



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday, March 24, 2006

Electricity

Update: Exelon's 1,043 MW Clinton Nuke in Illinois is Up to 96 Percent Power

Exelon's 1,043-megawatt Clinton nuclear power station in Illinois ramped up to 96 percent of capacity by early Friday. The unit shut on March 20 due to a turbine low vacuum trip alarm in the main control room.
Reuters, 07:15 March 24, 2006

Update: Entergy's 1,350 MW Grand Gulf Nuke in Mississippi Ramps up to 85 Percent

Entergy Corp. ramped back up its 1,350-megawatt Grand Gulf nuclear reactor in Mississippi to 85 percent by early March 24. It was reduced on March 23 to investigate problems with a water pump.
Reuters, 07:17 March 24, 2006

OPG's 490 MW Coal-fired Nanticoke 3 Unit in Ontario Returned to Service March 24

The unit returned to service on the morning of March 24 after a short one-day outage.
Reuters, 9:59 March 24, 2006

Central Illinois Soon to Begin Huge Wind Farm

Horizon Wind Energy plans to begin construction of what could be one of the nation's largest wind farms in April in the Saybrook-Arrowsmith-Ellsworth area. Another similar-sized farm has been proposed for Livingston County in the Blackstone-Odell area along with a smaller one along the Tazewell-Logan County line. The two larger projects could generate 400 megawatts of power each.

<http://powermarketers.net/contentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5BgjrrppYUhd%216%3C%22bfe1%5Dv>

Petroleum

Explosion and Fire at Hydrogen Plant at Amuay Refinery in Venezuela March 21

The problem occurred at PDVSA's largest refinery. PDVSA is investigating the cause but says there was no impact to production. The Orlando Sentinel reports that the fire was caused by a gas leak. Xinhua News Agency says the explosion took place while the hydrogen unit was going down for maintenance.

<http://www.pdvsa.com/>

Reuters, 14:54 March 21, 2006

Associated Press, March 21, 2006

Orlando Sentinel, March 22, 2006

Xinhua News Agency, March 22, 2006

EFE News Service, March 22, 2006

Business News Americas, March 23, 2006

Glitches at U.S. Refineries

Platt's reported an undefined problem at a number of U. S. refineries including the 557,000 b/d Baytown plant in Texas and rumors of a delayed restart to the St Croix refinery in the Caribbean. On Thursday an ExxonMobil spokeswoman confirmed that maintenance began the previous day at its 493,000 b/d Baton Rouge refinery in Louisiana.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8347205.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Natural Gas

FERC Will Revisit LNG Approval for Fall River, MA

Weaver's Cove Energy's new plan to use smaller vessels to move LNG into Fall River, MA will need review by FERC. The company came up with the plan since local officials have blocked the FERC-approved plan of large tankers from being implemented.

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=6486089

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 24, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	63.90	62.81	49.85
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	7.43	7.17	7.07
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

U.S. Senators Push Bill Mandating Alternative Diesel Fuels

http://www.energyintel.com/PublicationHomePage.asp?publication_id=5

U. S. Senate Environment Committee to Hold Hearings Wednesday on Implications of Removing MTBE from Gasoline

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8349129.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

New Nuclear Plant May Come On-line in Mississippi by 2015

<http://www.clarionledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060323/BIZ/603230376/1005/biz>

U.S. Coast Guard Exercise Simulates Terrorist Attack on Fuel Barge

http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/opb/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=893127

Texas Governor Orders Hurricane Evacuation Plan

http://www.aberdeennews.com/mld/inquirer/news/nation/14156701.htm?source=rss&channel=inquirer_nation

Bill Fleshes Out Maine's Disaster Planning

<http://kennebecjournal.mainetoday.com/news/local/2556099.shtml>

Enterprise Products to Construct Propylene Fractionator and Expand Gathering Pipelines

Reuters, 18:57 March 23, 2006

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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