



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Electricity

Enbridge's 186 MW Ontario Wind Power Project's Environmental Report Accepted

The Environmental Screening Report related to the Enbridge's wind power project in Ontario has been accepted, aiding Enbridge as the company moves towards construction of the wind farm. Also, Enbridge Ontario Wind Power has received zoning approvals for the entire wind power project, which will consist of 110 1.65 MW wind turbine generators, providing a total capacity of approximately 186 MW.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=8005717

Entergy's 680 MW Pilgrim Nuke Unit 1 in Massachusetts Ramps Up to 20 Percent of Capacity March 20

The unit was ramping up to full power following an outage that began on March 17 when a valve seal failed. Bloomberg News, 10:14 March 20, 2007

Update: Duke's 1,129 MW Catawba Nuke Unit 1 in South Carolina at 90 Percent of Capacity March 20

The unit was ramping up following an outage so that valve testing and other work could be performed. Reuters, 06:57 March 20, 2007

APS's 1,314 MW Palo Verde Nuke Unit 2 in Arizona at Full Power Late March 19

The unit returned to full capacity late on March 19 following an outage that began over the past weekend to allow work on a control valve in feed water pump.

Reuters, 07:10 March 20, 2007

Bloomberg News, 16:20 March 20, 2007

Update: Constellation's 490 MW Ginna Nuke Unit Ramped up to Full Power in New York March 20

The unit had tripped from full power on March 16 when a safety injection signal caused the unit to automatically shut down.

Reuters, 06:47 March 20, 2007

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas Shut March 20

The unit is expected to return to service by March 23.

Reuters, 07:56 March 20, 2007

Reliant's 850 MW Conemaugh Coal-fired Unit 2 in Pennsylvania Shut March 20

The unit is expected to return to service by March 23.

Reuters, 12:39 March 20, 2007

Power Interruption at Valero's 340,000 b/d Corpus Christi Refinery in Texas March 19

Valero reported that a power interruption occurred at the refinery yesterday that resulted in flaring. The flaring lasted from about 12:30 a.m. until 2:45 a.m. on March 20.
Bloomberg, 11:08 March 20, 2007

Update: Flint Hills Sees 50,000 b/d Expansion at Minnesota Refinery Complete by Fall 2007

Reuters, 10:54 March 20, 2007

Venezuela to Book 50 Billion Bbls of New Reserves

According to state-owned oil company Petroleos de Venezuela (PdVSA), Venezuela expects to book 50 billion barrels of new oil reserves in the Orinoco river belt by the end of 2007 and has already booked 10 billion barrels of reserves so far this year. Separately, negotiations are nearing for the transfer of ownership of four Orinoco projects currently run by six private operators (Chevron, Exxon Mobil, Total, Statoil, BP and ConocoPhillips) to PdVSA.
Oil Daily, March 20, 2007

Nigeria Withdraws 18 Expired Oil Refinery Licenses

Nigeria's government has canceled licenses it distributed in 2002 to 18 private companies to set up oil refineries. The licenses were part of a major restructuring effort to boost domestic supply of petroleum products. The government will adopt stringent conditions for the new award process and will seek new applicants.
<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8942821.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Natural Gas

FERC Seeks Presidential Permit for Sonora Pipeline's 1 Bcf/d Border-Crossing Facilities between U.S. and Mexico

FERC has asked Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Defense Secretary Robert Gates to consider a presidential permit for Sonora Pipeline LLC to build bidirectional pipeline facilities across the United States and Mexico border. The U.S. portion of the pipeline project would include two lines extending from Hidalgo County, Texas: one line, the 172-mile, 30-inch diameter Mission Line, would extend to markets in Monterrey, Mexico; the other line, the 65-mile, 30-inch diameter Progresso Line, would extend to the Campo Brazil storage facility in northern Mexico. The combined capacity of the two lines would be approximately 1 Bcf/d.
NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, March 20, 2007, <http://intelligencepress.com/>
http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=8005811

ONEOK Partners Proposes 440-Mile, 160,000 bpd NGL Pipeline Project through Oklahoma and Texas

The proposed Arbuckle Pipeline would deliver natural gas liquids (NGL) from Stephens County, Oklahoma, to the Mont Belvieu, Texas, market hub. The 12- and 16-inch pipeline will interconnect with ONEOK Partners' existing fractionation facility at Mont Belvieu and other Gulf Coast-area fractionators. Construction is expected to be completed in early 2009.
NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, March 20, 2007, <http://intelligencepress.com/>
<http://www.pnnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-19-2007/0004549103&EDATE=>

Other News

CSB Draft Report Faults BP for Lax Safety Culture; Challenges Refining Industry to Improve Corporate Culture

Carolyn Merritt, head of the federal Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB), speaking at the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association (NPRRA) conference in San Antonio, Texas, on March 19, reported on the draft report of the CSB into the accident at BP's Texas City refinery in March of 2005 that killed 15 workers. The draft assigns blame for the accident to a lax corporate culture. Merritt challenged the industry to change their corporate culture in order to avoid such accidents. In addition, the draft report recommends that OSHA (the Occupational Safety and Health Administration) focus on more than inspections of facilities with high rates of injuries by building a team of specialists trained to inspect petrochemical facilities, particularly those where the potential for a catastrophic incident is greatest.

Link to the report of the CSB: http://www.csb.gov/completed_investigations/docs/Baker_panel_report.pdf

Oil Daily, March 20, 2007

Reuters, 11:54 March 20, 2007

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 20, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	56.21	58.03	60.31
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	6.81	6.78	7.00
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Concern about Lagging Production and Falling Stock Levels Push Gasoline Prices to Highest Level in Seven Months

Reuters, 14:24 March 20, 2007

Pemex CEO Says Company Facing Critical Situation with Reduced Oil and Natural Gas Reserves

NGI's Daily Gas Price Index, March 20, 2007, <http://intelligencepress.com/>

Bad Weather Forces Closure of Egyptian Red Sea Ports – Oil Shipments Blocked

Reuters, 05:25 March 20, 2007

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

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. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:
<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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