



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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Electricity

Update: After Storms and Rolling Blackouts, ERCOT Cancels Emergency Procedures across Texas Grid February 3

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) canceled emergency procedures for the Texas grid on February 3, it said at 12:15 PM local time. Earlier on February 3, ERCOT said that grid conditions were improving throughout the state, but that about 3,000 MW of power generation remained offline. Customers were asked to reduce energy consumption from 6 to 9 AM. Cold weather – and a subsequent spike in electricity demand – forced offline 7,000 MW of power generation capacity (more than 50 generators) in Texas on February 1-2, and led ERCOT to ask all utilities to begin rolling outages on February 2, news and official sources said previously. Specifically, ERCOT asked the utilities to reduce electricity demand by approximately 4,000 MW early on February 2; it decreased that number to 3,000 MW later in the morning, and said by mid-afternoon that the outages were no longer necessary. Amid the disruption on February 2, ERCOT began receiving 280 MW of electricity from Mexico's Federal Electricity Commission, the state-owned company said. El Paso Electric, which is not part of ERCOT, ended its rolling blackouts by February 4. The company, however, was still having issues with its power generators. It was not clear how many El Paso Electric customers, if any, remained without power, as of latest reports. To see a full list of affected Texas utilities, please see the table below.

http://www.ercot.com/news/press_releases/2011/nr02-02-11

http://www.ercot.com/news/press_releases/2011/nr02-02-11b

http://www.ercot.com/news/press_releases/2011/nr02-03-11

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<http://www.texastribune.org/texas-energy/electric-reliability-council-texas/ercot-ends-emergency-blackouts/>

<http://www.pennenergy.com/index/power/display/2372081052/articles/powergenworldwide/t-and-d/t-and-d-infrastructure/2011/02/ERCOT-outage.html>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703960804576120272556018158.html.html>

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<http://www.ktsm.com/news/no-more-rolling-blackouts-but-still-no-word-on-whether-offices-will-re-open>

Update: After Ice/Snow Storm, Utilities Restore Power to Most Customers from U.S. Midcontinent to East Coast February 3

Fewer than 120,000 customers remained without power from Texas to Connecticut on February 3, after winter storms combined with rolling blackouts in Texas to knock out power to over 2.4 million customers on February 1-2, multiple news and company sources reported. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Midcontinent to East Coast Ice/Snow Storm Customer Power Outages			
February 1 – 3, 2011			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
CenterPoint Energy	TX	865,266	2,084
Austin Energy	TX	84,088	5
AEP Texas	TX	80,000	3,504
CPS Energy	TX	74,000	15
Oncor	TX	54,908	1,381
TNMP	TX	22,000	0
Entergy	TX	16,241	39
SWEPCO	TX/LA/AR	10,000	0
Deep East Texas Electric	TX	6,000	1,600
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	TX	2,400	0

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative	TX	1,700	1,300
ComEd	IL	190,000	5,700
Ameren	IL	35,800	654
Tri-County Electric	IL	7,000	2,650
Norris Electric Cooperative	IL	6,000	6,000
Corn Belt Energy	IL	3,740	415
AEP	OH	181,444	33,336
FirstEnergy	OH/PA	139,000	1,405
Dayton Power & Light	OH	81,000	25,472
Duke Energy	OH/KY	33,000	93
Energy Cooperative	OH	8,000	15
Holmes-Wayne Electric	OH	5,900	5,900
Frontier Power	OH	2,000	0
PECO	PA	185,000	6,000
PPL	PA	92,396	177
Duke Energy	IN	55,000	7,958
Indianapolis Power & Light	IN	20,000	51
UDWI REMC	IN	10,000	4,700
South Central REMC	IN	7,445	4
Whitewater Valley REMC	IN	5,000	1,000
WIN Energy REMC	IN	2,600	2,600
Tipmont REMC	IN	2,000	0
Parke County REMC	IN	2,000	2,000
PSE&G	NJ	80,000	100
Jersey Central Power & Light	NJ	15,000	117
Pepco	MD/DC	11,315	73
Alliant Energy	WI	8,000	2
We Energies	WI	5,200	72
United Illuminating	CT	6,900	18
Connecticut Light & Power	CT	6,200	7
LIPA	NY	5,667	58
Con Edison	NY	4,618	529
TOTAL*		2,426,390	117,034

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

Situation Reports: http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/named_event.aspx?ID=31
<http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2011/02/02/snow-storm-update-a-boston-snow-party-chicagos-historic-school-closings/?hpt=C1>

Texas

CenterPoint Energy: <http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/OutageTracker/Default.aspx> ,
<http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/UPDATE-Rolling-blackouts-across-Texas-finished-991672.php>,
<http://woodlandsonline.com/npps/story.cfm?npnpage=39913> , <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/weather/110202-school-power-outages>

Austin Energy: <https://my.austinenergy.com/outages/> , http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html

AEP Texas: <https://www.aeptexas.com/outages/>

CPS Energy: <http://www.cpsenergy.com/CPSEnergyOutageMap.html> ,
http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/Cold-front-reaches-San-Antonio-989183.php ,
<http://www.kens5.com/news/ALERT-Arctic-temperatures-prompt-rolling-energy-blackout-115101444.html>

Oncor: <https://maps.oncor.com/summary.asp> , <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7407304.html>

TNMP: <http://twitter.com/tnmp>

Entergy: <http://viewoutage.entergy.com/tx.aspx>

SWEPCO: <https://www.swepco.com/outages/> , <http://www.ktbs.com/news/26700541/detail.html>

Deep East Texas Electric: <http://www.ktre.com/Global/story.asp?S=13946462>

Pedernales Electric Cooperative: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2011/02/01/high_winds_caus.html

Illinois

ComEd: <https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/outagemap.aspx> ,
<https://www.comed.com/sites/newsroom/Pages/stormcenter.aspx> ,
http://www.carmitimes.com/state_news/x1916608007/100-000-Illinoisans-without-power
<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20110202/news/702029723/>
Ameren: <http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL> , <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ameren-illinois-battles-outages-caused-by-massive-winter-storm-115074114.html>
Tri-County Electric: http://www.carmitimes.com/area_news/x1528909/Some-southern-Illinoisans-without-power ,
http://www.wjbradio.com/index.php?f=news_single&id=25459
Norris Electric Cooperative: <http://www.norriselectric.com/> ,
<http://www.olneydaily.com/highlight/x289658496/Norris-Electric-reports-more-than-4-000-customers-without-power>
Corn Belt Energy: <http://www.cornbeltenergy.com/outages.html>

Ohio

AEP: <https://www.aepohio.com/outages/> ,
<https://www.aepohio.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=AEP%20Ohio%20Winter%20Storm%20Jan.%2031.%202011> , <http://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2011/02/02/chicago-storm-grounds-columbus-flights.html>
FirstEnergy: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=OH ,
<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/service-restored-to-more-than-100000-firstenergy-customers-following-ice-and-snow-storm-115114219.html>
Dayton Power & Light: <http://www.dpandl.com/customer-service/outage-center/outage-map/> ,
http://m.daytondailynews.com/dayton/db_101693/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=v2yirqm0&detailindex=0&pn=0&ps=4
Duke Energy (Ohio/Kentucky): <http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/outages/current.asp> ,
<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20110202/NEWS01/302020019>
Energy Cooperative: <http://www.theenergycoop.com/outage.aspx> ,
<http://www.mountvernonnews.com/local/11/02/02/ice-storm-creating-havoc-in-county>
Holmes-Wayne Electric: <http://www.hwecoop.com/>
Frontier Power: <http://www.timesreporter.com/news/x289656858/Crews-working-to-restore-power-to-Tuscarawas-Valley> , <http://www.coshocotribune.com/article/20110202/NEWS01/302020009/1002/news01/Hundreds-Coshocot-County-still-without-electricity> ,
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PPL: <https://selfserv.pplelectric.com/EUSelfServ/Outage/OutageMap.aspx> ,
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<http://www.wfmz.com/berksnews/26728663/detail.html>
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Indiana

Duke Energy (Indiana): <http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp> ,
<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/26705874/detail.html>
Indianapolis Power & Light: <http://apps.iplpower.com/outages/OutageMap.aspx> ,
<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/26705874/detail.html> ,
<http://www.indystar.com/article/20110203/LOCAL18/102030443/1001/NEWS14/As-storm-winds-down-city-utilities-work-get-back-normal?odyssey=nav|head>
UDWI REMC: <http://gcdailyworld.com/story/1700266.html> , <http://gcdailyworld.com/story/1700348.html>
South Central REMC: <http://sciremc.maps.sienatech.com/> ,
<http://www.heraldtimesonline.com/stories/2011/02/02/news.qp-9621828.sto>
Whitewater Valley REMC: <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110202/UPDATES/110202005/1008/news01/RP&L+power+outages+minimal++outlying+areas+hit+hardest> , <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110202/UPDATES/110202008/Power+companies++About+1+200+still+without+electrical+service+in+Wayne+County> , <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110203/NEWS01/102030329> ,
<http://www.wvremc.com/>
WIN Energy REMC: http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/weather/winter_weather/families-cope-with-power-outages
Tipmont REMC: <http://www.jconline.com/article/20110201/NEWS/110201039/Storm-leaves-thousands-without-power> , <http://www.jconline.com/article/20110202/NEWS09/110202021>

Parke County REMC: http://www.journalreview.com/news/local/article_2f26daee-2f39-11e0-9763-001cc4c03286.html

New Jersey

PSE&G: http://www.pseg.com/home/customer_service/outage_info/outagemap.jsp ,
<http://www.pseg.com/info/media/newsreleases/2011/2011-02-01a.jsp> ,
http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2011/02/pseg_update_about_20000_now_wi.html ,
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Wisconsin

Alliant Energy:

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Connecticut

United Illuminating: http://www.uinet.com/wps/PA_TownOutages/faces/jsp/TownOutageGraphPrint.jsp ,
<http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2011/02/02/news/doc4d4988702a985365335014.txt>

Connecticut Light & Power: <http://www.cl-p.com/outage/OutageMap.aspx> ,
http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/weather/winter_weather/ice-takes-down-trees.-power-lines

New York

LIPA: <http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outagemap.html>

Con Edison: <http://apps.coned.com/weboutageinfo/stormcenter/default.aspx>

Dominion's 815 MW Surry Nuclear Unit 2 in Virginia Shut February 2

The unit shut automatically on February 2 due to the "loss of coolant flow in the 'C' RCS Loop," the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of February 2 the unit was operating at 98 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110203en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

After Brief Shutdown, NRG to Restart 813 MW Limestone Coal-Fired Unit 1 in Texas February 2-3

NRG shut the unit on February 2 to fix the unit's disconnects and insulators, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company expected to restart the unit on February 2-3, it said in a separate filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150157>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150155>

Luminant Reduces 581 MW Sandow Coal-Fired Unit 5, Plans Restart at 591 MW Sandow Coal-Fired Unit 4 in Texas February 2

Luminant reduced Unit 5 "to equalize the ash removal system" after a valve leak led to "an overflow in the bin" on February 2, the company said in a filing with state regulators. Separately at the Sandow plant, Unit 4 shut on February 2 after a "feed water flow low-suction alarm caused an automatic master fuel trip," according to another regulatory filing. The alarm was caused by a frozen transmitter line. Luminant, however, expected to restart the unit later on February 2, it said in a third filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150189>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150127>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150129>

Update: Constellation's 565 MW Nine Mile Point Nuclear Unit 1 in New York at Full Power by February 3

The company reduced the unit to 50 percent power by January 31, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported previously. The NRC reported that on the morning of February 2 the unit was operating at 60 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Update: CDWR's 374 MW San Luis Hydro Unit in California Ramps up by February 2

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 139 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201102021515.html>

Sempra to Complete 150 MW Mesquite Solar 1 Power Project in Arizona by 2013

Sempra Generation selected Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd. and Zachry Holdings, Inc. to design and construct the facility; those companies expect to break ground in mid-2011 and complete the project by 2013. The 150 MW project is the first phase of Sempra's planned 700 MW Mesquite Solar energy complex, according to a Sempra official.

<http://ir.suntech-power.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=192654&p=irol-newsArticle&cat=news&id=1523806>

Petroleum

Update: Explorer Pipeline to Restart 700,000 b/d, 28-Inch, Texas-to-Oklahoma Oil Product Pipeline February 3

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) asked Explorer to shut the line, the company said on February 2, as cold weather and multiple power plant shutdowns led ERCOT to impose rolling power outages throughout its service territory. Explorer expected to restart the line earlier on February 3. The affected line delivers up to 700,000 b/d of oil products from Louisiana to Illinois. Explorer was expected to run the line at higher-than-normal rates, upon its return, to compensate for the down time.

Reuters, 09:35 February 3, 2011

Reuters, 12:26 February 2, 2011

Cold Weather Forces Shut NuStar Energy's Oil Products Pipeline in Texas February 2 – Line Restarted by February 3

The line delivers products from Valero's 171,000 b/d McKee, Texas refinery to El Paso, Texas. NuStar did not expect the outage to affect its customers.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/02/pipeline-operations-nustar-idUSN0210645520110202>

Reuters, 11:21 February 3, 2011

ExxonMobil Reports Weather-Induced Problems at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery February 2-3

"Inclement weather" led to problems that caused multiple emissions events at ExxonMobil's 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas refinery, but the company had resolved most of the issues and the incidents had only "minimal impact on production," it said in a filing with state regulators. Operators were still working to fix a fuel gas imbalance, according to the filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150173>

Pipeline Issues Force Valero to Run 171,000 b/d McKee, Texas Refinery at Reduced Rates February 3

Valero is running the facility "at reduced rates due to issues with crude supply via pipeline," a company spokesman said. Cold weather forced shut a NuStar Energy pipeline that delivers oil products from the McKee refinery to El Paso, Texas. Separately at McKee, Valero reported a compressor upset and an emissions event on February 2, according to a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 09:14 February 3, 2011

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150176>

Valve Malfunction Leads to Hydrogen Sulfide Release at Citgo's 440,000 b/d Sulphur, Louisiana Refinery February 2

It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-03/citgo-flares-gas-at-sulphur-louisiana-oil-refinery-filing-shows.html>

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=966304

Cold Weather Leads to Snag at Valero's 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery February 2

Cold weather led to a "suspected hydrocarbon carryover" that "caused the HR Amine Flash Drum to vent to the flare," Valero said in a filing with state regulators. The company resumed normal operations at the affected unit within hours. In a separate filing – and apparently separate incident – Valero said third-party issues had affected a light ends unit (LEU) and triggered emissions on February 2-3. It was not clear if either incident had any impact on production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150136>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150146>

Valero Restarts Compressor at 218,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery February 2

The restart triggered an emissions event, the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the compressor shut, but a company spokesman said the event did not impact production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150148>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-02/valero-texas-city-plant-reports-emissions-related-to-compressor.html>

Storm-Induced Power Outages Lead Western Refining to Reduce Operations at 128,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery February 2

Western Refining shut all "hydrogen-consuming and hydrogen-producing plants" at its 128,000 b/d El Paso, Texas refinery after a winter storm caused several lines to freeze and reduced electricity production in the area, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The company also reduced or shut boiler operations, and vented gas to flares.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150167>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-02/western-el-paso-refinery-hydrogen-units-shut-on-storm-update1-.html>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/03/refinery-operations-western-el-paso-idUSWEN684420110203>

Citing "Extreme Weather," Alon Reduces Rates to by 15,000-20,000 b/d at 70,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery by February 2

Alon was operating its 70,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas refinery at 50,000-55,000 b/d, a company official said by February 2. Separately at Big Spring, two incidents led to flaring on February 2, the company said in filings with state regulators. In the first filing, Alon said a condenser had leaked "into the cooling water tower." The company "isolated the exchanger and allowed pressure to bleed down until it could be nitrogen purged to the flare." In the second filing, Alon said multiple sulfur recovery units (SRUs) had shut for unknown reasons.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-02/alon-cuts-rates-at-texas-plant-after-extreme-weather-update2-.html>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150132>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150126>

Amid Unrest, Companies Stop Most Oil Drilling in Egypt by February 2 – Suez Canal Open to Traffic

Companies evacuated workers and halted most oil drilling in Egypt, Barclays Capital Research said on February 2, as protests continued throughout the nation. The Suez Canal remained open, as of latest reports. Barclays said it did not believe that the Canal was "under immediate threat from the current political crisis in Egypt."

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/NaturalGas/8488622>

Pacific Rubiales to Boost Production to 500,000 Barrels of Oil Equivalent per Day (Boe/d) within Five Years in Colombia, Peru, and Guatemala – Company Produces More Than 84,000 Boe/d at Present

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/pacific-rubiales-energy-announces-exploration-update-115173974.html>

Iraq Resumes Exports of Kurdish-Derived Oil February 3 – Nation to Eventually Export 100,000 b/d of Crude from Kurdistan

Iraq began delivering 10,500 b/d of crude oil via pipeline from the Tawke oilfield in the Kurdistan region to the Ceyhan port in Turkey, as of latest reports, and the nation was expected to increase that export total to 50,000 b/d over the coming days, according to officials. Kurdistan exports had been long-stalled amid a contract dispute between the Kurdistan region and the central Iraqi government. With the inclusion of a second Kurdish field, known as Taq Taq, the 50,000 b/d figure should eventually rise to 100,000 b/d, according to Reuters.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/03/iraq-oil-kurds-idUKLDE7120K020110203>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE7120E320110203>

Cold Temperatures, Increased Demand to Blame as More Than 40,000 Customers Lose Natural Gas Service in New Mexico and Arizona February 3

Some 24,000 New Mexico Gas Company customers in New Mexico and 18,500 Southwest Gas customers in Arizona lost natural gas service as cold temperatures led to increased demand on February 3, multiple news and company sources reported. New Mexico Gas also said that the rolling blackouts in Texas had disrupted deliveries of natural gas into New Mexico.

<http://www.fox11az.com/news/local/First-the-cold-now-no-gas-115192474.html>

<http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2011/feb/03/bc-nm-gas-outage-taos/?business&texas>

https://www.nmgco.com/Emergency_Updates.aspx

<http://www.swgas.com/news/alerts.php>

<http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S1956231.shtml?cat=500>

Rolling Blackouts Force Offline DCP Midstream's Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas, Triggering Flaring at Multiple Booster Stations February 2-3

The affected booster stations, according to multiple filings with state regulators, include: Andector, Chapel Hill, Martin, and South Mojo.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150183>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150153>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150158>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150168>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150172>

Cold Weather to Blame for Problems at Multiple Natural Gas Facilities in Texas February 2-4

Cold weather led to shutdowns and/or disruptions at the Waddell compressor station, the Loving booster station, and the Adair San Andres Unit compressor station in Texas, according to multiple filings with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150180>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150181>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150188>

Update: In Wake of Fatal September Explosion in San Bruno, California, CPUC Orders PG&E to Reduce Operating Pressure along Multiple Natural Gas Pipelines in California February 2

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ordered Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to reduce operating pressure along multiple natural gas transmission pipelines, CPUC said on February 2, after a CPUC investigation revealed that PG&E had, over a period of several years, allowed the pressure in several lines to rise above the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) set by law. Some of the affected pipelines are located in highly populated areas. The CPUC's order came as a result of its ongoing investigation into the fatal September explosion along PG&E's natural gas pipeline in San Bruno, California. Specifically the CPUC ordered PG&E to:

- Reduce the operating pressure by 20 percent below the MAOP of the following transmission lines that have segments located in High Consequence Areas: Line 148 (running 17.68 miles from Manteca to Modesto), DFM 0805-01 (running 3.49 miles from Milpitas to San Jose), DFM 0807-01 (running 0.5 miles in Milpitas), and DFM 1816-01 (running 8.44 miles from Watsonville to Aptos Hills).
- Reduce the operating pressure by 20 percent below MAOP for any additional transmission lines that have segments located in High Consequence Areas that are found, through further investigation, to have experienced planned or unplanned events in which the segments experienced pressure greater than 110 percent of MAOP.

PG&E must keep the lines reduced until CPUC authorizes the company to resume normal pressures.

http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/published/News_release/130355.htm

http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/newsreleases/20110202/pge_plans_for_pressure_reductions_on_natural_gas_transmission_lines_as_it_reports_pressure_events.shtml

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices February 3, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	89.38	84.95	77.44
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.55	4.40	5.77

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Transmission Line Shutdown Leads PNM to Ask Customers to Conserve Electricity in New Mexico February 3

<http://www.koat.com/news/26727388/detail.html>

Update: Manufacturing Problem Forces Entergy to Postpone Plans to Install New Steam Generators at Waterford 3 Nuclear Power Plant in Louisiana

<http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20110203/BUSINESS/102030320/-500M-Project-at-Waterford-3-put-on-hold>

Electrical Transformer Failure Leads to Shutdown of Sand Hills Gas Plant in Texas February 2

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150182>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150185>

Internal Fire Leads to SRU Shutdown at Teague Gas Plant in Texas February 2

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150190>

Power Failure Leads to Shutdown at Boyd Compressor Station in Texas February 2

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150191>

PLC Interface Card Failure Leads to Shutdown of Shoup Gas Plant in Texas February 2 – Plant Restarted within Hours

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150186>

Power Failure Forces Shut Both Engines at Holt Compressor Station in Texas February 2 – One Engine Restarted Later in Day

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=150184>

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/ead.aspx>

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov