



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, March 04, 2015

Electricity

Winter Storm Knocks Out Power to 46,000 Customers in Ontario March 3

A winter storm producing snow, freezing rain, and rain on Tuesday knocked out power to 25,000 Toronto Hydro and 21,000 Hydro One customers in the Toronto, Ontario area. Hydro One the outages were caused by issues such as pole fires and intermittent outages from its transmission supply. As of 1:30 p.m. EST, 10,000 Toronto Hydro customers remained without power and the company expected the majority of those customers to have power to be restored by 6 p.m. tonight. As of 3:30 p.m. EST, 372 Hydro One customers remained without power.

<http://www.hydroone.com/StormCenter3/>

<https://twitter.com/HydroOne>

<https://outages.torontohydro.com/2015/03/weather-event-results-in-multiple-power-outages/>

<https://twitter.com/TorontoHydro>

<https://outages.torontohydro.com/2015/03/approximately-15000-customers-still-without-power/>

<http://www.torontohydro.com/sites/electricsystem/PowerOutages/Pages/OutageMap.aspx>

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Declares Power Emergency after Two Units Offline at Its 490 MW Holyrood Thermal Generating Plant, March 4

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro on Wednesday morning advised customers it was in a power emergency due to units 1 and 3 at the Holyrood thermal generating plant being offline. Unit 3 returned to service Wednesday morning and unit 1 was expected back online by mid-afternoon. The combustion turbine at Holyrood was providing power to the grid and Newfoundland Power was rotating outages.

<http://www.nlhydro.com/power-emergency-effect-2/>

<https://twitter.com/NLHydro>

<https://www.nlhydro.com/operations/thermal-generation/>

Update: TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuclear Unit 1 in Tennessee Ramps Up to 95 Percent by March 4

On the morning of March 3 the unit was operating at 30 percent after restarting and ramping up to 14 percent by March 2. The unit experienced a manual reactor trip, from full power, on February 21 due to the rapid loss of the main condenser vacuum.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150223en.html>

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Shut on March 3

The Unit was shut from full power due to the main power transformer bushing short.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150304en.html>

Update: U.S. Senate Fails to Override President Obama's Veto of Legislation Approving TransCanada's 830,000 b/d Keystone XL March 4

The U.S. Senate failed on Wednesday to override President Barack Obama's veto of legislation approving the Keystone XL oil pipeline. The Senate had 62 votes in favor of overriding the veto, short of the two-thirds needed. Thirty-seven senators voted to sustain Obama's veto. The Senate action means the House of Representatives will not vote on override. The TransCanada Corp pipeline would carry mostly Canadian oil sands crude to Nebraska en route to refineries and ports along the U.S. Gulf Coast. It has been pending for more than six years.
Reuters, 15:03 March 4, 2015

Canadian Oil Imports to U.S. Gulf Coast Rise on Flanagan South, Seaway Twin Pipeline Startups in December 2014

The December startup of Enbridge Inc's 600,000 b/d Illinois-to-Oklahoma Flanagan South pipeline, and Enterprise Products Partners' 450,000 b/d Oklahoma-to-Texas Seaway Twin that move Canadian heavy crude to the U.S. helped increase U.S. Gulf Coast imports more than 12 percent from November, U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) data showed. According to the EIA, total Canadian shipments to the U.S. rose 14 percent in December to 3.32 million b/d from November. EIA data show 8.15 million barrels – about 262,935 b/d – either arrived at, or were destined for, the Gulf Coast in December, up from 7.24 million barrels in November, or 241,333 b/d.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=46693

U.S. Gulf Coast Crude Oil Stocks Reach Highest on Record, East Coast Refinery Utilization Falls to 62 Percent on Outages – EIA

U.S. Gulf Coast crude oil stockpiles reached its highest level on record last week, data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. Gulf Coast stockpiles rose 5.4 million barrels to 219.9 million barrels in the week to February 27, the highest since at least 1990, the data showed. Meanwhile, East Coast refinery utilization fell 8.8 percentage points to 62.3 percent last week after a number of refineries faced outages on cold weather through the region.

Reuters, 10:46 March 4, 2015

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_stoc_wstk_a_EPC0_SAX_mbb1_w.htm

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wiup_dcu_r10_w.htm

Update: PES Shuts FCCU at Its 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery March 3 – Source

Philadelphia Energy Solutions Inc (PES) shut an 85,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU) early on Tuesday at the Girard Point section of its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania refinery after an unexpected problem, a source familiar with the facility's operations said. The refinery's FCCU was initially shut down on February 6 for about three weeks of planned maintenance. The unit was restarted over the weekend before suffering a setback starting Monday night, the source said. An associated 20,000 b/d alkylation unit also remains shut down, the source said, stemming from planned work that began in mid-January.

Reuters, 12:01 March 3, 2015

ExxonMobil Reports Brief Flaring at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery March 4

Reuters, 9:26 March 4, 2015

HollyFrontier Reports Operations Normal despite Flaring at Its 155,300 b/d Tulsa, Oklahoma Refinery March 3

Reuters, 16:57 March 3, 2015

Valero Reports Upset at Its 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery March 3

Valero Energy Corp reported an upset at complex 7 where acid gas was vented to the sulfur recovery unit 1 acid gas flare.

Reuters, 18:11 March 3, 2015

Update: North Dakota Oil Rig Count Drops to 115 March 3 from 189 a Year Ago

Reuters, 18:29 March 3, 2015

Alaska DEC Investigating 4,000 Gallon North Slope Pipeline Leak

Investigators were reviewing the cause of an oil production pipeline breach on Alaska's North Slope where upwards of 4,000 gallons of fluid spilled, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) said on Monday. The production facility is jointly owned by Hilcorp and BP Alaska. The ruptured line sprayed the fluid – made up of oil, natural gas and water – on Saturday over an area covering about 38,000 square feet, according to a DEC report on Monday. Spray covered a gravel pad and some tundra area, but there were no reports of any wildlife being affected, the report said. Blizzard-like conditions delayed initial cleanup efforts, according to the DEC. The external affairs manager for Hilcorp said the company was able to first plug the hole then build a bypass to re-establish flow within the line.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=46695

Vancouver City Council Extends Crude Oil Terminal Moratorium in Washington State

The Vancouver City Council voted Monday to extend a moratorium on new crude oil terminals. The vote continues a six-month moratorium adopted in March for another six months. The moratorium gives the city staff time to review regulations and research actions other municipalities have taken. The moratorium doesn't affect two projects that already had applications in the works. An oil transfer terminal proposed by Tesoro Corp. and Savage Companies is currently under review by the state. The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council will make a recommendation to Governor Jay Inslee. The moratorium also doesn't affect the NuStar project, which involves receiving crude oil by rail and shipping it out by barge.

http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2015/03/crude_oil_terminal_moratorium.html

Natural Gas

Regency Reports AGI Compressor Shut at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas March 2

Regency reported the acid gas injector (AGI) compressor shut on low suction pressure. The AGI compressor was restarted.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=210822>

Enbridge Reports Big Foot Compressors Shut at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas March 2

Enbridge reports while pigging the big foot line, liquids carried over from the slug catcher causing the big foot compressors to go down. The big foot and white kitchen producers were called to block in gas. The acid gas injectors remained down until pressures could be maintained.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=210870>

Other News

Colorado Announces Stricter Rules for Gas and Oil Operations in Its Floodplains

The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission on March 2 announced stricter rules will go into effect in the summer for gas and oil operations in the State's floodplains after a total of 48,250 gallons of oil and 43,478 gallons of produced water were spilled in Colorado from September 2013 floods. The regulations will apply to any oil and gas facility and well and drilling servicing operation in land declared a 100-year floodplain and will require all wells to either create or be retrofitted with containment berms, among other rules.

<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2015/03/02/colorado-tightens-floodrelated-oil-spill-rules/24287933>

<http://cogcc.state.co.us/>

International News

Update: Militants Take Over Libya's Bahi Oil Station, Mabrouk Oilfield – Security Official

Islamist militants took over Libya's Bahi oil station and the Mabrouk oilfield on Tuesday after security forces guarding the installations were forced to retreat, according to a security official in the oil protection forces. Both oil operations were empty after staff were evacuated earlier. Militants have gained ground in Libya, where two rival governments and their armed forces are battling for control.

Reuters, 14:18 March 3, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 4, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	49.71	50.15	105.34
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.93	3.13	6.70

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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