



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, March 17, 2010

Electricity

Update: Fewer Than 75,000 Customers Remain Without Power across U.S. Northeast March 17—Weekend Storms Cut Power to More than 1.1 Million

About 60,000 customers remained without power in New York and Connecticut on March 17, days after storms cut power to more than 1.1 million, multiple sources reported. Fewer than 10,000 customers in New Jersey were still in the dark, as of latest reports. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Northeast Customer Power Outages			
March 12 – March 16, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Public Service Electric & Gas	NJ	300,000	9,000
Jersey Central Power & Light	NJ	178,000	727
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	42,000	10
Consolidated Edison	NY	173,000	22,485
Long Island Power Authority	NY	144,000	15,612
Orange & Rockland	NY	51,000	81
New York State Electric & Gas	NY	24,500	350
Central Hudson Gas & Electric	NY	6,200	105
PECO	PA	120,000	2,500
Metropolitan Edison	PA	6,000	1,000
PPL Electric Utilities	PA	1,500	15
Connecticut Light & Power	CT	85,000	21,623
United Illuminating	CT	13,000	28
National Grid/NStar	MA	20,000	260
Western Massachusetts Electric	MA	2,065	20
TOTAL *		1,166,265	73,816

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

Sources:

Public Service Electric & Gas: http://www.pseg.com/media_center/pressreleases/articles/2010/2010-03-15.jsp ,
http://www.pseg.com/media_center/pressreleases/articles/2010/2010-03-16.jsp ,
http://www.pseg.com/media_center/pressreleases/articles/2010/2010-03-17.jsp ,
<http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/87636287.html>

Jersey Central Power & Light: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=NJ ,
<http://www.app.com/article/20100315/NEWS/100315020/22-000-in-Central-Jersey-remain-without-power-this-morning> ,
<http://webstv.com/topstories/wayne.new.jersey.2.1562754.html> ,
<http://www.app.com/article/20100316/NEWS03/100316084/Lights-slowly-coming-back-on-in-NJ> ,
<http://www.1010wins.com/Power-Problems-Remain-in-New-Jersey/6594419>

Atlantic City Electric: <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/87636287.html> ,
<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

Consolidated Edison: <http://apps.coned.com/weboutageinfo/stormcenter/default.aspx> ,
<http://www.coned.com/newsroom/news/pr20100315.asp> , <http://www.coned.com/newsroom/news/pr20100316.asp>

Long Island Power Authority: <http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/township.html> ,
<http://www.buzztab.com/latest-news/lipa-is-still-working-to-restore-power-in-long-island/>

Orange & Rockland: <http://www.oru.com/advisories/?id=410> , http://wp1.coned.com/or_stormcenter/default.aspx

New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG):

<http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/News/2010/031510eaststorm11am.html> ,

<http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/News/2010/031510eaststorm9pmfinal.html>

Central Hudson Gas & Electric: <http://stormcentral.cenhud.com/default.aspx> ,

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20100314/NEWS01/100314002/Wind--rain-cause-outages>

PECO: <http://www.peco.com/outagemap> , <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/87636287.html> ,

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer/the_intelligencer_news_details/article/2504/2010/march/16/peco-works-to-restore-power.html

Met-Ed: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=PA ,

<http://readingeagle.com/article.aspx?id=205278>

PPL Electric Utilities: <http://readingeagle.com/article.aspx?id=205278> ,

<https://selfserv.pplelectric.com/EUSelfServ/Outage/OutageMap.aspx>

Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P): <http://www.cl-p.com/outage/default.aspx> ,

[http://nuwnotes1.nu.com/apps/mediarelease/clp-](http://nuwnotes1.nu.com/apps/mediarelease/clp-pr.nsf/0/16C8B18D5B6F5A0A852576E70061BF93?OpenDocument)

[pr.nsf/0/16C8B18D5B6F5A0A852576E70061BF93?OpenDocument](http://nuwnotes1.nu.com/apps/mediarelease/clp-pr.nsf/0/66460F4F1A4AB601852576E7000715FF?OpenDocument) ,

<http://nuwnotes1.nu.com/apps/mediarelease/clp-pr.nsf/0/66460F4F1A4AB601852576E7000715FF?OpenDocument>

, <http://www.acorn-online.com/joomla15/wiltonbulletin/news/localnews/52402-clap-works-to-restore-power.html>

United Illuminating: <http://www.middletownpress.com/articles/2010/03/15/news/doc4b9d9be105b88982571896.txt>

, http://www.uinet.com/wps/PA_TownOutages/faces/jsp/TownOutagePrint.jsp

National Grid, NStar: [http://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/state_news/x313365162/High-wind-and-heavy-rains-](http://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/state_news/x313365162/High-wind-and-heavy-rains-pummel-region)

[pummel-region](http://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/stormcenter/) , <http://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/stormcenter/>

Western Massachusetts Electric: <http://www.wmeco.com/community/stormcenter/restorationstatus.aspx>

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5h6tfNzApstofgsxNKaABnHUoKKVQD9EF5C1G1>

Winds Knock Out Power to at Least 28,000 Customers in Washington March 16-17

Storms cut electricity to between 10,000 and 20,000 Puget Sound Energy customers, 9,000 Snohomish County PUD customers and 9,000 Seattle City Light customers, multiple sources reported. Puget Sound Energy expected to return service to all of its affected customers by yesterday evening, and Seattle City Light restored power to most of its customers by this morning.

<http://www.nwcn.com/home/Cleanup-begins-after-high-winds-rip-through-Western-Wash-88173172.html>

http://www.seattlepi.com/sound/416911_sound87862802.html

<http://www.kirotv.com/news/22858512/detail.html>

Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuke Unit 1 in Mississippi Reduced to 58 Percent by March 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 16 the unit was operating at 76 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Reliant's 775 MW Ormond Beach Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut by March 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by March 16.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003161515.html>

After Transformer Fire, Calpine Begins Shutting 711 MW Gas-fired Decatur Energy Center in Alabama March 15

Responders extinguished the fire, but Calpine "began a controlled shut down of the facility," according to a news source and company statement. The facility delivers power to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) during times of high demand. Calpine expects to supply TVA via a separate facility, while the Decatur site remains offline.

<http://decaturdaily.com/detail/55757.html>

Companies See Underwater Power Lines as Way to Avoid Public Outcry

Companies have begun siting power lines underwater, and some see the development as a way to ease the public concern that often accompanies above-ground projects, according to a news source. Underwater lines are more costly but have, so far, sparked only limited public and environmental concern. The United States seeks to expand its renewable-based electric capacity but—to achieve that goal—it might also have to construct as much as 20,000 miles of new transmission lines.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/17/business/energy-environment/17power.html>

Compressor Shutdown Causes Fuel Gas System Malfunction at Chevron's 279,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery March 16

The incident led to flaring, a company spokesman said. It was not clear if there was any impact to production. Bloomberg News, 14:38 March 16, 2010

Total Gives "All Clear" after Bomb Threat at 174,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 17

The threat took place during a shift change. The incoming shift could not start work until the "all clear" was announced. The incident appeared "to be a typical hoax," a local emergency official said. Bloomberg News, 10:28 March 17, 2010

Update: Plains All American Pipeline Scales Back Plans for 677,000 b/d Oil Terminal at Port of Los Angeles, California

Plains All American Pipeline blamed "regulatory processes and delays" and said it was "developing new replacement agreements that reflect revised terms and conditions and a downsized initial project," from the one proposed at the end of last year, it said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The company had, through a subsidiary, planned to build a 677,000 b/d oil import terminal the Port of Los Angeles' Pier 400, according to a previous news source. The project would have included two 250,000 barrel storage tanks, a pipeline to the nearby Pier 300, and 14 additional 250,000 barrel storage tanks at Pier 300.

http://www.cunninghamreport.com/news_item.php?id=1218

http://www.cunninghamreport.com/news_item.php?id=322

U.S. Gasoline Demand Surges to February Record 9.012 Million b/d in 2010—API

Domestic demand surged by 2.2 percent in February 2010, month-on-month, to a total 9.012 million b/d, the American Petroleum Institute (API) said on March 17. It marked the highest-ever February total, but was still far lower than the all-time record—9.640 million b/d—set in July 2007.

<http://www.forexyard.com/en/news/gasoline-demand-hits-record-for-February-API-2010-03-17T142114Z-UPDATE-1-US>

U.S. Oil Production Jumps to 5.5 Million b/d -- API

This is the highest monthly figure since June 2005.

<http://www.forexyard.com/en/news/gasoline-demand-hits-record-for-February-API-2010-03-17T142114Z-UPDATE-1-US>

Imperial Oil Seeks Regulatory Okay to Boost Reserves by 250 Million Barrels at 150,000 b/d Cold Lake Oilfield in Alberta, Canada

The company expects to expand production by 20 percent at its existing 150,000 b/d Cold Lake oilfield in Alberta, Canada, a spokesman said. It plans to install a sulfur-filtering plant and employ new drilling methods.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-02-24/imperial-may-extend-cold-lake-field-s-life-by-decades-update1-.html>

Canadian Oil Sands Sees First Oil by End of 2016 at Planned 200,000 b/d Aurora South Oilsands Mine in Alberta, Canada

Canadian Oil Sands Trust expects to open the project in two, 100,000 b/d phases; the first phase should come online by the end of 2016, and the second by 2020, according to a news source. The company intends to process the bitumen at its existing, 350,000 b/d Mildred Lake facility in Alberta, Canada. It plans to expand that site's capacity to 425,000 b/d by 2020, to accommodate new and existing production. The Aurora South project will boost the company's total bitumen production capacity to 600,000 b/d.

<http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/7143447195/articles/oil-gas-journal/drilling-production-2/production-operations/unconventional-resources/2010/02/syncrude-to-increase.html>

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100224-710516.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-02-24/canadian-oil-says-syncrude-output-to-increase-21-update2-.html>

PdVSA-led Consortium to Produce as Much as 480,000 b/d of Heavy Oil at Carabobo-1 Field in Venezuela

The companies plan to construct an upgrader to process the extra-heavy crude, according to a news source. That facility is slated to enter service in 2016-2017. The consortium, in addition to Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PdVSA), includes ONG Videsh Ltd (OVL), Repsol YPF, Petronas, Indian Oil Corp (IOC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL).
http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21691

Natural Gas

Encana to Boost North American Natural Gas Production to More Than 6.0 Bcf/d by 2016, from 3.1 Bcf/d at End of January 2010

Encana expects to derive much of the increase from the Haynesville shale in Louisiana, the Horn River shale in British Columbia, and the Montney sands in British Columbia, according to a news source.
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN169283320100316?type=marketsNews>

Other News

Aventine Emerges from Bankruptcy, Seeks to Resume Construction on Stalled 108 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Projects in Nebraska and Indiana March 16

Aventine halted construction on two, 108 MMGal/Yr. bio-refineries—one in Aurora, Nebraska and another in Mount Vernon, Indiana—before it declared bankruptcy in February 2009, it said in a news release. The company said it planned to restart work “as soon as possible.”

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aventine-successfully-emerges-from-bankruptcy-87811492.html>

U.S. Clean Energy Investments Drop 42 Percent in 2009, Year-on-Year, on Weak Economy

Despite the decline, the United States is expected to increase spending in 2010, according to Bloomberg News Energy Finance.
Bloomberg News, 09:10 March 17, 2010

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 17, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	82.33	81.64	48.53
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.38	4.51	3.78

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Power Out for 13,600 PG&E Customers in California March 17—Officials Investigating Cause, as of Latest Reports

<http://www.kcbs.com/bayareanews/Lights-Out-on-the-Bay-Bridge/6595065>

Dominion Reports 11,567 Customers without Power in Virginia March 16

As of 9:09 PM: <http://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>

Bartlett's Ocean View Farm Accuses Wind Turbine Manufacturer, Wind Energy Solutions, of Knowingly Selling Defective Turbine—Blade Broke in Mid-January at Massachusetts Site

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100314/NEWS/3140331/-1/newsmap>

Federal, State and Local Governments, Corporations Plan Oil Spill Drill along New England Coast March 24

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20100317-NEWS-3170379>

Update: Judge Drops \$100 Million Verdict against BP March 16, Saying 10 Workers Failed to Show Company Was Grossly Negligent in April 2007 Chemical Release at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1611962520100316?type=marketsNews>

Mexico Shuts 1,006,000 b/d Cayo Arcas and 113,000 b/d Dos Bocas Oil Ports on Harsh Weather in Gulf of Mexico March 17

Reuters, 12:24 March 17, 2010

Update: Iraq to Restart Kurdistan Oil Exports within One Month, Oil Minister Says March 17—Officials Expect to Increase Area's Output from 40,000 b/d to 100,000 b/d

Bloomberg News, 13:09 March 17, 2010

Update: Iraq Okays Renewal with Turkey on Operation of Kirkuk-to-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline by March 17

http://www.rferl.org/content/Iraq_Agrees_To_Renew_Oil_Link_Accord_With_Turkey/1986386.html

Twenty-Two Southeast Asian Provinces Contain Estimated 21.6 Billion Barrels of Oil and 299 Tcf of Undiscovered Natural Gas—USGS

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2010/3015/>

Levant Basin Province in Eastern Mediterranean Sea Holds Estimated 1.7 Billion Barrels of Recoverable Oil, 122 Tcf of Recoverable Natural Gas—USGS

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2010/3014/>

Power Failure Forces Shut Tilden Gas Plant in Texas March 16—Operators Restore Power within Four Hours

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137093>

Tenaska Midstream and Superior Appalachian Plan 16-mile Natural Gas Gathering Line in West Virginia—Companies Expect to Complete Line during Fourth Quarter, 2010

<http://www.tenaska.com/newsItem.aspx?id=76>

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.

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