



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, February 18, 2016

Electricity

Update: Over 2,000 Customers Remain without Power across Eastern U.S. February 18 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 76,710 customers Monday night into Tuesday. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Thursday, 2,089 customers remained without power. Appalachian Power, which reported 50,000 customers in Virginia and West Virginia without power, said it expects to have service restored in all areas by late Thursday night. In isolated instances, especially where damage is severe or access is difficult, restoration may extend beyond this estimate. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by each utility. 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 15–18, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
National Grid	NY	6,459	162
New York State Electric and Gas	NY	13,436	160
AEP – Ohio	OH	6,815	67
AEP - Appalachian	VA/WV	50,000	1,700
TOTAL*		76,710	2,089

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

Sources:

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

http://apps.coned.com/stormcenter_external_oru/default.html

<http://www.nyseg.com/Outages/outageinformation.html>

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/PowerOutageMap>

<http://outages.firstenergycorp.com/oh.html>

<https://www.aepohio.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>

<https://www.appalachianpower.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>

<https://www.appalachianpower.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=February+16+Virginia+Ice+Storm>

<https://www.facebook.com/196315385397/posts/10156492730680398>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/weather/winter-storm-brings-snow-ice-cancels-over-400-flights-n518851>

<http://www.wdbj7.com/news/local/more-than-30000-in-viewing-area-without-power/38016388>

<https://weather.com/storms/winter/news/winter-storm-olympia-impacts>

Tucson Electric Power Reports about 38,000 Customers without Power February 17

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) said it was investigating the cause of a Wednesday morning outage that left about 38,000 customers without power. Power was nearly fully restored just over an hour later, according to the utility.

<https://twitter.com/TEPEnergy>

<https://www.tep.com/outage/map/>

http://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/021716_tep_outage/update-power-restored-38k-after-outages/

Car Crash into Power Pole Knocks Out Power to 16,400 Customers in Oklahoma February 17

Approximately 11,000 OG&E customers and 5,400 Edmond Electric customers had their power knocked out on Wednesday afternoon in north Edmond, Oklahoma after a vehicle accidentally struck a power pole. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Thursday, 1,785 OG&E customers remained without power. Edmond Electric reported all customers had power restored within two hours of the incident.

<https://twitter.com/CityofEdmond>

https://oge.com/wps/portal/oge/outages/systemwatch/tut/p/a1/04_Sj9CPykssy

<https://twitter.com/OGandE>

Entergy Reports Transmission Line Issue Knocks Out Power to 13,000 Customers in Mississippi February 17

Entergy Mississippi on Wednesday said 13,000 customers in Mississippi had power knocked out for about one hour due to a transmission line problem.

<https://twitter.com/EntergyMS>

http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ms.aspx?_ga=1.232623900.2004688020.1454947100

Update: PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Ramps Up to 52 Percent by February 18

On the morning of February 17 the unit had restarted and ramped up to 15 percent. The unit shut from full power on February 14 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: BHE Renewables' 310 MW Solar Star Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by February 17

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 150 MW that began on February 10.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201602171515.html>

NRC to Tighten Oversight on Entergy's 685 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant in Massachusetts February 18

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said on Thursday it would increase its oversight on Entergy Corp's Pilgrim nuclear power plant in Massachusetts after completing a performance review of the plant, which found the plant had problems with its safety relief valves. The NRC said it identified the finding after a security inspection at the plant in September 2015.

Reuters, 11:52 February 18, 2016

<https://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/docs/eads/ead020315.pdf>

Maryland Appeals Virginia's Decision to Allow Dominion Power to Drain Coal Ash into Potomac River

Maryland is appealing a decision that allows Dominion Virginia Power to drain treated water from coal ash ponds into a creek that flows into the Potomac River. The Maryland Governor's administration asked a state judge in Richmond this week to review Virginia's approval of Dominion's plan to release about 215 million gallons of treated coal-ash water into Quantico Creek. Last month, Virginia approved the utility company's plan to drain the water out of its Possum Point Power Station ponds, treat it and discharge it as part of a larger effort to comply with a nationwide Environmental Protection Agency mandate to safely dispose of coal ash. A Dominion spokesman said that the coal ash would be safely disposed of and the groundwater will be monitored.

Reuters, 9:47 February 17, 2016

Update: PHMSA Finds Pipeline Corrosion as Cause of Plains' Line 901 Rupture, Oil Spill in California

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on Wednesday issued preliminary findings saying that corrosion on the outside of Plains All American Pipeline's Line 901 oil pipeline was the cause of the May 19, 2015 crude oil spill near Santa Barbara, California. PHMSA said the spill occurred in a two-foot section of pipe after pumps were shut down and restarted. The volume of oil moving through the pipe surged and pressure increased when the pump was restarted. The report noted the spill was greater than previously estimated, dumping more than 140,000 gallons of crude. Previous estimates were as low as 100,000 gallons.

http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pv_obj_cache/pv_obj_id_71B2AF538D8816157B9C13326B7346E59B4D0700/filename/Plains%20Preliminary%20Factual%20Report.pdf

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/feb/17/santa-barbara-crude-oil-spill-pipeline-corrosion-hazardous-materials-safety>

PBF Reports Emissions at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery February 18

PBF Energy Inc reported sulfur dioxide emissions at its Delaware City, Delaware refinery, according to a filing with the State of Delaware pollution regulator.

Reuters, 9:53 February 18, 2016

Phillips 66 Reports Release at Its 336,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery February 18

Phillips 66 reported a release occurred at its Wood River, Illinois refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 4:05 February 18, 2016

ExxonMobil Shuts FCCU at Its 560,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery for Leak Repairs February 17 – Sources

The 90,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) was shut for leak repairs at ExxonMobil Corp's Baytown, Texas refinery, sources familiar with refinery operations said on Wednesday.

Reuters, 15:28 February 17, 2016

Valero Reports Upset, Emissions at Its 335,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery February 18

Valero Energy Corp reported an upset at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery resulted in excess emissions, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 13:24 February 18, 2016

No Production Cuts at BP's 413,500 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery – Sources

Full, normal production was continuing on Wednesday at BP Plc's Whiting, Indiana refinery, sources familiar with plant operations said. Production was reduced at the refinery in order to resume planned maintenance on a blending oil unit that began over the weekend.

Reuters, 14:07 February 17, 2016

Phillips 66 Says Hydrogen Plant Next to Its 120,200 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery Experienced Flaring February 16

Phillips 66 on Wednesday said a hydrogen plant operated by Air Liquide, located adjacent to its Rodeo refinery in California experienced flaring on Tuesday. The hydrogen plant unit, which provides the Rodeo refinery with hydrogen, was shut to investigate the cause of the flaring, Contra Costa Times said on Tuesday.

Reuters, 13:52 February 17, 2016

Chevron Reports Emissions at Its 269,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery February 18, 2016

Chevron Corp reported the release of hydrogen sulfide from a coke drum vent at its El Segundo, California refinery, according to a filing with the California Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 15:08 February 18, 2016

U.S. Crude Oil, Gasoline Inventories Increase to Record Highs – EIA

U.S. crude oil inventories rose 2.1 million barrels during the week ending February 12 to a peak of 504.1 million barrels—the third straight week of record highs in the past month. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose 36,000 barrels, EIA said, setting a new record high of 64.7 million barrels, for the third straight week. U.S. gasoline stocks rose 3 million barrels to a record high of 258.7 million barrels. U.S. East Coast gasoline inventories rose 1.7 million barrels last week to 70.5 million barrels, the highest level on record.

Reuters, 12:20 February 18, 2016

Reuters, 11:33 February 18, 2016

Tallgrass Energy Sees Interconnection on Its 230,000 b/d Pony Express Pipeline in Wyoming Operational by February 19

Tallgrass Energy Partners said its Pony Express Pipeline (PXP) and Powder River Express LLC, a subsidiary of GenesisEnergy, were finalizing interconnection arrangements that would enable PXP to receive crude deliveries at its Guernsey origin from the pre-terminal at Guernsey, Wyoming. Tallgrass Energy said it expects interconnection to be completed and operational on February 19. PXP transports crude petroleum from the Guernsey, Wyoming area to Cushing, Oklahoma area delivery points.

http://pipeline.tallgrassenergyllp.com/EBB%20Docs/Notices/PXP-PRE_Guernsey_interconnect_posting.pdf
<http://pipeline.tallgrassenergyllp.com/Pages/Content.aspx?pipeline=402&type=SYST>

CHS Starts Up New Coker at Its 85,000 b/d McPherson, Kansas Refinery February 5

CHS on Wednesday announced it completed construction of a new coker at its McPherson, Kansas refinery. Construction of the coker unit began in March 2013 and the unit commenced operations on February 5.

<http://www.chsinc.com/our-company/news-and-media/news/2016/02/17/new-coker-now-operating-at-chs-refinery-at-mcpherson-kansas>
<http://www.chsinc.com/energy-and-industrial/refining>

Natural Gas

Update: DOGGR Confirms SoCalGas' Aliso Canyon Well Permanently Sealed February 18

The California Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) today confirmed that the leaking well at the Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) Aliso Canyon storage facility has been permanently sealed and taken out of service. On December 4, 2015, SoCalGas commenced drilling a relief well to stop the natural gas leak by plugging the leaking well at its base. On February 11, the company pumped in heavy fluids and successfully controlled the flow of gas out of the leaking well. On February 12, SoCalGas began to pump cement from the relief well into the base of the leaking well and completed that process on February 17.

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Documents/2016-05%20State%20officials%20confirm%20Aliso%20Canyon%20gas%20leak%20has%20been%20halted%20cdocx.pdf>
<https://www.alisoupdates.com/1443738511730/press-release-doggr-confirms-en.pdf>

Enbridge Reports AGI Compressor Malfunction at Its 150 MMcf/d Tilden Gas Plant in Texas February 17

Enbridge reported an acid gas injector (AGI) compressor faulted causing the auxiliary AGI compressors to malfunction as well as a plant processing upset. All gas was routed to the flare to curtail emissions as processing and flow rates were adjusted to minimize the flare duration.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=227846>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices February 18, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	30.72	26.14	52.08
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.91	2.13	2.95

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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