



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 24, 2009

## **Electricity**

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### **AEP's 721 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Power Plant in Texas Shut by March 24**

The unit went offline due to a hydrogen cooler leak, AEP said in a filing with state regulators. Repairs were slated to last until March 27.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121712>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121711>

Reuters, 11:49 March 24, 2009

### **Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut by March 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by March 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200903231515.html>

### **TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuke Unit 1 in Tennessee Ramped Up to 94 Percent by March 24**

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) continued ramping up the unit after multiple tube replacements, according to sources. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 23 the unit was operating at 76 percent.

Bloomberg News, 08:31 March 24, 2009

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **SMUD's 102 MW Solano Wind Farm in California Returns to Service by March 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200903231515.html>

### **OPG Shuts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 1 in Ontario by March 24**

Reuters, 08:11 March 24, 2009

Bloomberg News, 09:20 March 24, 2009

### **TransAlta Shuts 280 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 1 in Alberta March 24**

Bloomberg News, 09:31 March 24, 2009

### **Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 3 in Ontario by March 24**

The unit went offline by March 23.

Reuters, 08:11 March 24, 2009

Bloomberg News, 09:20 March 24, 2009

### **Update: LIPA, Con Edison Move Forward with Study of Potential 700 MW Wind Farm Offshore New York**

Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) and Consolidated Edison (Con Edison) plan to continue studying a potential 700 MW wind farm offshore New York, according to a press release. The companies concluded that the project would be feasible, pending upgrades to their respective transmission systems.

<http://www.coned.com/newsroom/news/pr20090323.asp>

### **Update: ConocoPhillips Shuts Reformer after Fire at 238,000 b/d Bayway Refinery in Linden, New Jersey**

ConocoPhillips shut a reformer after a March 21 fire at its 238,000 b/d Bayway refinery in Linden, New Jersey, according to a source familiar with plant operations. The source said the unit would remain offline through the end of this week. ConocoPhillips said today that the fire had only minimally impacted refinery operations. The facility was undergoing planned maintenance, a spokesman said, and therefore already curtailed at the time of the incident. DJN, 11:49 March 24, 2009

### **Compressor Shuts Briefly at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 23**

The "C-200A compressor failed and shut down, resulting in flaring," Total said in a filing with state regulators. The shutdown lasted less than two hours.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN2433465420090324>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121716>

### **Citing Volcanic Eruptions, CIPL Evacuates and Shuts Drift River Oil Terminal in Alaska March 23**

Cook Inlet Pipe Line Company (CIPL) began the shutdown after the Alaska Volcano Observatory upgraded Mount Redoubt's alert level from orange, or "watch," to red, or "warning," the company said in a March 23 release. The volcano erupted on Sunday—the first time since 1989—spewing massive ash clouds and disrupting air traffic. The affected CIPL facility contains seven crude storage tanks. At the time of the shutdown, only two 74,000 barrel tanks were in use. CIPL is operated by Chevron Pipe Line Company.

<http://www.chevron-pipeline.com/newsupdates.asp>

Reuters, 19:27 March 23, 2009

### **Update: Valero Returns Crude Unit to Planned Rates at 146,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery**

Operators repaired the unit and returned it to planned rates, a company spokesman said. It was not clear when the unit went offline.

Bloomberg News, 18:21 March 23, 2009

### **As Employees Retire, Oil Companies Encourage Workers to Store Information and Communicate Electronically**

With half their workers slated to retire over the next decade, oil companies are encouraging current workers to store and share information electronically on how they make decisions. The companies expect to use the stored data to train new, future employees and to improve efficiencies through increased communication among current workers.

[http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200903231254DOWJONESDJONLINE000471\\_FORTUNE5.htm](http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200903231254DOWJONESDJONLINE000471_FORTUNE5.htm)

### **Iraq Seeks Bids to Boost Production at 50,000 b/d Nahr Bin Umar Oilfield**

Iraq says the field contains 6 billion barrels of oil, and could produce 10 times its current 50,000 b/d output.

Reuters, 11:44 March 24, 2009

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Power Failure Shuts Gas Deliveries to Williston Basin Natural Gas Pipeline in Wyoming March 23**

A power failure at the Madden transfer grid in central Wyoming shut in gas flows to the nearby Williston Basin, according to a March 23 notice from Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company. The company said blizzard conditions were preventing its crews from reaching the downed site. The notice did not provide any data on shut-in volumes.

[http://ebb.wbip.com/informational\\_postings/notices/System\\_Notices\\_detail.aspx?selectr=2116](http://ebb.wbip.com/informational_postings/notices/System_Notices_detail.aspx?selectr=2116)

## Enterprise Products Partners, Duncan Energy Partners Complete Construction of 360 MMcf/d, 36-inch, 174-mile Sherman Extension Natural Gas Pipeline in Texas

Enterprise Products Partners and Duncan Energy Partners completed construction on the 174-mile Sherman Extension expansion of the Enterprise Texas Intrastate natural gas pipeline system, according to a release. The line can deliver approximately 360 MMcf/d of natural gas, but the companies expect to boost its capacity to about 950 MMcf/d during April 2009. They also plan to construct a 1 Bcf/d, 30-and-36-inch, 40-mile pipeline to link nearby producers with the Sherman Extension. The companies expect that pipeline, or “Trinity River Lateral,” to enter service in late 2009 or early 2010.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=NewsArticle&id=1268957>

## Other News

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Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
March 24, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	52.25	48.53	102.39
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.17	3.78	8.54

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Winds Knock Out Power to Approximately 11,000 Westar Energy Customers in Kansas March 23

<http://www.saljournal.com/rdnews/story/Power032409>

### First Solar, Inc., Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Plan 30 MW “Cimarron I” Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant in New Mexico

<http://www.tristategt.org/NewsCenter/NewsItems/First-Solar-Cimarron-I-announcement.cfm>

### Tests Highlight Cyber-Vulnerabilities of “Smart Grid” Electric Systems

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/03/20/smartgrid.vulnerability/index.html>

### PECO Receives PUC Approval for Planned Electric Transmission Substation in Pennsylvania

DJN, 12:29 March 24, 2009

### NYISO Requests FERC Approval to Incorporate Batteries, Flywheels and Other Energy Storage Technologies in New York Grid—New Storage Methods Would Allow Operator to Better-Balance Changes in Supply and Demand, NYISO Says

DJN, 12:22 March 24, 2009

### Compressor Shuts, Restarts at Salt Creek Gas Plant in Texas March 23

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/occeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121729>

### **Brief Pipeline Shutdown at Raywood Gas Plant in Texas March 23**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=121664>

### **Natural Gas Well Explosion Injures Two Workers in New York March 18**

<http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=10040481>

### **Update: Total Eyes mid-April 2009 for First LNG Delivery to Sabine Pass Terminal in Louisiana**

Reuters, 10:36 March 24, 2009

### **Novozymes Breaks Ground on Bioethanol Production Facility in Nebraska March 24**

<http://www.novozymes.com/en/MainStructure/PressAndPublications/PressRelease/2009/Groundbreaking+in+Nebraska.htm>

### **Barge Spills 300 Gallons of Oil in New York Harbor March 23**

<http://www.silive.com/newsflash/index.ssf?/base/news-43/123787376237190.xml&storylist=simetro>

### **Update: Petrobras Employs Emergency Crews to Maintain Oil Production during Brazilian Oil Workers' Strike March 24—Union Says Strikes Cause 50 Percent Production Decline at Urucu Oil-and-Gas Field**

Reuters, 11:06 March 24, 2009

Bloomberg News, 12:21 March 24, 2009

## **Links**

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*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](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/ead.aspx>

Please direct comments and questions to: [ead@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)