



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, January 16, 2008

## ***Electricity***

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### **Luminant's 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut January 16**

According to a filing with state regulators, the company shut the unit to repair a boiler tube leak. The company expects to restart the unit as soon as repairs are complete.

Reuters, 8:40 January 16, 2008

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102453>

### **Elk Hills Power's 552 MW Elk Hills Gas-fired Unit in California Running at Reduced Rates January 15**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 102 MW on January 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200801151515.html>

### **PPL's 1,540 MW Montour Coal-fired Unit in Pennsylvania Running at Reduced Rates January 15**

Reuters, 19:24 January 15, 2008

### **Update: Entergy's 730 MW Palisades Nuke Unit in Michigan Ramped Up to 70 Percent January 16**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 40 percent on January 15. Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramped Up to 9 Percent January 16**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was not operating on January 15.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Update: Wolf Creek Nuclear's 1,165 MW Wolf Creek Nuke Unit 1 in Kansas Ramps Up to 1 Percent January 16**

The unit was shut on January 11 after tests found gas in a pipe that carries cooling water to the reactor core during emergencies. The unit began to exit the outage and ramped up to 1 percent January 16.

Reuters, 11:43 January 16, 2008

### **Construction to Begin on Xcel Energy's 100 MW Grand Meadow Wind Farm in Minnesota**

The Grand Meadows project will consist of 67, 1.5 MW wind turbines to be located in southern Minnesota's Mower County. After receiving the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's Site Permit and Certificate of Need approval, Grand Meadow is on schedule to begin producing power by the end of 2008.

[http://www.xcelenergy.com/XLWEB/CDA/0,3080,1-1-1\\_15531\\_46991-44106-0\\_0\\_0-0.00.html](http://www.xcelenergy.com/XLWEB/CDA/0,3080,1-1-1_15531_46991-44106-0_0_0-0.00.html)

### **Second Fuel Truck within One Week Reported Stolen in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania January 16**

Authorities reported that a Heating Oil Partners's fuel distribution truck containing an undetermined amount of diesel fuel was stolen in Lancaster County January 16. This incident follows a U.S. Homeland Security broadcasted national alert about a truck loaded with more than 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel stolen from a fueling station in Denver, Pennsylvania on January 11.

<http://local.lancasteronline.com/4/215163>

### **Update: Turnaround Work to Resume at BP's 460,000 b/d Texas City Refinery in Texas January 16**

Following a one-day halt due to an accident which killed one worker, BP is in the process of resuming turnaround work on the ultracracker at its Texas City refinery.

Reuters, 10:23 January 16, 2008

### **Pipe Leak Causes Flaring at Shell's 340,000 b/d Deer Park Refinery in Texas January 15**

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102418>

### **Equipment Malfunction Reported at ConocoPhillips's 146,000 b/d Borger Refinery in Texas January 16**

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102465>

### **Vandalism Reported at Berry Petroleum's Drilling Rig in California January 15**

According to a report filed with state regulators, a plug knocked out by vandals caused the release of 800 gallons (25.8 barrels) of diesel fuel to spill from one of Berry Petroleum Company's drilling rigs located in California.

<http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/de21c65d1046c652882573d100626819?OpenDocument>

### **Update: Crude Unit Operating at Reduced Rates at Valero's 275,000 b/d Aruba Refinery January 16**

Following a January 9 power outage and then a fire within the fractionation unit, the refinery is in restart mode with the crude unit operating at reduced rates.

Reuters, 10:12 January 16, 2008

### **Venezuelan President: No Plans to Cut Oil Exports to U.S. Following Decision to Halt Asphalt Exports**

January 15, Venezuelan President Chavez said Venezuela has no plans to stop exporting oil to the U.S. following the January 14 decision ordering the halt of asphalt exports to the U.S. The United States remains the main buyer of Venezuelan exports.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=55372](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=55372)

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200801/Chavez\\_Orders\\_Halt\\_of\\_Asphalt\\_Exports\\_to\\_8086.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200801/Chavez_Orders_Halt_of_Asphalt_Exports_to_8086.aspx)

### **Update: Shell Says Nigerian Communities are Hampering Efforts to Repair Pipelines**

Shell reported January 15 that local people are obstructing efforts to repair the damaged pipelines at the Forcados export terminal in southern Nigeria thereby declaring a force majeure for all export contracts from the terminal. A company representative says oil lifting will resume at the 380,000 bbl export facility as soon as repairs are complete.

<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5juXyhg8PLrecTVhTS8OcAaGLoYPA>

### **Nigerian Militant Group Threatens Daily Attacks on Nigeria's Oil Industry**

The Nigerian militant group, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), has warned of "daily" attacks on Nigeria's oil sector after claiming responsibility for Monday's attack on the convoy of a port authority official in Port Harcourt.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8471113.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

## Natural Gas

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### **Southern Star Announces Binding Open Season on Proposed Perry Delivery Project**

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc (Southern Star) announced it is considering development of an interstate natural gas delivery project that will provide incremental deliveries of up to 100,000 Dth/d to Noble County, Oklahoma. Southern Star is conducting a Binding Open Season from January 14, 2008 to February 11, 2008 to determine interest for this project.

<http://www.sscgp.com/News/PerryAnnounce.htm>

### **Update: Cheniere Energy Partners Announces Favorable Response to Cheniere Southern Trail Pipeline Open Season**

Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. announced a favorable response to the non-binding open season recently held to gauge interest for its proposed Cheniere Southern Trail Pipeline, previously referred to as the Louisiana Natural Gas Header. The pipeline would involve the construction of approximately 348 miles of up to 42-inch diameter pipeline beginning near Eunice, Louisiana and ending with an interconnect to the Florida Gas Transmission pipeline in Santa Rosa County, Florida. Cheniere anticipates that the project could be placed into service as early as mid 2010.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=207560&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1097080&highlight=>

## Other News

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### **Coskata and General Motors to Build 100 MM gal/yr Ethanol Plant by 2011**

Coskata Inc., announced that with assistance from General Motors (GM) it will break ground on an ethanol plant late in 2008. Coskata also plans to have a 40,000 gal/yr pilot plant open by year's end with the first fuel powering GM motor vehicles. Locations for both plants have yet to be determined. GM holds an undisclosed stake in the firm.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200801/GM\\_Signs\\_On\\_with\\_Ethanol\\_Start\\_up\\_8106.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200801/GM_Signs_On_with_Ethanol_Start_up_8106.aspx)

## Energy Prices

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b>			
January 16, 2008			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	90.34	97.25	50.97
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	8.43	7.59	6.82

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### **High Winds Leave 15,000 BC Hydro Customers Without Power in Vancouver January 14, Power Has Since Been Restored**

<http://www.bchydro.com/outages/orsTableView.jsp>

[http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080115/Vancouver\\_winds\\_080115/20080115?hub=Canda](http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080115/Vancouver_winds_080115/20080115?hub=Canda)

**Strong Wind Storm Knocks Out Power to 10,000 SaskPower Customers in Saskatchewan January 15**

<http://www.canada.com/saskatoonstarphoenix/news/local/story.html?id=9fd7e472-6713-4c86-b4a2-ffa7a13eb643>

**Low Jacket Water Shut Engines at Tarzan Booster Station at Martin County Gas Plant in Texas January 15**

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102462>

**Reinjection Compressor Shut at 135 MMcf/d Salt Creek Gas Plant in Texas January 15**

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102436>

**Columbia Gas Transmission's Eastern Market Expansion Receives FERC Approval January 15**

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6719476.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

**President Bush Urges OPEC Nations to Produce More Oil for World Market, Warns Soaring Prices May Cause Economic Slowdown in U.S. January 15**

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080115/ap\\_on\\_re\\_mi\\_ea/bush\\_mideast](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080115/ap_on_re_mi_ea/bush_mideast)

**OPEC Secretary General Says High Oil Prices Were Not Caused By Shortage of Oil Supplies**

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080116/ts\\_afp/opecoilcommoditiessupply\\_080116131457;\\_ylt=AmAxuGMVH7Oc93N\\_ZVqvPGAsnsA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080116/ts_afp/opecoilcommoditiessupply_080116131457;_ylt=AmAxuGMVH7Oc93N_ZVqvPGAsnsA)

**Power Failure Shuts Iraq's 200,000 Baiji Refinery January 15**

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKCOL64986720080116>

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## Links

*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

*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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