



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, January 19, 2017

Electricity

Less Than 22,000 SMUD, PG&E Customers Remain Without Power after Wind Storm in California January 18

Strong wind and rain in the Sacramento, California area cut power to at least 152,599 Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) on Wednesday overnight with impacts lingering into Thursday afternoon. SMUD said the storm caused nearly 500 outages affecting at least 78,674 customers, while PG&E reported at least 73,925 customers lost service at one point during the course of the storm. As of 3:30 p.m. EST, 12,231 PG&E and 9,450 SMUD customers remained without power.

<https://twitter.com/SMUDUpdates/status/821958012143341570>

<https://twitter.com/SMUDUpdates/status/821921645027880960>

<http://fox40.com/2017/01/18/thousands-without-power-across-sacramento-as-wind-rain-bombard-region/>

<https://twitter.com/SMUDUpdates>

<https://www.smud.org/en/outages/>

https://m.pge.com/?WT.pgeac=Home_Outages#outages

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article127363344.html>

Update: Exelon's 1,116 MW Peach Bottom Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 77 Percent by January 19

The unit was operating at full power on January 17, and was reduced to 40 percent by January 18.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Update: NMC's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 2 in Minnesota at Full Power by January 19

The unit was operating at full power on January 16, and was reduced to 15 percent by January 17.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

FPL to Enhance Storm Response Capabilities with New Distribution Control Center, Facilities Hardening Project in Florida

Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) on Wednesday broke ground on a new distribution control center in West Palm Beach, designed to ensure reliability and more efficient communication, collaboration, and response during emergency restoration events. The category 5-rated facility is an expansion of FPL's command center and will consolidate the company's two existing control center facilities in Miami and Sarasota. FPL's facilities hardening project includes the construction of the new distribution control center and hardening of 12 service centers located across the state to improve restoration time for customers. The hardened facilities will help offer everyday reliability and allow strategic pre-staging of more than 1,000 personnel to ensure the utility responds to its customers safely and quickly following storms.

<http://newsroom.fpl.com/news-releases?item=125943>

FirstEnergy to Energize Upgraded Transmission Line in Pennsylvania in Late January

FirstEnergy Corp. has nearly completed an upgrade project to an existing 69 kV transmission line in northern Pittsburgh with plans to energize the line later this month. The \$17.5 million project is designed to meet rising electric demand in some of the fastest-growing communities served by First Energy's Penn Power utility, and consists of 120 newly installed wood structures, nearly seven miles of new wires, and new remote control switching devices to allow grid operators to assess operational conditions more quickly. The project is part of FirstEnergy's Energizing the Future initiative, a \$4.2 to \$5.8 billion investment program in electric transmission infrastructure between 2017 and 2021. Key factors driving these investments include replacing existing equipment with advanced technologies designed to enhance system reliability; meeting projected load growth driven by shale gas-related activity and other development in the region; and reinforcing the system in light of power plant deactivations. https://www.firstenergycorp.com/newsroom/news_releases/firstenergy-to-energize-new-transmission-line-in-pittsburgh-s-no.html

New Ohio Edison Substation to Enhance Lisbon Area Reliability in Late January

Ohio Edison, a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp., will energize a new \$2.5 million substation near Lisbon, Ohio, later this month to enhance customer service reliability and help meet future demand for electricity in the area. The substation, located in Guilford, was built in less than ten months using a standard design that was more cost effective and helped to expedite construction. The substation project is part of FirstEnergy's previously announced plan to invest more than \$369 million last year in distribution and transmission infrastructure projects to enhance service reliability in Ohio Edison's service area. More than \$225 million of the total was expected to be spent on transmission-related projects owned by American Transmission Systems, Incorporated, a FirstEnergy transmission company. https://www.firstenergycorp.com/newsroom/news_releases/new-ohio-edison-substation-enhances-service-reliability-for-cust1.html

Petroleum

Update: Enbridge Completes Repairs, Plans to Restart Its 230,000 b/d Ozark Pipeline in Missouri January 19

Enbridge said it was planning a Thursday afternoon restart for its Ozark crude oil pipeline, which was shut on January 14 following the discovery of a leak of about 365 barrels (15,330 gallons) in Lawrence County, Missouri. The company said late on Wednesday that its crews had completed repairs and began implementing the pipeline's restart plan, which includes checking the line upstream and downstream of the release site. The 22-inch Ozark pipeline, also known as Line 51 of the Enbridge Spearhead System, transports light crude oil from Cushing, Oklahoma, to Wood River, Illinois. Reuters, 15:1 January 19, 2017
Reuters, 17:51 January 18, 2017

Update: U.S. Judge Denies Energy Transfer's Motion to Prevent EIS on River Crossing Route of Its 570,000 b/d Dakota Access Crude Oil Pipeline in North Dakota January 18

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg on Wednesday denied a motion by Energy Transfer Partners to prevent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from initiating an environmental impact statement (EIS) process on the proposed section of the Dakota Access crude oil pipeline that would run under the Lake Oahe reservoir along the Missouri River in North Dakota. Energy Transfer intended to block the Corps of Engineers from initiating the EIS process until a ruling was made on whether the pipeline company already has the necessary approvals after the Corps allegedly approved of the route in July 2015. Prior to the ruling on Wednesday, the Corps of Engineers published a notice in the Federal Register of its intent to prepare an EIS on the Lake Oahe crossing, which could take up to two years to complete, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, and would prevent the pipeline's completion while the study is ongoing. The notice said the Corps is gathering information to prepare an environmental impact statement regarding an easement to cross at Lake Oahe, a water source upstream from the Standing Rock Sioux reservation that has been the focus of months of fierce protests due to fears the pipeline could damage drinking water and desecrate sacred grounds. The 1,172-mile Dakota Access Pipeline will transport 570,000 b/d of crude from the Bakken shale of North Dakota to the Midwest. Reuters, 19:28 January 18, 2017

Lyondell Restarting SRUs Affected by Power Blip at Its 263,776 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery January 19 – Sources

Lyondell Basell Industries' Houston, Texas refinery was flaring on Thursday morning after a brief power interruption at the sulfur recovery complex, according to sources familiar with plant operations. The refinery was restarting the sulfur recovery units (SRUs) affected by the power interruption on Thursday, the sources said. Reuters, 12:09 January 19, 2017

Shell Restarting Its 75,000 b/d Corunna, Ontario Refinery after Chemical Leak January 19

Shell Canada was working on a restart plan following a hydrogen sulfide leak at its Corunna, Ontario refinery on Thursday morning. There were no injuries resulting from the incident that forced an emergency shutdown of the refinery.

Reuters, 13:44 January 19, 2017

<http://blackburnnews.com/sarnia/sarnia-news/2017/01/19/hydrogen-sulfide-leak-shell-corunna/>

PHMSA Issues Rule to Expedite Pipeline Spill Notification Process January 19

The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) said on Thursday it issued a rule to improve pipeline operational safety, including a requirement for faster notification following a spill. The rule says the operator must electronically or telephonically report notice of an accident or incident within one hour of confirmation, PHMSA said in a statement. The new rule, which addresses mandates included in the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011, also includes provisions for operator qualification, cost recovery and other pipeline safety changes, and will become effective 60 days from the date of its publication in the Federal Register, which is scheduled for January 23.

Reuters, 14:58 January 19, 2017

Natural Gas

Coast Guard, BSEE Respond to Pipeline Leak from Fieldwood's Platform WC-165 in Gulf of Mexico near Louisiana January 18

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) on Wednesday responded to a release of an estimated 18 barrels of oil equivalent of natural gas and condensate from a pipeline at Fieldwood's Platform West Cameron-165 (WC-165) in the Gulf of Mexico near Cameron, Louisiana. According to BSEE, Platform WC-165 is currently shut pending completion of plugging and abandonment operations.

Reuters, 14:51 January 19, 2017

Regency Reports AGI Compressor Shut at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas January 18

Regency reported emissions from its Waha plant on Wednesday after an acid gas injection (AGI) compressor shut down on high third-stage scrubber level, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=250648>

Enterprise Reports Emissions at Its NGL Plant in Mont Belvieu, Texas January 17

Enterprise reported emissions from its natural gas liquids (NGL) fractionation and storage complex in Mont Belvieu, Texas on Tuesday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. A pipe fitting on a tap to the West Texas Frac I refrigeration compressor discharge piping sheared, resulting in an emissions event, the filing said.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=250645>

FERC Approves Construction of TransCanada’s Leach, Rayne XPress Natural Gas Pipeline Projects in Midwest, Gulf Coast January 19

TransCanada Corp on Thursday announced that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an order approving the construction of its Leach XPress and Rayne XPress natural gas pipeline projects, which will provide additional outlets for Marcellus and Utica production to higher-value Midwest and Gulf Coast markets. The Leach Xpress project involves the construction of approximately 160 miles of pipeline and compression facilities across southeastern Ohio and the northern panhandle region of West Virginia with the capacity to transport approximately 1.5 Bcf/d to natural gas consumers served by the Columbia Gas and Columbia Gulf pipeline systems, which were recently acquired by TransCanada. The Rayne Xpress project includes the construction of two new compressor stations along the Columbia Gulf pipeline system, which are designed to enable an additional 1.0 Bcf/d of capacity along the 3.0 Bcf/d, 3,400-mile system, located primarily in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Once remaining regulatory approvals are obtained, the company plans to begin right-of-way preparation and construction activities for both projects in February, and intends to place them in service by November 1, 2017.

Reuters, 12:38 January 19, 2017

<https://www.cpg.com/current-projects/leach-xpress-project>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
January 19, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	51.34	52.96	28.42
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	3.25	3.28	2.18
\$/Million Btu			

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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