



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, March 29, 2010

Electricity

FirstEnergy Reduces 1,235 MW Perry Nuke Unit 1 in Ohio after Fire March 28

FirstEnergy reduced the unit to 70 percent power after a fire in a water pump lubrication system, a company spokesman said. The blaze was extinguished in about four hours. The unit had returned to 85 percent power by this morning, March 28, according to The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of March 28 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Small-stubborn-fire-hits-Ohio-apf-1290963833.html?x=0&.v=1>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuke Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 60 Percent by March 27

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 26 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

TVA's 1,126 MW Sequoyah Nuke Unit 2 in Tennessee Reduced to 59 Percent by March 27

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 26 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuke Unit in Washington Reduced to 82 Percent by March 28

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 27 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Progress Energy's 710 MW Robinson Nuke Unit 2 in South Carolina Shut March 28

The reactor and turbine shut automatically after a fire forced offline a coolant pump, Progress Energy said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). That fire and a subsequent blaze were extinguished. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 28 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Reuters, 08:17 March 29, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Luminant's 591 MW Sandow Coal-Fired Unit 4 in Texas Shuts March 28

The unit shut on March 28 "due to high differential primary air pressure in the furnace," Luminant said in a filing with state regulators. The company expected to restart the unit later that same day, it said in a separate filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137569>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137568>

Update: DTE Restarts 1,122 MW Fermi Nuke Unit 2 in Michigan by March 29

The unit shut automatically for unknown reasons on March 25, the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

<http://www.toledoblade.com/article/20100327/NEWS16/3270369/-1/RSS10>

Reuters, 07:55 March 29, 2010

CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Pump-Gen Hydro Unit in California Returns to Service by March 28

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 510 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003281515.html>

Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by March 27

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 328 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003271515.html>

Dynegy's 335 MW El Segundo Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by March 26

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned curtailment of 265 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003261515.html>

AES's 175 MW Alamos Gas-Fired Unit 2 in California Returns to Service by March 28

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003281515.html>

Ace Cogeneration's 118 MW Ace Cogeneration Coal-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by March 27

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003271515.html>

Progress Energy Declares Unusual Event after Fire at 895 MW Brunswick Nuke Unit 1 in North Carolina March 26

The fire occurred in the Unit 1 Turbine Building, but was extinguished by on-site responders within about 25 minutes, the company said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The incident did not damage plant equipment or cause any injuries.

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

PSEG Nuclear Reports Leak along Pipe between Steam Generator Blowdown System and Non-Radioactive Waste Bin at 2,340 MW Salem Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey March 25-26

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

Update: NRC Gives Environmental Nod for Dominion's Proposed 1,500 MW Nuke Unit 3 at Existing North Anna Nuclear Power Plant in Virginia

There are "no environmental impacts that would preclude issuing a Combined License (COL) for construction and operation of the proposed reactor," The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a release. The environmental approval, however, does not guarantee the NRC will issue a COL. The NRC expects to complete its final safety evaluation report in early 2011.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-051.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/north-anna.html> Reuters, 17:03 March 26, 2010

Update: Black Hills Power to Open 110 MW Wygen III Coal-fired Power Plant in Wyoming April 1

The plant will consume more than 500,000 tons of coal/year, according a project website.

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http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/news/article_a998ae7e-3a25-11df-a2c7-001cc4c002e0.html

<http://www.blackhillscorp.com/wygen.htm>

CAISO Okays Plans to Upgrade 1,200 MW Helms Pumped Storage Power Plant in California

The facility produces electricity during the day, when demand is higher, and pumps water uphill at night, when demand is lower, according to a news source. At present, only one of the site's three pumps can operate during summer nights; the upgrades will enable the use of a second pump, the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) says.

Reuters, 17:40 March 26, 2010

"Smart" Meters Create New Problems in Cyber Security

Vulnerabilities unique to "smart" meters could allow hackers to raise customers' utility bills or turn off electric supplies, researchers warn. Smart meters are, in essence, computers linked to broader utility networks. That connectivity allows consumers to interact with utilities—and reduce energy consumption—but at the same time exposes utilities and customers to new forms of attack. There is no evidence, however, that criminals have carried out any attacks. Researchers are working to resolve the weaknesses.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/sns-ap-us-tec-smart-grid-hacking.0.5864196.story>

Petroleum

ExxonMobil Sees No Production Impact after Pinhole Leak at 562,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery March 28

ExxonMobil reduced pressure at a Gofiner unit as operators repaired a "pinhole leak in piping," the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/topNews/idCATRE62S02P20100329>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137570>

Valero Reports FCC Compressor Shutdown at 325,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery March 26

A wet gas compressor associated with a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) shut due to "low lube oil pressure," the company said in a filing with state regulators. The incident lasted about five hours. It was not clear if there was any impact to production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137564>

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKWEN219020100326>

Vessel Problem Causes Flaring at Valero's 245,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery March 27-28

The incident occurred in Complex 3 and lasted 24 hours, the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if there was any impact to production.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKWEN220520100328>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137567>

ExxonMobil Stabilizes Unspecified Unit at 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery March 26

Operators "lined out" the unit "to get out of flare," the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact to production.

Bloomberg News, 11:03 March 29, 2010

Fire Forces Shut 104,000 b/d Cat Cracker at PdVSA's 300,000 b/d Cardon, Venezuela Refinery March 29

Reuters, 12:32 March 29, 2010

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Coal-Carrying Train Derails in Indiana March 26

The train was en route from Chicago, Illinois to a Detroit Edison power plant in Monroe, Michigan at the time of the incident, according to a news source. The incident disrupted Amtrak service along the line, but officials had restored normal service by March 28.

<http://www.wgntv.com/news/sns-ap-il--trainderailment.0,5866190.story>

Oil Tanker Accident Disrupts Traffic along Egypt's Suez Canal March 28

A 54,000-tonne, Liberian-flagged oil tanker ran aground after it crashed into the east bank of the Suez Canal on March 28, but a canal official said the waterway resumed normal traffic by March 29.

<http://www.zawya.com/Story.cfm/sidANA20100329T124450ZLEA95/Suez%20traffic%20resumes%20after%20oil%20tanker%20accident>

Kawartha Ethanol Completes 21 MMGal/Yr. Corn-based Ethanol Plant in Ontario, Canada by March 29

<http://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2512093>

Energy Prices

| U.S. Oil and Gas Prices | | | |
|--|-------|----------|----------|
| March 29, 2010 | | | |
| | Today | Week Ago | Year Ago |
| CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel | 82.09 | 80.86 | 52.09 |
| NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu | 3.92 | 4.01 | 4.16 |

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Car Hits Utility Pole, Cuts Power to 18,106 Atlantic City Electric Customers in New Jersey March 27

<http://www.capemaycountyherald.com/article/60833-whitesboro+crash+leaves+over+10000+without+power>

Car Knocks Over Pole, Cuts Electricity to 14,885 SCE Customers in California—Company Restores Service to all Customers in Just Over an Hour

<http://www.hidesertstar.com/articles/2010/03/27/news/doc4badb29f5b3f1995353567.txt>

Tornadoes, Thunderstorms and Hail Cut Power to 12,960 Duke Energy Customers in North Carolina March 28

<http://www.duke-energy.com/outages/stats/>

http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/dpps/news/dpgonc-nc-tornado-wreaks-havoc-in-trailer-parks-fc-20100329_6808232

<http://www.duke-energy.com/outages/stats/>

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gToxGRg5OgeiVpIIcklfwJCmigjgD9EO0NSG3>

Entergy Reports 11,042 Customers without Power in Louisiana March 27

<http://viewoutage.entergy.com/la.aspx>

Citing Customer Complaints, Research Scientist Recommends More "Smart" Meter Testing in California

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/03/28/ED9K1CLR2H.DTL>

Department of Interior Seeks to Protect Sage Grouse in Bid That Could Hamper Wind Power Development in U.S. West

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/235578>

Copper Stolen from CVPS Substation in Vermont by March 25

<http://www.rdmag.com/News/FeedsAP/2010/03/energy-vt-electric-utility-offers-reward-in-copper-theft/>

BP Solar Shuts Solar Module Assembly Plant in Frederick, Maryland, Citing Cost March 26

Reuters, 18:10 March 26, 2010

ZF Industries Plans Wind Turbine Transmission Manufacturing Facility in Georgia

<http://www.11alive.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=142258&catid=3>

Update: SCE Says It Has Established New Procedures to Fix Safety Weaknesses at 2,254 MW San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant in California

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/mar/26/san-onofre-plant-managers-say-they-are-fixing/>

Update: Federal Judge Dismisses Lawsuits Seeking Punitive Damages but Allows Actual (or Compensatory) Damage Suits Related to 2008 Coal Ash Spill at TVA's Kingston Coal-fired Power Plant in Tennessee

<http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/89313162.html>

Canadian Oil Sands Trust's Syncrude Project in Alberta, Canada Has "Proved" Plus "Probable Reserves" of 1.9 Billion Barrels of Oil

<http://www.cos-trust.com/newsreleases/PressReleases/PressReleaseDetails/2010/CanadianOilSandsFilesSyncrudeReservesandResources1121729/default.aspx>

Mexico Shuts 1,006,000 b/d Cayo Arcas and 113,000 b/d Dos Bocas Oil Ports amid Harsh Weather in Gulf of Mexico

Reuters, 18:17 March 28, 2010

Nigeria Could Export as Much as 2.06 Million b/d of Oil in May 2010 or 10-Month High

Reuters, 12:26 March 29, 2010

Update: Kern River Transmission Receives FERC Okay for Planned 340 MMcf/d Expansion along Existing 1.76 Bcf/d Wyoming-to-California Natural Gas Pipeline March 26

http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/business/20100329_ap_operatortoboostwesterngaspipeline.html

Workers Repair 24-inch Natural Gas Pipeline near Transwestern P3 Compressor Station in Texas March 26-27

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137566>

Cline Mining Corporation Files Preliminary Assessment Report for Elk Mine Coal Project in Colorado by March 29

DJN, 10:04 March 29, 2010

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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