



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, February 17, 2016

Electricity

Update: Over 20,000 Customers Remain without Power across Eastern U.S. February 17 after Widespread Storm System Hit 15–16

Severe thunderstorms bringing high winds, hail, and tornadoes to parts of the Southeast, and snow and ice to parts of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, knocked out power to 369,079 customers Monday night into Tuesday. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Wednesday, 20,938 customers remained without power. Appalachian Power, which reported 50,000 customers in Virginia without power, said it expected most areas to have service restored by tonight. In Franklin and Roanoke counties, the utility expects to have power restored by late Thursday night. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by each utility. Eversource said the severe weather caused branches to fall onto wires and was also causing some problems with substation equipment. The “Affected” column shows either the total number of customers that lost power at one point or another during the outage event as reported by the utility or, when unavailable, the highest number of customers reported without power from various local news articles and utility outage websites, which were checked at various times throughout the day.

Eastern U.S. Customer Power Outages			
February 15–17, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
Eversource	CT	30,000	6
Florida Power and Light	FL	57,365	1,089
Eversource	MA	11,493	374
National Grid	MA	7,348	17
Central Maine Power	ME	14,000	0
Emera	ME	11,500	523
Duke Energy Carolinas	NC/SC	34,800	369
Jersey Central Power and Light	NJ	8,200	21
Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G)	NJ	17,000	435
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	14,000	109
National Grid	NY	6,459	3,036
New York State Electric and Gas	NY	13,436	2,591
Orange and Rockland	NY	4,499	11
PSEG Long Island	NY	16,249	157
Rochester Gas and Electric	NY	3,877	86
Central Hudson	NY	1,648	14
AEP – Ohio	OH	6,815	1,148
First Energy	OH	4,718	748
PECO	PA	10,696	277
First Energy	PA	6,276	42
PPL Electric Utility	PA	3,395	19
AEP - Appalachian	VA/WV	50,000	9,040
Dominion	VA	30,911	110
Potomac Edison and Mon Power	WV	4,394	715
TOTAL*		369,079	20,938

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

Sources:

<http://outagemap.cmpco.com/cmp/>

<http://www.fplmaps.com/>

<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/fl/default.html>

<https://www.eversource.com/clp/outage/outagemap.aspx>
<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/ncsc/default.html>
<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/pages/connectwithus/outages/outagemaps.aspx>
<http://outages.firstenergycorp.com/nj.html>
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<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/08c2e8aca7c6488ab480e14ffbed2cfa/VA--Winter-Storm-Power-Outages>
<http://abc11.com/news/thousands-without-power-across-abc11-viewing-area/1202308/>
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<https://bangordailynews.com/2016/02/17/news/state/crews-working-to-restore-power-to-thousands-in-maine/?ref=topStories7>
<http://www.wmtw.com/weather/storms-knock-out-power-to-thousands/38034958>
<http://www.rep-am.com/news/local/939927.txt>
<http://bangordailynews.com/2016/02/16/news/state/maine-coast-could-be-hit-by-wind-gusts-up-to-60-mph-tuesday-night/>
<https://twitter.com/wbznwsradio/status/699727091999178752>

Update: Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts at Full Power by February 17

On the morning of February 16 the unit was operating at 48 percent, reduced from full power on February 14.
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Restarts, Ramps Up to 15 Percent by February 17

The unit shut from full power due to a main generator protection trip.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160216en.html>

Update: FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuclear Unit 1 in Ohio Ramps Up to 93 Percent by February 17

On the morning of February 16 the unit was operating at 60 percent after restarting on February 13. The unit shut from full power on February 8 following the involuntary opening of two safety relief valves (SRVs), which led to an increase in temperature within the suppression pool, triggering operators to shut the reactor.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160209en.html>

Entergy's 966 MW River Bend Nuclear Unit 1 in Louisiana Shut on February 17

The unit was shut from 90 percent to perform welding repairs on drain piping at a condenser penetration.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Cabrillo Power's 104 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut by February 16

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201602161515.html>

NRC Reports Finds Safety Violations at PSE&G's 2,307 MW Salem, 1,178 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Plants in New Jersey February 15

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported five low-level safety violations at PSEG-owned Salem and Hope Creek nuclear generating stations located in Lower Alloways Creek Township, New Jersey, after a federal investigation revealed the plants failed to maintain an appropriate preventative maintenance schedule, failed to properly test equipment, and lacked preventative maintenance on the facilities' ventilation radiation monitor, among other violations.

<http://www.wkyc.com/news/nation-now/safety-violations-found-at-nj-nuclearplants/44265280>

State Senate Votes to Lift Nuclear Moratorium in Wisconsin February 16

The state Senate on Tuesday passed a bill that would lift Wisconsin's ban on new nuclear plants. Currently, state regulators can't approve new nuclear plants unless a federal facility for storing waste exists and such a plant doesn't burden ratepayers. No federal facility exists, however. The bill would clear the storage facility and ratepayer clauses from Wisconsin law, paving the way for new plants. The Senate approved the bill Tuesday 23-9, sending it to Governor Scott Walker for signing.

Reuters, 9:31 February 16, 2016

FirstEnergy's Pennsylvania Utilities Receive Approval for Infrastructure Improvement Plans February 16

FirstEnergy Corp's subsidiaries Pennsylvania Power Company (Penn Power), West Penn Power Company (West Penn Power), Metropolitan Edison Company (Met-Ed), and Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec) recently received approval from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PPUC) for Long Term Infrastructure Improvement Plans that will result in a total of an additional \$245 million being spent on capital investments over the next five years. Planned projects include replacing underground cable, installing new fuses and sectionalizing devices on overhead wires, replacing aging circuit breakers and transformers in substations and replacing additional wooden poles. Approximately \$56 million of the work is expected to be completed in 2016 in the utilities' service areas, with the remainder being spent over the next four years that the plans will be in place.

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/newsroom/news_releases/firstenergy-s-pennsylvania-utilities-receive-approval-for-infras.html

Petroleum

Chevron Reports Mechanical Failure at Its 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi Refinery February 13

Chevron Corp reported a discharge of a hydrocarbon with trace amounts of benzene due to mechanical failure at its Pascagoula, Mississippi, refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center.

Reuters, 12:57 February 17, 2016

HollyFrontier Reports Flaring at Its 85,000 b/d Tulsa West, Oklahoma Refinery February 13

HollyFrontier Corp reported excess hydrogen sulfide to the alkylation flare at its Tulsa West, Oklahoma refinery, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 12:52 February 17, 2016

CVR Reports Malfunction, Flaring at Its 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery February 9-15

CVR Energy Inc reported a malfunction and excess hydrogen sulfide to the north flare on February 9-15. In addition, the company reported a malfunction and excess opacity from the fluid catalytic cracker unit regenerator on February 15.

Reuters, 1:05 February 17, 2016

Calumet Reports Shutdown, Flaring at Its 16,800 b/d San Antonio, Texas Refinery February 16

Calumet Specialty Products Partners reported instrument air failure caused an unplanned refinery shut down, resulting in associated flaring, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The company was restoring instrument air and restarting the refinery.

Reuters 8:40 February 16, 2016

Imperial Reports Boiler Restarting at Its 121,000 b/d Sarnia, Ontario Refinery February 16

Imperial Oil reported the main boiler at its Sarnia, Ontario refinery tripped on Tuesday and the unit was in the process of being restarted, resulting in high flaring, according to a community information phone line.

Reuters, 2:19 February 16, 2016

North Dakota Oil Production Down 30,000 b/d in December versus November to 1,150,000 b/d – North Dakota Industrial Commission

Oil production in North Dakota fell 30,000 b/d to 1,150,000 b/d in December, monthly data from the state Industrial Commission showed.

Reuters 1:51 February 17, 2016

Enbridge Says Sandpiper, Line 3 Replacement Projects Delayed to 2019

Enbridge Energy Partners LP said on Tuesday that its Sandpiper and Line 3 replacement pipeline projects have been delayed to 2019 from 2017 to allow for completion of environmental reviews and further permitting in Minnesota. The 616-mile Sandpiper project involves two new pipeline legs that stretch from North Dakota through Minnesota, then to Wisconsin. The company originally planned for startup early this year, then pushed it to 2017 after Minnesota regulators ordered a state environmental review that would examine alternate routes for that state's portion of the project. The Line 3 replacement involves swapping 1,031 miles of 34-inch pipeline with new 36-inch pipeline that would push capacity to 760,000 b/d from an average of 390,000 b/d. Enbridge said Minnesota regulators require that final environmental reviews be finished for each project before the company can move on to seek other permits.

Reuters, 5:45 February 16, 2016

Calumet Says Its Refinery Projects in Montana, Texas Completed February 17

Calumet Specialty Products Partners on Wednesday said its 10,000 b/d Great Falls, Montana refinery capacity expansion and 16,800 b/d San Antonio, Texas refinery solvents project have been completed. The company said the crude oil unit at its Montana refinery is on-stream and is expected to reach 25,000 b/d of production by the end of March 2016.

<http://calumetspecialty.investorroom.com/2016-02-17-Calumet-Specialty-Products-Partners-L-P-Reports-Fourth-Quarter-and-Full-Year-2015-Results>

Reuters, 7:36 February 17, 2016

Oklahoma Corporation Commission Calls for More Wastewater Injection Wells to Shut after Earthquake February 16

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) released a wide-ranging plan on Tuesday to scale back use of wastewater injection wells in western Oklahoma, after a 5.1 magnitude earthquake hit the state on Saturday. Seven counties are affected by the plan, which is the largest push yet in western Oklahoma to curb seismic activity linked to wells to dispose of saltwater, a natural byproduct of oil and gas work. The plan by the OCC includes a voluntary order that covers 245 disposal wells over a 5,200-square mile area. More than 40 percent of injected volumes will be cut back. The director of the commission's Oil and Gas Conservation Division said the directive had been in the works since October due to a need for a larger, regional response. The counties covered include some that have not yet experienced an increase in earthquakes. The plan will be phased in over four stages in the next two months, as sudden stoppages could actually create more seismic events, according to the director.

Reuters, 3:54 February 16, 2016

Update: SoCalGas to Be Arraigned over Aliso Canyon Methane Leak in California February 17

Southern California Gas Co (SoCalGas) is to be arraigned on criminal charges on Wednesday over a huge methane leak stemming from an underground pipeline rupture at the company's 3,600-acre Aliso Canyon natural gas storage field. SoCalGas faces four misdemeanor charges for failing to report the release of hazardous materials from October 23–26 and discharging air contaminants beginning on October 23. If convicted, the company could be fined up to \$25,000 a day for each day that it failed to report the gas leak to the California Office of Emergency Services. The company also could be fined up to \$1,000 per day for air pollution violations. SoCalGas said last week that it had temporarily controlled the flow of natural gas spewing from a pipeline, but more work needed to be done before the leak would be permanently sealed. The Los Angeles County prosecutor filed the charges on February 2, the same day California's Attorney General also sued the company.
Reuters, 11:37 February 17, 2016

PG&E Completes NTSB's Safety Recommendation by Installing 235 Automatic, Remote Shut-Off Valves on Its Gas Transmission Lines in California February 16

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) announced Tuesday that it completed installing the recommended number of automatic and remote control shut-off valves on its gas transmission lines, a safety recommendation issued by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) following the 2010 San Bruno pipeline explosion. PG&E has now satisfied 11 of the 12 safety recommendations made by the NTSB for improving the operations and management of its natural gas pipeline system.

http://www.pge.com/en/about/newsroom/newsdetails/index.page?title=20160216_pge_completes_11supthsup_safety_recommendation_from_ntsb_by_installing_235_automatic_and_remote_shut-off_valves

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nigeria's Forcados Crude Oil Flow to Export Terminal Halted after Spill February 14

Flows of Nigeria's Forcados crude oil to the export terminal were suspended on February 14 following a spill, the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Ltd (SPDC) said. The halt was ordered after oil was seen on water around the Forcados terminal. The cause of the spill was not immediately clear but traders said crude oil loadings would be delayed as a result. SPDC said suspension of production to the terminal was a precautionary measure as it managed the incident and deployed booms and other oil containment tools. SPDC said it is working to determine whether other action would be needed.

Reuters, 6:48 February 17, 2016

Iraq-Turkey 600,000 b/d Kirkuk-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline Shut – Kurdish Official

A pipeline taking crude oil from northern Iraq to the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan was shut-in on Wednesday due to incidents inside Turkey, an official in the Kurdistan region's Ministry of Natural Resources said. The official told Reuters he was informed by sources in Ceyhan that pipeline runs had been on and off for two days because of separate incidents in the Urfa area of Turkey. The exact cause of the outage was unclear, but the official said police had sealed off the area, fearing explosions. The pipeline, which has been repeatedly sabotaged in recent months, normally carries some 600,000 b/d of crude from Iraq's autonomous Kurdistan region and the disputed Kirkuk oil fields to Ceyhan for export.

Reuters, 1:18 February 17, 2016

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 17, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	30.63	27.49	50.99
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.92	2.17	2.73

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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