



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, March 17, 2008

Electricity

Severe Storms Leave Nearly 200,000 Customers without Power in Georgia and South Carolina March 15

Severe thunderstorms that produced multiple tornadoes ripped through large swaths of Georgia and South Carolina over the weekend. Tornadoes tore through downtown Atlanta, and severe weather affected much of the state causing outages to reach around 42,000 customers by late afternoon March 15. By evening, another line of storms struck South Carolina and the Savannah, Georgia area, leaving nearly 150,000 customers without power, including 25,000 South Carolina Electric and Gas customers. A spokesman from Southern Company told reporters that a tornado damaged thirteen transmission line towers in Effingham County. The majority of customers had power restored by March 16.

<http://www.wistv.com/global/story.asp?s=8021749&ClientType=Printable>

<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/251/story/273111.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2008/US/03/15/storm.atlanta/?iref=hpmostpop>

<http://www.wsav.com/midatlantic/sav/news.apx.-content-articles-SAV-2008-03-16-0011.html>

Southern's 1,152 MW Vogtle Nuke Unit 1 in Georgia Shut by March 16

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 15 the unit was operating at 92 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Luminant's 1,150 MW Comanche Peak Nuke Unit 2 in Texas Shut by March 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 16 the unit was operating at full power. The unit was taken offline due to a sensing line.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Bloomberg News, 10:10 March 17, 2008

Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois at Full Power by March 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 15 the unit was reduced to 65 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Progress Energy's 872 MW Brunswick Nuke Unit 1 in North Carolina Shut by March 15

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 14 the unit was operating at 90 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

FPL's 565 MW Duane Arnold Nuke Unit in Iowa Ramped Up to 98 Percent by March 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 15 the unit was reduced to 66 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Luminant Restarts 545 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas March 15

According to a report filed with state regulators the company planned to restart the unit after repairing a boiler tube leak.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=104910>

Duke's 510 MW Moss Landing Power Block 2 Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service March 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned to full power after experiencing an unplanned curtailment of 260 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200803141515.html>

OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuke Unit in Nebraska Shut by March 16

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 15 the unit was operating at 90 percent. The unit was shut after a turbine tripped.

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Bloomberg News, 10:59 March 17, 2008

Update: LCRA Expects 445 MW Fayette Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Back Soon

According to report filed with state regulators, the Lower Colorado River Authority plans to restart the unit on March 17-18 following repairs of "a very large boiler leak."

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/eer/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=104876>

Mirant's 337 MW Contra Costa Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Shut by March 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200803161515.html>

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke 2 Coal-fired Unit in Ontario Shut March 17

Reuters, 9:56 March 17, 2008

Petroleum

U.S. Heating Oil Distributors Seek Emergency Release from Northeast Heating Oil Reserve

U.S. fuel dealers are preparing to solicit the Department of Energy to release reserves from the Northeast Heating Oil Reserve. The solicitation is prompted by dealers being squeezed by record high fuel prices and delayed payments from low-income customers. Sources told Reuters that several trade associations are in negotiations over the wording of the letter to be sent to the Department of Energy. Fuel stocks for the Northeast are 25 percent lower than March 2007.

Reuters, 15:45 March 14, 2008

FCC Returns to Service at Shell's 340,000 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery

The company announced that its 70,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracker had returned to full operation. The unit's return to service from planned maintenance was delayed on March 10 after a leak was discovered.

Reuters, 15:49 March 16, 2008

FCC Restarted at ConocoPhillips's 194,000 b/d Ponca City, Oklahoma Refinery

The No. 4 fluid catalytic cracker was restarted following a "couple of weeks" of repairs, according to a company spokesman.

Bloomberg News, 9:59 March 17, 2008

Natural Gas

Gas Pipeline Industry Urges FERC to Reconsider Flow Data Requirements

FERC is being urged by the natural gas pipeline industry to stop a proposed rule that would require pipelines to post flow data. FERC is hoping to gain greater transparency in the market, but the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA) warned that in order to comply with the regulations, pipeline operators would incur substantial costs totaling in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6821591.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

Other News

U.S. Government and Numerous Corporations Run Largest Simulated Cyber Attack Exercise to Date

Computer security experts from the public and private sector came together last week to simulate various cyber attacks on government agencies, corporations, the transportation sector and other important industries. The Cyber Storm II simulation was intended to highlight breakdowns in communication and to aid in the development of better practices to prevent cyber attacks throughout both the public and private sectors.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080313/tc_afp/uscomputerinternetsecurity_080313232801;_ylt=Aq2VbO4qhZVic5Wjm8.igiDYa7gF

Record Soybean Prices Shut Indefinitely 30 Million Gallon per Year SoyMor Biodiesel Refinery in Minnesota

The owner of the company told reporters that due to price increases in the company's primary feedstock, soy beans, the company cannot profitably produce biodiesel.

Bloomberg News, 10:33 March 17, 2008

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 17, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	106.06	107.62	57.06
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	9.84	9.82	6.84

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Columbia Gulf Transmission Pipeline Company to Hold Open Season for Additional Compression on its East Lateral

<http://www.ngts.com/docs/Columbia%20Gulf%20announces%20open%20season%20on%20Centerville%20expansion.doc>

Update: U.S. State Department Issues Presidential Permit for TransCanada's Keystone Pipeline

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200803/State_Dept_Grants_Keystone_Permit_Work_9385.aspx
<http://www.kxnet.com/getArticle.asp?s=rss&ArticleId=219048>

Houston Ship Channel Reopens after Fog Forces Closure March 17

Bloomberg News, 10:07 March 17, 2008

OPEC Lowers Estimate of Oil Supply Needs for 2008

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=58316

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 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/index.aspx>.

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