



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 03, 2009

## Electricity

### Update: Fewer than 130,000 Still Without Power along U.S. East Coast, Canada March 3

An estimated 128,894 customers remained without power across eight U.S. states and three Canadian provinces March 3, based on latest available reports. Snow accompanied by strong winds knocked out power to more than 500,000 U.S. customers March 1-2, and more than 15,000 Canadian customers March 2-3. Included in the latest-reported U.S. outages were more than 40,000 South Carolina customers, about 25,000 Virginia customers, just over 20,000 North Carolina customers, and fewer than 15,000 Georgia customers. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data. Not included in the table are scattered outages among several neighboring states.

East Coast Winter Storm Customer Power Outages			
March 1-2, 2009			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Duke-Energy	SC	81,601	38,643
Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative	SC	8,000	3,589
York Electric	SC	4,800	0
Dominion Power	VA	137,442	21,526
Rappahannock Electric Cooperative	VA	11,098	2,178
Appalachian Power	VA	9,676	0
Central Virginia Electric Cooperative	VA	4,000	1,783
Duke-Energy	NC	99,596	17,963
EnergyUnited	NC	21,000	3,000
Progress Energy	NC	2,383	43
Georgia Power	GA	57,000	1,500
Georgia Electric Membership Corporation	GA	45,000	13,000
SW Tennessee Electric Mem. Corporation	TN	7,000	7,000
SMECO	MD	9,707	1,234
Baltimore Gas and Electric	MD	23,845	98
Delmarva Power	MD	13,517	88
PEPCO	MD	893	360
Delmarva Power	DE	3,283	1
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	1,024	8
Nova Scotia Power	NS	12,064	12,064
NB Power	NB	2,816	2,816
Maritime Electric	PEI	2,000	2,000
<b>TOTAL*</b>		<b>557,745</b>	<b>128,894</b>

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

Sources:

<http://www.duke-energy.com/news/releases/2009030202.asp>

<http://www.dom.com/news/elec2009/pr0302.jsp>

Reuters, 12:06 March 2, 2009

Dominion Power: [http://www.dom.com/news/outage\\_sos.jsp](http://www.dom.com/news/outage_sos.jsp)

Rappahannock Electric Coop: <http://www.myrec.coop/outage-center/outage-summary.cfm>

Appalachian Power: <http://www.appalachianpower.com/news/outages/default.asp>

Central Virginia Electric Cooperative: [http://cvecinfo.com/News/storms/Outage\\_Summary.html](http://cvecinfo.com/News/storms/Outage_Summary.html)

Duke-Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/outages/stats/>

EnergyUnited: [http://www.energyunited.com/press\\_releases/MarchSnowStormPMpr.pdf](http://www.energyunited.com/press_releases/MarchSnowStormPMpr.pdf)

Progress Energy: <http://www.progress-energy.com/shared/outages/car/default.aspx>  
Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative: <http://www.upstatetoday.com/news/2009/mar/03/winter-blast-closes-schools-leaves-thousands-witho/>  
York Electric: <http://www.heraldonline.com/front/story/1172380.html>  
Georgia Power: <http://www.gainesvilletimes.com/news/article/15590/>  
Georgia Electric Membership Corporation:  
<http://www.georgiaemc.com/backdoor/pdfs/March%201%20Winter%20Storm%20Advisory%209.pdf>  
Baltimore Gas and Electric: <http://www.bge.com/portal/site/bge/menuitem.42d31413f80c584606370f10d66166a0>  
Delmarva Power: <http://www.delmarva.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>  
SMECO: <http://outage.smeco.coop/>  
PEPCO: <http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>  
Southwest Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation:  
<http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20090301/NEWS01/90301010>  
Atlantic City Electric: <http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>  
Nova Scotia Power: [http://www.nspower.ca/customer\\_service/outage\\_information/outagemap.shtml](http://www.nspower.ca/customer_service/outage_information/outagemap.shtml)  
NB Power: <http://www.nbpower.com/Open/Outages.aspx>  
Maritime Electric:  
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20090303.wmaritimes0303/BNStory/National/home>  
Reuters, 18:47 March 2, 2009  
Bloomberg News, 16:17 March 2, 2009

### **Car Crash Cuts Power to About 100,000 El Paso Electric Customers in Texas March 1**

A vehicle crashed into a transmission pole, knocking out power for nearly three hours to about 100,000 El Paso Electric customers in Texas on March 1. The accident caused two electric lines to touch, triggering an automatic safety mechanism that shut down both of the affected lines. The outage began at about 12:15 AM, local time, and ended at around 3 AM.

[http://www.elpasotimes.com/ci\\_11814280?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.elpasotimes.com/ci_11814280?source=most_viewed)  
<http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/18828811/detail.html>  
<http://www.ktsm.com/news/power-outage-affects-100000-people>

### **FPL Shuts 597 MW Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant in Iowa March 2**

Operators shut the unit after turbine bearings exceeded higher than normal temperatures, a company spokeswoman said. The unit had been ramping up from a planned refueling outage, but had not yet connected to the grid, she said. A news source did not indicate when the unit might return to service.

Bloomberg News, 15:56 March 2, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **Enmax's 250 MW Calgary Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut March 3**

Reuters, 7:47 March 3, 2009

### **Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 5 in Ontario by March 3**

The unit went offline by March 2.

Reuters, 07:42 March 3, 2009

### **Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 7 in Ontario March 3**

Bloomberg News, 08:20 March 3, 2009

### **TransAlta Restarts 279 MW Wabamun Coal-fired Power Plant in Alberta March 3**

The unit shut on February 27.

Bloomberg News, 08:24 March 3, 2009

### **NV Energy, Solar Millennium and MAN Ferrostaal Inc. Consider 250 MW Solar Trough Technology Plant in Nevada**

NV Energy and Solar Millennium, along with Solar's joint venture partner MAN Ferrostaal Inc., entered into a memorandum of understanding to potentially develop one or multiple solar power facilities in southern Nevada, according to a news release. The group plans to first consider plans for a 250 MW solar trough technology plant in Nevada. That facility would include thermal storage, allowing it to generate energy after daylight hours. Pending approvals and financing, the companies expect to complete the project in 2013-14.

BSW, 12:19 March 3, 2009

## **Installed Costs of Solar Photovoltaic Power Systems Decline Significantly from 1998 to 2007—Lawrence Berkeley Lab Report**

The average cost of solar photovoltaic power systems declined significantly in the United States from 1998 to 2007, as government incentives encouraged growth in the industry, according to a recent study from the Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The report cited benefits derived from government incentives and subsequent decreases in nonmodule costs—labor, marketing, overhead, inverters, and the balance of systems—as primary drivers of the price drop.

<http://newscenter.lbl.gov/press-releases/2009/02/19/solar-system-cost-report/>

## **Petroleum**

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### **BP Shuts Units, Slows Operations after Malfunction 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery March 2**

BP cut processing rates to the coker and hydrotreater at its 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery after a malfunction in a sulfur recovery plant yesterday, sources said. The incident affected more than 20 processing units, according to a spokesman. BP planned to restart the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) by tomorrow, and sources indicated that the affected units would resume normal operations, pending the SRU's return.

[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601102&sid=ai1awAFIYD\\_A&refer=uk](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601102&sid=ai1awAFIYD_A&refer=uk)

<http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=6468e47c75f8c414>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=120794>

Reuters, 11:56 March 3, 2009

Reuters, 07:31 March 3, 2009

### **Malfunction at ExxonMobil's 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery March 2**

A malfunction occurred in an unspecified unit at ExxonMobil's 149,500 b/d Torrance, California refinery on March 2, the company said. The incident triggered flaring, but did not force shut any units, and the company did not expect any impact to production. Operators recently restarted several units from a two-month overhaul. None of those units were involved in the malfunction, the spokeswoman said.

Reuters, 18:44 March 2, 2009

Bloomberg News, 18:43 March 2, 2009

### **Alon Shuts Reformer at 80,000 b/d Krotz Springs, Louisiana Refinery over Weekend**

Alon shut a reformer for eight-to-10 days of repair work at its 80,000 b/d Krotz Springs, Louisiana refinery over the weekend, a company spokesman said.

Bloomberg News, 15:47 March 2, 2009

### **Update: Valero Plans Crude Unit Restart after Fire at 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery**

Valero planned to restart the fire-downed Crude Unit 146 at its 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas refinery "within the next several days," the company said yesterday. An exchanger fire shut the unit on February 27. In the interim, the company maximized production from an alternate crude unit. It did not expect a significant production impact.

Reuters, 14:00 March 2, 2009

### **Update: ConocoPhillips Restarts FCC at 247,000 b/d Alliance Refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana by March 3**

ConocoPhillips restarted the gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) at its Alliance refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, trade sources said March 3. The company shut the unit for planned work in mid-January, but failed in its first restart attempt.

Reuters, 10:07 March 3, 2009

### **Update: Valero Says Coker Repairs to Take at Least “A Couple of Weeks” at 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery**

A crude unit remains at reduced rates at Valero’s 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware refinery, as operators continue to work on an associated, downed fluid coker unit, the company said in a March 3 news source. Valero has been working to restart the coker since February 20, following a power disruption that forced it offline. “We’re still evaluating the coker and formulating a restart plan,” a spokesman said. He said the company would be better-equipped to assess any production impact “once the evaluation is complete.” Regardless, he expected work on the coker to stretch for “at least a couple of weeks.”

Bloomberg News, 10:53 March 3, 2009

### **PetroCanada “Modifies” Production at 135,000 b/d Edmonton, Alberta Refinery on Process Upset**

Petro-Canada said it “modified” production after a February 28 “process upset” at its 135,000 b/d Edmonton, Alberta refinery.

Bloomberg News, 15:24 March 2, 2009

### **Oil Prices Drop More than 10 Percent on Demand Worries March 2**

Benchmark crude for April delivery dropped \$4.61 yesterday, closing at \$40.15/barrel, as demand concerns continued to outweigh production cuts. A stream of negative economic news—disappointing reports from the Institute for Supply Management and the Commerce Department, and news of increased government aid to American International Group—contributed to the slide, analysts said.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i5TtajUpSm7KY5jf-ICJGHBB-tAD96M3SQG0>

### **Update: Pipeline Explosion Forces Shut up to 70,000 b/d of Oil Production in Nigeria—NNPC**

Shell shut in several oil installations after explosions along the 24-inch trans-Escravos oil pipeline, the company said today. An official at Nigeria’s state oil firm said the attacks had shut in as much as 70,000 b/d of crude production. The affected pipeline delivers oil from Shell’s Forcados oilfields to the Escravos oil export terminal in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. Shell said the explosions, which punctured the line in at least three places, may have been the result of sabotage.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKL389092520090303>

Reuters, 12:21 March 3, 2009

## ***Natural Gas***

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Nothing to report.

## ***Other News***

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### **OE/ISER Completes Study Comparing Impacts of 2005 and 2008 Hurricane Seasons**

The Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) Division of the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) in the U.S. Department of Energy has completed a detailed analytical study comparing the U.S. energy infrastructure impacts of hurricanes in 2005 with those in 2008. To view the study click on the link below.

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/outreach.aspx>

### **DOE Posts Information Related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

The U.S. Department of Energy is providing details, with periodic updates, of its efforts related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. To read about DOE’s plans and activities click on the link below.

<http://www.energy.gov/recovery/>

## Energy Prices

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b> March 3, 2009			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	40.40	37.23	103.43
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.36	4.23	9.10

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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**Update: FPL Files 2008/2009 Storm Strengthening and Reliability Report with Florida PSC—Company Plans to Inspect Distribution Poles, Strengthen Power Lines, Bolster Equipment and Trim Trees**

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/090302/20090302006313.html?v=1>

**Update: Oregon Environmental Quality Commission Postpones Decision on State Haze-Reduction Plan for Portland General Electric's 601 MW Boardman Coal-fired Power Plant**

[http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2009/03/enviromental\\_regulators\\_delay.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2009/03/enviromental_regulators_delay.html)

**Average U.S. Diesel Price Hits Four-Year Low, \$2.087/gallon, on Economic Slump March 2**

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-gas3-2009mar03.0.3794026.story>

**Aromatic Concentrate Leak at ExxonMobil 348,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery March 2-3**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=120804>

**Process Upset at ConocoPhillips' 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery March 2—No Impact on Production, Spokesman Says**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=120771>

Bloomberg News, 17:32 March 2, 2009

**BP Reduces Oil Production Forecast through 2012, Says it May Re-scale Some Alaskan Projects on Lower Crude Prices—Company Expects Overall Production Growth of 1.5 Percent/Year through 2012**

Bloomberg News, 12:33 March 3, 2009

Bloomberg News, 06:22 March 3, 2009

**Chevron Repairs Leaking Bridgeport LPG Lateral Line in Texas February 26**

[http://www.weatherforddemocrat.com/local/local\\_story\\_058175212.html](http://www.weatherforddemocrat.com/local/local_story_058175212.html)

**Tanker Crash Spills 3,700 Gallons of Gasoline, Shuts Part of I-35 for Nearly Seven Hours in Texas March 1**

<http://herald-zeitung.com/story.lasso?ewcd=7b0a81c964451670&-session=HeraldZeitung:42F949F707665033FBkKH4022505>

**Update: Sunoco, Local USW Branch Agree to National USW Deal for 178,000 b/d Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania Refinery March 2—Sides Still Seek to Resolve Some Local Issues**

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/7698430.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

**Diesel Pump Shut Down at Cenex Station on Fuel Quality Concerns—Cenex Official Cites Problems with Diesel Supplies from Lauren, Montana Refinery**

[http://www.kfyrtv.com/News\\_Stories.asp?news=27539](http://www.kfyrtv.com/News_Stories.asp?news=27539)

**CHS Says Pipeline Fuel-Additive Malfunction Causes Clogged Filters in North Dakota—Refinery Fuel Unaffected**

Bloomberg News, 10:00 March 3, 2009

**Update: DOE's Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership Begins Injecting 50,000 Tons of Carbon Dioxide in Michigan Basin**

[http://fossil.energy.gov/news/techlines/2009/09012-DOE\\_Partners\\_Begin\\_CO2\\_Injection.html](http://fossil.energy.gov/news/techlines/2009/09012-DOE_Partners_Begin_CO2_Injection.html)

**OPEC Reduces Oil Production by 2.7 Percent in February, to Total 27.775 Million b/d**

Bloomberg News, 11:40 March 3, 2009

**Nigerian Oil Workers Threaten to Strike in Three Weeks, Unless Government Improves Security Conditions in Niger Delta**

Reuters, 17:22 March 2, 2009

**Update: Mexico Reopens Coatzacoalcos, Dos Bocas and Cayo Arcas Oil Ports in Gulf of Mexico as Weather Improves March 3**

Reuters, 11:20 March 3, 2009

**Update: After Rupture, Ecuador Restarts 130,000 b/d OCP Oil Pipeline at Reduced Rates March 3—Spokesman Says Line Could Resume Normal Rates March 4 or 5**

Reuters, 10:36 March 3, 2009

DJN, 10:21 March 3, 2009

**Saudi Arabia Expected to Reduce Oil Rig Total by up to 20 Percent through 2009 on Lower Crude Production**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=73510](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=73510)

## **Links**

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***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](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>

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