup following a process unit shutdown prompted by an upset on January 2, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Valero also reported HCU emissions on January 7.

Reuters, 15:18 January 6, 2015

Reuters, 11:22 January 7, 2015

Citgo Reports Coker Upset at Its 172,045 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery January 7

Reuters, 4:13 January 7, 2015

Natural Gas

ExxonMobil Reports Unit Shut at Its 65 MMcf/d Dollarhide Gas Plant in Texas January 3

ExxonMobil reported unit P-9 went down on remote emergency shutdown due to a blown fuse. Electricians installed a new fuse and restarted the unit. All available wells were shut in to reduce and mitigate emissions.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=208029>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 7, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	48.64	52.61	94.08
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.96	3.12	4.50

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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