



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday, March 23, 2006

Electricity

18,000 Connecticut Light & Power Customers in Connecticut Lost Power March 22

The cause of the power outage is unknown. Officials are not sure when power will be restored.

<http://www.norwalkadvocate.com/news/local/scn-sa-nor.outage6mar23.0.1348850.story?track=rss>

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake 2 Coal-fired Unit in Texas Shut March 22

09:39 March 23, 2006

Update: Exelon's 1,043 MW Clinton Nuke in Illinois is Up to 49 Percent Power

Exelon's 1,043-megawatt Clinton nuclear power station in Illinois ramped up to 49 percent of capacity by early Thursday. On Wednesday, the unit was operating at 16 percent after exiting an outage. The unit shut on March 20 due to a turbine low vacuum trip alarm in the main control room.

Reuters, 07:32 March 23, 2006

Entergy's 1,350 MW Grand Gulf Nuke in Mississippi Reduces Power

Entergy Corp. reduced output from its 1,350-megawatt Grand Gulf nuclear reactor in Mississippi to investigate problems with a water pump. The plant is operating at 58 percent of capacity.

Bloomberg, 12:19 March 23, 2006

TVA's 1,183 MW Sequoyah 2 Nuke in Tennessee Shut March 23

The Tennessee Valley Authority's 1,183-megawatt Sequoyah 2 nuclear reactor near Chattanooga, Tennessee shut down yesterday for unknown reasons.

Bloomberg, 11:03 March 23, 2006

Update: NRC Expanding Probe of Security Concerns at Progress Energy Plant in North Carolina

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is expanding its investigation of allegations that security officers at Progress Energy Inc.'s Shearon Harris plant in North Carolina were cheating on qualification tests. Several issues were raised by the Union of Concerned Scientists and the North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction Network.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483786

CPS Energy Begins Construction on Coal-fired Plant in Texas

CPS Energy began construction on the first new coal plant to be built in 15 years in Texas. The J.K. Spruce Power Plant Unit 2, expected to be completed in 2010 with the capability of generating 750 megawatts, is designed to have the best available emissions control technology in the United States.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483312

Update: Evacuation Plans for Indian Point Nuke Plant in New York to Be Re-evaluated

Officials from three counties near Indian Point expressed concerns about evacuation plans, especially during rush hour and times of heavy rains and flooding. Department of Homeland Security representatives have agreed to reevaluate the area's emergency evacuation plans.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483430

Hawaiian Electric Proposed Power Plant to Use Ethanol

Under the encouragement of state officials to use more renewable fuel sources and less dependency on imported oil for power generation, Hawaiian Electric Co. has decided to burn ethanol in its proposed 110-MW power plant on the island of Oahu.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/7347614.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

Power Lines in Washington State Threatened By Sagging Hillside

Officials fear that a slowly sagging hillside in Seattle, Washington will knock down metal towers which carry nearly a third of the city's electricity from Ross Dam to Seattle. Seattle City Light crews have taken precautions by installing large structures on either side of the highway to support the wires if the towers fall.

http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/DHS_Daily_Report_2006-03-23.pdf

Petroleum

ENI Declares Force Majeure on its Nigerian Brass River Crude Exports

NYMEX crude oil futures ended up nearly \$2 Thursday, boosted by a force majeure declaration by ENI on its Nigerian Brass River crude exports and on strong technical support.

Reuters, 14:49 March 23, 2006

Natural Gas

Update: Weaver's Cove LNG Terminal Proposal to be Studied Further

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wants to further study the impact of Weaver's Cove Energy's change in its latest proposal to build and operate a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal. The proposal, which was approved by FERC in 2005, includes using smaller tankers, which "would necessitate an additional number of transits compared to the original proposal" Corps District Commander Curtis L. Thalkin said in a letter to the FERC.

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/daily/03-06/03-22-06/09local.htm>

Other News

Coal Production in Colorado Declined in 2005

Although more than 100 coal-fired power plants are planned or under construction throughout the United States, Colorado's coal production is declining. Coal production dropped from 40 million tons in 2004 to 38 million tons in 2005. Production is expected to decline by another 2 million to 3 million tons in 2006.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483599

Safety Issues in Coal-Related Bills Passed by West Virginia Legislature

The West Virginia Legislature passed 28 coal-related bills and resolutions, many of which focused on issues involving safety.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/7347594.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

Pinnacle Gas Resources Inc. Ordered to Cease Production in 14 Coal-bed Methane Wells

Wyoming's state engineer's office has ordered a coal-bed methane company to stop production due to violations, including lack of proper permits.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=6482546

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 23, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	62.13	63.46	49.43
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.16	7.12	7.11

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Coal-plant Moratorium Passed by Idaho House

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6478796

FERC and AWEA in Agreement on Two Key Interconnection Orders

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483369

Unprecedented U.S. Socio-Economic Benefits of Maximizing Coal Use Found in NCC Study

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6482553

Update: Hunters Point Power Plant in California to Shut Down Spring 2006

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6483211

Application for Transmission Line in Illinois Filed by AmerenIP

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=6482174

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 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.

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