



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability**

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday, February 13, 2006

Major Developments

Winter Storm Knocks Out Power to 302,000 Customers in Washington-Baltimore Area

A fierce snowstorm ravaged the Northeast this weekend causing massive power outages in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The following table summarizes the damage:

Company	Outages Peak	Expected Full Restoration
1) Baltimore Gas & Electric	150,000	Late evening Feb. 14
2) Dominion Power	120,000	Close of Business Feb. 13
3) Pepco	32,000	Mid-day Feb. 14

Sources:

- 1) <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060212/nysu028.html?v=16>
- 2) http://today.reuters.com/news/NewsArticle.aspx?type=newsOne&storyID=uri:2006-02-13T151022Z_01_N12177124_RTRUKOC_0_US-WEATHER-NORTHEAST.xml&pageNumber=1&summit=
- 3) <http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=25&sid=696624>



Current Outage Maps

Pepco: <http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/zip/default.aspx>

Dominion: http://www.dom.com/news/outage_map.jsp

BG&E: <http://www.bge.com/portal/site/bge/menuitem.3465c31fe4bb492164d35302025166a0>

Electricity

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 1 Shut in Texas, February 12

TXU said the unit was shut to fix a boiler tube leak and plans to restart on Feb. 14.

Reuters, 09:47 February 13, 2006.

Duke Reduces Two Moss Landing Gas-fired Units by 260 MW in California February 12

Duke curtailed 520 MW of generation at its 2,498 MW Moss Landing power station for unplanned reasons.

Reuters, 09:23 February 13, 2006.

Update: OPG's 490 MW Coal-fired Nanticoke 1 Unit Returns to Service in Ontario, February 13

The unit was shut last week in a forced outage. Nanticoke units 3 and 6 remain out of service.

Reuters, 09:58 February 13, 2006.

Update: Dominion's 560 MW Kewaunee Nuke Ramps up to 98 Percent in Wisconsin, February 13

The company reduced the unit to about 40 percent of capacity last week to clean and inspect the main condenser.

Reuters 08:12, February 13, 2006.

Vibration Causes Palo Verde Unit 1 to Remain Shut

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6328457

Maine Companies Seek to Join Canadian Grid

Several large industrial companies in Maine are seeking to persuade the state to leave ISO New England and join the Canadian grid instead. The companies argue that rates favor southern New England and support a bill that would allow Maine to withdraw from ISO New England.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6329802

CERA Sees Potential for Power Shortage Looming

With growing demand and shrinking reserve margins, Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA) sees the potential for power shortages by 2009 or sooner unless action is immediately taken to build new capacity. CERA foresees a problem for Texas by 2009 and for Virginia, the Carolinas, and New York even sooner.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6326862

Petroleum

Man Caught Trying to Conspire to Blow up U.S. Oil and Gas Pipelines

According to a story in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the FBI has accused a Pennsylvania man of attempting to conspire with al-Qaeda to blow up major U.S. oil and gas pipelines and destroy the economy. The FBI says Michael Curtis Reynolds, 47, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. attempted to provide material aid to al-Qaeda to disrupt the federal government, to change its foreign policy, and to turn the public against the war in Iraq, the newspaper said. Reynolds was planning to blow up parts of the 6,832 MMcf/d Transcontinental Pipeline, which carries natural gas from the Gulf Coast to New York City, and to detonate propane trucks along the 2.1 million b/d Alaska Pipeline which carries oil from the Arctic to ports in Southern Alaska. The plot also included plans to blow up oil refineries in New Jersey and Wyoming.

Reuters, 16:42 February 12, 2006.

<http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/13849323.htm>

Fire Shuts Crude Unit at ExxonMobil's 150,000 b/d Torrance, California Refinery

A 98,500 b/d crude oil processing unit was shut on Feb. 13 at Exxon Mobil Corp.'s Los Angeles-area refinery in Torrance, California, after a fire on Feb. 11.

Reuters, 12:01 February 13, 2006.

Cat Cracker Shut at Citgo's 165,000 b/d Corpus Christi Refinery

The No. 2 catalytic cracker at Citgo's Corpus Christi refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, was shut down for equipment repair on Feb. 11. There was no estimate for how long the unit would be out.

Reuters, 12:09 February 13, 2006.

Chevron Oil Spill Closes Vessel Traffic in New York Harbor

A heavy fuel oil spill from a Chevron facility in New York Harbor has closed vessel traffic in waters near Staten Island, the U.S. Coast Guard said Monday. The spill happened during a transfer of about 1.5 million gallons of heavy fuel oil from a barge to the facility in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, the Coast Guard said. How much oil spilled into the water is unknown.

Reuters, 12:55 February 13, 2006.

Report Says Up to 30 Billion Barrels of Oil Unavailable in North America

A report from the North American Coastal Alliance claims that as much as 30 billion barrels of oil and up to 135 Tcf of natural gas could be recovered but is currently unavailable for development because of prohibitions. The report titled Untapped Potential: Offshore Oil and Gas Resources Inaccessible to Leasing, examined offshore resources in Alaska, Canada, the Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic and Pacific coastal waters.

Oil Daily, February 13, 2006.

Villagers Invade Oil Rig in Nigeria

Unarmed villagers in the southeastern state of Akwa Ibom occupied the Tommycraig Head rig operated by independent oil company Addax on Saturday, and briefly abducted three oil workers and four Navy personnel, but the men were all released by Monday morning, oil company and Navy sources said. According to reports, the villagers were pressing for community development and the invasion was not related to a series of attacks launched by militants in January.

Reuters 07:18, February 13, 2006.

Militants Threaten to Explode All Flow Stations in Niger Delta

Bruce Edipade, a man claiming to be the leader of the Movement for The Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), called Reuters on Monday to announce the start of a fresh wave of attacks and warned oil workers to stay out of the Niger Delta. "We want to explode all oil flow stations in Niger Delta. I would advise the oil workers that if they want to work, they should keep clear for now, unless they want to go into battle," he said. MEND has been making dramatic threats against the Nigerian oil industry since late January, but the promised second phase of attacks has yet to materialize. In December and January, MEND militants blew up two major oil pipelines, held four foreign oil workers hostage for 19 days and sabotaged two major oilfields, killing at least 14 soldiers.

Reuters 07:18, February 13, 2006.

Petrobras to Upgrade Pasadena Refinery, Import More Brazilian Crude

Petrobras, Brazil's state oil company, is looking for more refining capacity in or near the United States to accommodate Brazilian crude oil exports. Petrobras recently bought a 50 percent stake in the 100,000 b/d Pasadena Refinery in Texas. Petrobras will upgrade the plant to process 70,000 b/d of its own heavy Marlin oil. Petrobras expects production to begin at its 180,000 b/d Albacora Leste field to begin in March, making Brazil a net oil exporter.

Reuters, 13:30 February 13, 2006.

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 13, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	61.26	65.91	47.15
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	7.36	8.01	6.02
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Saudi OPEC Governor Sees Middle East as Oil Safety Valve

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/headlines.jsp>

Growing Dependence on LNG Seen Carrying Risk Similar to Oil

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=6331013

Hurricanes Absorb Natural Gas Production Increase in 2005

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Russia's Sakhalin 2 LNG Project Puts Off Consideration of Third Plant Until 2013

Reuters, 21:51 February 12, 2006.

Sudan Expects to Increase Crude Output by 150,000 b/d Very Soon

Reuters, 07:49 February 13, 2006.

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 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.

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