



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, January 18, 2008

Electricity

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramps Up to 86 Percent January 18

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit ramped up to 86 percent, up from 44 percent on January 17. The unit shut January 12 due to degraded cooling to main transformers, and an electrical fault.

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 at Full Power January 18

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was at full power January 18 after exiting an outage and ramping up to 34 percent on January 17. The unit was shut January 11 after routine tests found gas in a pipe that carries cooling water.

Reuters, 07:21 January 18, 2008

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Exelon's 867 MW Dresden Nuke Unit 3 in Illinois Exits Outage January 18

The unit shut January 9 for work after low steam pressure indications.

Bloomberg News, 10:19 January 18, 2008

Update: NMC's 730 MW Palisades Nuke Unit in Michigan Ramps Up to 90 Percent January 18

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 70 percent on January 17.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Luminant's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut January 18

According to a filing with state regulators, the unit was shut for 6 hours this morning to repair a main steam line leak.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102573>

Calpine's 250 MW Calgary Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut January 17

Reuters, 7:54 January 18, 2008

Dominion Breaks Ground on 586 MW Coal-fired Power Plant in Virginia

<http://powermarketers.net/contentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5CiffnmouWTli%7D38%7Dbfen%5Fv>

Hess and ArcLight Considering Building 512 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in New Jersey

If built, the unit would supply power to New York City.

Bloomberg News, 11:53 January 18, 2008

U.S. Refiners Cutting Runs Due to Low Margins

Refinery Utilization Experiences Greatest Decline since Hurricane Katrina

Some U.S. refiners, particularly on the West Coast, are cutting runs at their refineries due to high costs for crude oil, which have reduced margins. Weekly EIA data released January 16 showed the greatest decline in refinery usage since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, with refinery inputs falling nearly 5 percent nationally. The decline may be attributed to both refiners' decisions to cut back runs and to planned maintenance work scheduled for refineries this month. On January 14, Tesoro Corp. said it had cut back crude runs by as much as 115,000 b/d at its seven refineries due to low margins. The reductions represent a sixth of the company's total capacity at its refineries located in Washington, California, Hawaii, North Dakota, Utah and Alaska. Traders told OPIS that they weren't sure if Shell shut a 73,000 b/d catalytic cracker at its 158,000 b/d Martinez, California refinery for a turnaround or because of low margins.

<https://www.piersystem.com/go/doc/1406/188462/>

OPIS Price Watch Alert, 03:21 January 17, 2008

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200801/US_Gasoline_Prices_May_Rise_As_Refiners_8153.aspx

County Officials Recommend Development of Hyperion Resources' Proposed 400,000 b/d Refinery in South Dakota

Union County planning officials late January 17 voted to recommend that county commissioners approve Hyperion Resource's request to build a 400,000 b/d oil refinery north of Elk Point, South Dakota. If all permits are received, construction is expected to begin in 2010, and the refinery is anticipated to be complete in 2014.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/fn/5463065.html>

Update: Naphtha Splitter Restarts at BP's 260,000 b/d Carson Refinery in California January 18

Reuters, 09:51 January 18, 2008

Process Upset at ConocoPhillips's 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery January 17

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=102538>

Update: Cat Cracker Failure at PdVSA's 135,000 b/d El Palito, Venezuela Refinery Caused by Attempt to Increase Runs

According to a refinery source, an attempt to increase runs at the refinery's catalytic cracking unit led to a failure in that unit on January 12.

Reuters, 14:31 January 17, 2008

Local Farmers Vandalize Pemex Crude Oil Pipeline in Tabasco, Mexico January 17

According to a statement from Pemex, 60 barrels of crude oil spilled after local farmers cut open the pipeline.

Bloomberg News, 21:24 January 18, 2008

U.S. Crude Oil Production Rose for First Time Since Early 1990s – API

<http://www.api.org/Newsroom/record-high-us-fuel.cfm>

Natural Gas

Repsol Energy Applies for Import/Export Licenses for Canaport LNG Terminal in New Brunswick

The National Energy Board (NEB) has received an application from Repsol Energy Canada Ltd. (Repsol) for a license authorizing the importation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) into Canada, and for a separate license to export natural gas from Canada to the United States. In its submission filed on 27 December 2007, Repsol applied for an import license to supply the Canaport™ LNG Terminal which is currently under construction at Mispic Point near Saint John, New Brunswick. Once regasified, the natural gas will serve the domestic Canadian market and, pending approval, would also be available for export using the Emera Brunswick Pipeline to markets in the United States.

<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/nwsrls/2008/nwsrls01-eng.html>

Other News

Court Upholds Interior Dept.'s Right to Stop Surface Mining Operations January 15

The Interior Department's right to stop surface mining operations to protect people and sensitive environmental areas was affirmed January 15 when the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit denied an appeal by the National Mining Association that argued the 1999 Rule enforcing valid existing rights shielded more land than Congress intended.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6721489.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

Use of Ethanol as Blending Component in Gasoline Exceeded Federal Requirements in 2007 – API

<http://www.api.org/Newsroom/record-high-us-fuel.cfm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 18, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	90.01	92.98	52.30
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	8.10	7.96	6.57

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

NRC Approves Plan to Expand Dominion's 1,165 MW Waterford Nuke Unit 3 in Connecticut by 80 MW January 17

http://www.boston.com/news/local/connecticut/articles/2008/01/17/regulators_approve_power_boost_for_millstone_nuclear_plant/

PPL Seeks FERC's Permission to Expand its 109 MW Holtwood Hydro-powered Facility in Pennsylvania by 125 MW

<http://www.pplweb.com/newsroom/newsroom+quick+links/news+releases/011708+Holtwood+Expansion.htm>

Spectra Energy Proposes \$1.5 Billion in Projects for New Pipeline, Gas Processing, Storage and Distribution for 2008

http://www.spectraenergy.com/news/releases/2008/Jan/20080117_01.asp

Pemex to Open 630 MMcf/d Natural Gas Processing Plant in Gulf of Mexico in February

Bloomberg News, 12:37 January 18, 2008

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

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/index.aspx>.

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