



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, March 24, 2011

## ***Electricity***

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### **Update: Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York at Full Power by March 24**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 23 the unit was operating at 55 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **Update: PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Reduced to 75 Percent by March 24**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 23 the unit was operating at 90 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **PG&E's 102 MW Electra Hydroelectric Power House (Units 1 & 2 Aggregate) in California Shut by March 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the two units, which have an aggregate capacity of 102 MW, reported an unplanned outage on March 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201103231515.html>

### **Terra-Gen's Combined 552 MW Alta Wind Energy Center Units 1, 2, 3, and 4 in California Shut by March 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the four units reported unplanned outages on March 23.

Units 1, 2, and 3 each have a capacity of 150 MW, while Unit 4 has a capacity of 102 MW, giving a total capacity of 552 MW offline.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201103231515.html>

### **TransAlta's 401 MW Sundance Coal-Fired Unit 6 in Alberta Shut by March 23**

Reuters, 20:09 March 23, 2011

### **Nalcor Energy Plans 824 MW Muskrat Hydroelectric Plant and about 750 Miles of Transmission Lines in Newfoundland and Labrador**

SNC-Lavalin is providing engineering, procurement, and construction management services for Nalcor's proposed Muskrat development, which is set to be built as phase 1 of the Lower Churchill project. In addition to 824 MW of hydroelectric capacity, phase 1 will include 1,200 kilometers (about 750 miles) of transmission lines connecting Labrador to the island of Newfoundland.

[http://www.snclavalin.com/news.php?lang=en&id=1372&action=latest\\_news\\_details](http://www.snclavalin.com/news.php?lang=en&id=1372&action=latest_news_details)

### **Dominion Virginia Power Announces Plan to Invest \$1.7 Billion in Electric Grid Reliability Projects in Virginia over Two-Year Period March 24**

The investment is being made to reduce the number and length of outages experienced by the company's 2.4 million customers.

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=973>

## **U.S. Nuclear Plant Operators Are Not Consistently Flagging Defects, Despite Legal Obligation to Report All Defects: NRC Office of Inspector General**

At least 28 percent of nuclear plant operators are failing to report equipment defects that could present “substantial” safety risks.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN2413452220110324>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110324-709198.html>

## **Worker Accused of Falsifying Safety System Inspection Reports at TVA’s Watts Bar Nuclear Facility in Tennessee**

[http://green.yahoo.com/news/afp/20110324/ts\\_alt\\_afp/uscourtnuclearenergy.html](http://green.yahoo.com/news/afp/20110324/ts_alt_afp/uscourtnuclearenergy.html)

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Oil Washes onto Louisiana Shore March 23-24, Possibly Originating from Non-Producing Anglo-Suisse Well**

According to the United States Coast Guard (USCG), up to half a mile of Louisiana coastline has been affected by oil washing ashore. The USCG said preliminary test results indicate that the oil originated from a non-producing Anglo-Suisse Offshore Partners well. The company announced that is helping to clean up the oil, but that it does not accept responsibility for the spill. Anglo-Suisse originally reported a five gallon spill to the USCG on Friday, March 18, as it was in the process of plugging and abandoning the well. The company said that as of March 23 the well was not capable of flowing.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7488319.html>

### **Flights Cancelled as Fuel Tank Fire Reduces Fuel Supply at Miami International Airport March 23-24**

A fuel tank caught fire for unknown reasons on March 23, and was extinguished in the early morning on March 24. The fire reduced fuel supply to 40 percent, and damaged the main fueling system. The airport is currently using tanker trucks to refuel airplanes instead, which according to an airport spokesman is a much slower process. On March 24, American Airlines cancelled 22 outbound flights and 14 inbound flights due to the fire.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/03/23/2131149/large-fuel-fire-breaks-out-at.html>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/24/us-miami-airport-idUSTRE72N3DL20110324>

### **Update: Three Quarters of Libyan Oil Output Is Estimated to Be Lost Due to Fighting while U.N.-Backed Forces Continue Airstrikes March 24**

Reuters, 10:53 March 24, 2011

For the latest combat updates, please click on any of the links below.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/libyaNews/idAFLDE72L22X20110324>

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/25/world/africa/25libya.html?\\_r=1&hp](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/25/world/africa/25libya.html?_r=1&hp)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12850975>

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Update: Citing Economic Reasons, Palomar Gas Transmissions Withdraws Application for Proposed 220-Mile Palomar Natural Gas Pipeline in Oregon March 23**

Palomar Gas Transmissions LLC informed the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) that it is withdrawing the project. The proposed 220-mile pipeline, a joint venture between NW Natural and TransCanada, was due to carry gas to the Portland metro area. The project was cancelled due to low demand, the bankruptcy of the proposed Bradwood Landing LNG terminal’s backers, and the development of another route across the Cascade Range. A TransCanada spokesman said the eastern half of the Palomar pipeline may still be built once the market improves, though it could take a new route through the state.

<http://www.katu.com/news/local/118553409.html>

**Wind and Solar Will Be Cost-Competitive with Fossil Fuels within the Decade, Small Nuclear Reactors Are Promising and Safe: Secretary Chu**

Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, speaking at an event sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trust on March 23, said that he sees “wind and solar being cost-competitive without subsidy with new fossil fuel” within the decade. Secretary Chu also said yesterday that in the future of nuclear energy, small modular nuclear reactors are one of the most promising areas of development and should be a part of a new U.S. energy policy along with wind and solar.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hZjsD8a-LrQv17UfL-aRDODqasKg?docId=CNG.552ff9f9a78416c1f5ab7234144d85ce.11b1>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-23/wind-solar-may-be-competitive-with-coal-in-decade-chu-says-1-.html>

<http://blogs.forbes.com/jeffmcmahon/2011/03/23/chu-touts-small-module-reactors-as-the-answer-to-nuclear-hazards/?partner=contextstory>

<http://www.energy.gov/news/8782.htm>

**Japanese Earthquake/Tsunamis**

**Update: Electricity Restored to Most of Tokyo Electric Power’s Earthquake-and-Tsunami-Damaged Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan; Two Workers Hospitalized March 24**

For more information about the nuclear situation in Japan, please click on any of the links below:

<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2011/0323/Japan-nuclear-crisis-What-s-in-the-smoke-emerging-from-Fukushima-I>

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/tsunamiupdate01.html>

[http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/RS\\_Exposures\\_and\\_progress\\_at\\_Fukushima\\_Daiichi\\_240311.html](http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/RS_Exposures_and_progress_at_Fukushima_Daiichi_240311.html)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-12845304>

<http://www.latimes.com/news/science/la-sci-japan-workers-exposed-20110324.0.5425809.story>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/25/world/asia/25japan.html?hp>

**Update: U.S. Department of Energy Workers Collecting and Analyzing Nuclear Radiation Data in Japan**

Information is being posted for public viewing at [www.energy.gov/japan2011](http://www.energy.gov/japan2011).

<http://www.energy.gov/news/10194.htm>

**Update: ExxonMobil Reopens Shiogama Oil Terminal by March 22, Allowing Increased Deliveries of Fuel to Areas Affected by the Earthquake and Tsunami in Northern Japan**

The terminal received its first shipments of gasoline and kerosene on March 22. The shipments will be used as heating fuel.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=13204260>

**Energy Prices**

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b>			
March 24, 2011			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	104.62	100.95	80.44
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.18	3.86	4.08

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### **Tube Leak Reported at ExxonMobil's 149,000 b/d Torrance, California Refinery on March 24 Has No Impact on Production**

Reuters, 08:02 March 24, 2011

### **Tesoro Shuts, Restarts Unspecified Process Unit to Replace Corroded Piping at its 96,860 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery March 23-24**

Reuters, 12:42 March 24, 2011

### **Valero Returns 171,000 b/d McKee, Texas Refinery to Planned Rates after Reporting on March 23 that Excess Hydrogen Sulfide in Refinery Fuel Gas Led to Flaring**

Reuters, 11:13 March 24, 2011

### **DualEx Energy's Bouhajla Prospects in Tunisia May Hold 1.03 Billion Barrels of Oil in Unproven Reserves**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/24/dualexenergy-idUSL3E7EO2P120110324>

### **Update: FERC Authorizes Construction of Magnum Gas Storage's Proposed 40 Bcf Natural Gas Storage Project in Utah by March 23 – Facility Expected to Open in 2013**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/magnum-gas-storage-accepts-ferc-7c-certificate-118513709.html>

### **KB Homes Will Join with SunPower to Make 1.4 kW Solar Systems a Standard Home Feature at Ten California Housing Developments – Homebuyers May Upgrade to a Larger System, but May Not Opt Out of the Standard System**

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9M4JC4O0.htm>

### **Indonesia Producing 917,000 b/d of Oil as of March 21, Falling Short of the Country's 970,000 b/d Production Target for 2011 – BPMIGAS Spokesman Blames Poor Weather and Technical Problems**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=105389](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=105389)

### **Gen-X Proposing to Convert Idle Waste-to-Ethanol Plant in Moses Lake, Washington to 6 MMgal/yr Biodiesel Refinery**

<http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/7680/gen-x-moves-forward-with-advanced-biorefinery-plans>

### **Downstream Problems at Duke Energy's Gas Plant Lead to Flaring at XTO Energy's Russell Compressor Station in Texas March 23**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152354>

### **Cornell-Mahoney Gas Plant in Texas Shuts Due to Power Outage, Restarts Later in the Day March 23**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152378>

### **No. 2 AGI Restarts after Shutting Due to Defective RTD Temperature Controller Card at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas March 23**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152379>

## 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**

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<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)