



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, March 20, 2009

Electricity

Power Restored to 20,000 BC Hydro Customers in Downtown Vancouver March 19

BC Hydro restored power to downtown Vancouver following a transformer problem at its Del Grauer underground substation that left approximately 20,000 customers without power throughout midday. In addition to disrupting businesses, traffic lights were affected, resulting in midday gridlock.

http://www.news1130.com/news/local/more.jsp?content=20090319_153006_6024

<http://www.vancouversun.com/Power+restored+downtown+Vancouver/1406398/story.html>

Watson Cogeneration's 423MW Watson Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by March 19

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage of 423 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200903191515.html>

Update: NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuke Unit in Nebraska at Full Power by March 20

The unit was originally reduced on March 19 for a control rod pattern adjustment. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 19 the unit was operating at 68 percent.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2048579020090320>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: LCRA's 598 MW Fayette Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Returns to Service March 19 Following Fire

According to a filing with state regulators, the unit was shut on March 18 following a fireball caused by workers performing maintenance in the transmission switchyard.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121588>

Reuters, 11:49 March 20, 2009

Update: Missouri PSC Approves Settlement on GMO's 315 MW South Harper Peaking Plant in Missouri, Originally Built without Zoning Approval

The Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a settlement among several parties that signed off on Greater Missouri Operations' (GMO) 315 MW South Harper peaking power plant that was built in 2005 without local zoning approval. The long-running dispute landed in the Missouri Legislature, whom passed a bill giving the PSC authority to retroactively approve the South Harper project.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/8430632.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

FERC Releases Proposed Policy Statement Outlining Steps for 'Smart Grid' Technology President Obama Designates Acting Chairman Wellinghoff for Chairman of FERC

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released a proposed policy statement, outlining how it views a wide range of technologies to improve the nation's power grid. According to a prepared statement on the subject, FERC's final policy statement will provide the power industry guidance on security, communication and the integration of renewable technologies such as wind and solar onto the grid. The commission also said utilities installing 'smart grid' technologies will be allowed to recover their costs but must demonstrate system security and follow existing reliability standards.

http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20090319-3063

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/President-Obama-Announces-More-Key-Administration-Posts-3/19/09/

Petroleum

Update: Canadian Natural Resources Limited Ships First Synthetic Crude from Horizon Oil Sands Project in Alberta

On March 18, Canadian Natural commenced the first pipeline shipment of synthetic crude oil from its Horizon oil sands project. The Horizon project is located north of Fort McMurray and includes a surface oil sands mining and bitumen extraction plant with on-site bitumen upgrading and associated infrastructure to produce synthetic crude oil. http://www.cnrl.com/client/whats_new/1071/1084/0319_horizon_first_oil.pdf

Update: 65,000 b/d FCC Unit Restarting at Hess's Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery Following Power Outage

The company reported that it was restarting a fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) unit at its Port Reading, New Jersey, refinery after a partial Wednesday power outage shut the gasoline-making unit. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN2049687120090320>

Update: Mustang Completes 20,000 b/d Low Sulfur Gasoline Project at Placid Refining's 55,000 b/d Port Allen, Louisiana Refinery

Mustang provided the engineering and construction management for a new 20,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) gasoline hydrotreater to make low sulfur gasoline. The \$63 million project is part of the refinery's \$300 million upgrade and expansion to increase the refinery's capacity from 55,000 b/d to 80,000 b/d while reducing total air emissions by about 50 percent.

<http://www.mustangeng.com/NewsandIndustryEvents/PressReleases/Pages/031909.aspx>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 20, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	51.68	46.75	101.46
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	3.68	3.87	9.11
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

E.ON Begins Production at Rita Gas Field in North Sea March 20

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSLK17373320090320>

Update: Enbridge's Proposed 1,000-mile Pipeline to Transport Crude from Canada to Minnesota Hits Snag due to 13-mile Stretch Through Fond du Lack Indian Reservation, Regulators Pending an Agreement with the Tribe or the Completion of the Federal Review of the Environmental Impact Statement

<http://www.duluthnewtribune.com/event/article/id/115457/>

<http://www.kttc.com/Global/story.asp?S=10040872>

Update: Total's Six French Refineries Return to Normal Operations March 20 Following End of Workers Strike

Reuters, 06:13 March 20, 2009

Update: TransCanada Applies for Permit with South Dakota Regulators to Build its 1,980-mile, 900,000 b/d Keystone XL Pipeline to Run Through Nine Counties in South Dakota

<http://www.argusleader.com/article/20090320/BUSINESS/903200317/1003>

NRC Directs Staff to Initiate Rulemaking on Disposal of Depleted Uranium

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-052.html>

Afghanistan's Ministry of Mines to Hold First-Ever Hydrocarbon Bidding Round

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=74169

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/ead.aspx>

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