



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, March 29, 2011

Electricity

TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuclear Unit 1 in Tennessee Reduced to 84 Percent by March 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 28 the unit was operating at 94 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

PSE&G's 1,096 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 90 Percent by March 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 28 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/2011/>

Update: Dominion's 511 MW Kewaunee Nuclear Unit in Wisconsin Ramped Up to 70 Percent by March 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 28 the unit was operating at 30 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Entergy's 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 in Arkansas at Full Power by March 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 28 the unit was operating at 80 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Xcel to Restart 347 MW Harrington Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas March 29-April 2

Xcel shut the unit to fix a tube leak and perform "other general maintenance activities," it said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the shutdown occurred, but the company referred to the outage as "short" and said it expected to restart the unit on March 29-April 2.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152462>

Luminant to Restart 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas March 28-29

Luminant expected to restart the unit "following boiler tube leak repairs," it said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the unit went offline.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152477>

DTE Energy to Install 350,000 Additional Smart Meters in Michigan

DTE Energy plans to install about 350,000 additional smart meters in Oakland County, Michigan, beginning in April 2011, it said on March 29. The company has already installed about 250,000 meters in Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Commerce Township, Grosse Ile, Harsen's Island and West Bloomfield Township. In total, it expects to install about 600,000 meters by early 2012.

<http://dteenergy.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=598>

Minnkota Power Cooperative Plans 260-Mile Transmission Line in North Dakota

The line would stretch from the west-central part of the state to Grand Forks.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9M8AA8G1.htm>

Valero Reports No Impact on Production after Weekend Fire at 287,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery

An exchanger leak led to a small fire at the facility over the weekend, but the blaze “was quickly extinguished” and the incident did not materially impact production, Valero said by March 29. The incident occurred as the company restarted a crude unit. That restart continued, as of latest reports.

Reuters, 10:31 March 29, 2011

After Brief Power Failure, Sunoco Restarting Units at 194,000 b/d Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania Refinery March 28

A power outage led Sunoco to shut processing units at the facility on March 28, but power was restored “almost immediately” and the company was restarting the affected units that same day, according to state and company officials. The local utility, PECO Energy, said a transmission customer’s “actions when switching caused a momentary voltage depression in the immediate vicinity of Marcus Hook.” The refinery was 85 percent online by March 29, a source familiar with the site’s operations said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-29/sunoco-powering-up-marcus-hook-units-after-power-failure-1-.html?cmpid=yhoo>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/28/refinery-operations-sunoco-marcushook-idUSN2822042520110328>

Reuters, 09:29 March 29, 2011

ConocoPhillips Shuts Crude Unit for Repair at 147,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery by March 28: Traders

The company was expected to restart the unit in mid-April, according to traders.

DJN, 10:26 March 29, 2011

Update: Fighting Continues across Libya as Pro-Gadhafi Forces Shell Oil Town of Ras Lanuf March 29

Pro-Gadhafi forces launched a counteroffensive on March 29 and were shelling the important oil town of Ras Lanuf, as of latest reports. To read more about current combat operations, click on any of the links below.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/29/us-libya-idUSTRE7270JP20110329>

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/30/world/africa/30libya.html?_r=1&hp

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/03/29/libya.war/index.html?hpt=T2>

Update: Fighting Continues in Libya as Rebels Seek to Sell Crude Oil on International Markets March 28-29

Libyan rebels were attempting to sell crude oil to international buyers on March 28, news and industry sources said, after taking control of multiple oil installations over the weekend. Qatar, according to industry officials, had agreed to purchase crude from the rebels.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/29/business/global/29oil.html?partner=rss&emc=rss>

Enterprise Products Plans Multiple Natural Gas, NGL Projects in U.S. Gulf of Mexico and along U.S. Gulf Coast

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. plans to develop multiple natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGL) projects along the U.S. Gulf Coast and in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, it said in four releases on March 29. More specifically:

- Enterprise plans to nearly double the fully refrigerated export loading capacity for propane and other NGLs at its NGL import/export terminal along the Houston Ship Channel. The project would raise the facility's capacity to more than 10,000 barrels per hour, while enhancing its ability to load multiple vessels simultaneously. The partnership plans to complete the project in the second half of 2012.
- Enterprise's affiliate, Mid-America Pipeline Company, LLC (MAPL), launched a binding open season on March 29 to seek shipper support for a proposed expansion of the Rocky Mountain portion of its existing 2,793-mile, 275,000 b/d NGL pipeline system. The project could add between 45,000-85,000 b/d of incremental annual average capacity. The current system runs from the Rocky Mountain Overthrust and San Juan Basin oil and gas production areas to Enterprise's Hobbs fractionators in Gaines County, Texas. The new capacity could be available as early as the third quarter of 2014.
- Enterprise, LLOG Exploration Company LLC, and LLOG Deepwater Development Company, LLC executed interconnect and transportation agreements that would allow LLOG to deliver up to 150 MMcf/d of natural gas from a planned platform in the Mississippi Canyon area of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico along a 10-inch, 17-mile natural gas export pipeline – to be owned by LLOG deepwater – into Enterprise's Independence Trail pipeline. The platform is expected to begin production in the second half of 2011.
- Enterprise plans to provide natural gas processing and NGL fractionation and transportation services to accommodate Anadarko Petroleum Corporation's liquids-rich natural gas production from the Eagle Ford Shale play of South Texas. Enterprise expects to construct a 46.5-mile, 24-inch pipeline through LaSalle County, Texas to handle additional volumes. The partnership's current natural gas processing capacity at its existing South Texas facilities is 1.5 Bcf/d. With the completion of a new cryogenic processing plant in Lavaca County, Texas – expected to begin service in mid-2012 – Enterprise aims to add 600 MMcf/d of incremental capacity.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1543669&highlight=>
<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1543660&highlight=>
<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1543673&highlight=>
<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1543671&highlight=>

Other News

Three Coal Barges Stuck on Dam along River in Kentucky March 26

Three coal-hauling barges became stuck on the Calhoun Lock and Dam number two after their tow struck the dam's wall on March 26, but crews removed coal from and freed the barges on March 27, news and official sources said. No coal was lost.

<http://www.14wfn.com/story/14331105/two-separate-barges-lo>

NRC to Consider Need for Changes in Wake of Nuclear Disaster in Japan, but Agency Official Sees no Technical Reason Why Crisis Would Slow U.S. Plant Relicensing

Bill Borchardt, the head of operations at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), made the comments at a Senate energy committee hearing.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110329/us_nm/us_japan_usa_licensing

Update: Despite Internal Report that Warned of Tsunami Risk, Tokyo Electric Power Failed to Alter Safety Procedures at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan

Tokyo Electric Power for years declined to change safety procedures at its Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan – now stricken by numerous problems related to the recent earthquake and tsunami – despite warnings from nuclear officials and in internal report suggesting a tsunami could cripple the facility's defenses, according to Reuters. More specifically, a senior safety engineer at the company warned in 2007 that there was an approximately 10 percent chance that a tsunami high enough to breach the site's defenses could strike the facility in the coming 50 years.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL3E7ET20P20110329>

Update: Workers Battle to Prevent Radioactive Water from Escaping Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, Reaching Water in Japan March 28-29

Workers were laying sandbags and preparing emergency storage tanks in a bid to prevent highly radioactive water from escaping Tokyo Electric Power's earthquake-and-tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant and reaching the ocean, news and official sources said on March 29. Radioactive water – already discovered inside and around the facility's reactor buildings – was traveling through underground tunnels toward vertical openings near the ocean, as of March 29. The water was leaking from one of two sources, according to officials: broken pipes within a reactor or a reactor's pressure vessel. Japanese authorities, meanwhile, said today that very low level traces of plutonium had been discovered at five locations within the plant.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/29/us-japan-quake-idUSTRE72A0SS20110329>

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/asiapcf/03/29/japan.nuclear.reactors/index.html?hpt=T1>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/30/world/asia/30japan.html?hp>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices March 29, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	104.14	103.62	82.09
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.35	3.99	3.92

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Car Crashes into Transmission Pole, Knocks out Power to nearly 13,000 TECO Customers in Florida March 28

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2011/mar/28/281659/rain-should-be-with-us-the-rest-of-the-day-week/news-breaking/>

Juhl Wind to Complete 10 MW Valley View Wind Project in Southwestern Minnesota in Spring of 2011

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/juhl-wind-secures-financing-and-continues-construction-on-217-million-valley-view-wind-farm-118832984.html>

Ameren to Construct 15 MW Landfill Gas-Based Power Plant at Fred Weber Landfill in Creve Coeur, Missouri – Company to Break Ground This Month, Complete Project in Spring 2012

<http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/news/2011/03/28/haberberger-wins-4m-deal-for-ameren.html?ana=yfcpc>

BOEMRE Approves Sixth Deepwater Drilling Permit since Deepwater Horizon Disaster March 25 – Statoil to Drill in Alaminos Canyon Block 810 Offshore Texas

<http://www.boemre.gov/ooc/press/2011/press0325a.htm>

Noble Energy Requests Regulatory Authorization to Drill Deep Blue Prospect Offshore Louisiana

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=105569

Explosion, Fire at Evergreen Oil's Used Oil Re-Refinery in Newark, California March 29

http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/east_bay&id=8040613

<http://www.evergreenoil.com/services/hazardous-waste-facilities.aspx>

Marathon Oil Reports Hydrofluoric Acid, Hydrocarbons Release at 81,500 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery March 28 – Incident Leads to Temporary Shelter-in-Place Warning

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-28/marathon-has-hydrofluoric-acid-release-at-texas-city-refinery.html>

Iraq Plans Three Pipelines that Would Connect Rumaila North, Tuba, and Nahr Ben Umar Oilfields to Southern Export System – Lines Would Each Stretch Between 65 and 90 Miles

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=26160

Explosion at Carper Wells Service Incorporated's Gas Plant Forces Shut Portion of State Route 821 in Noble County, Ohio March 26

<http://www.whiznews.com/content/news/local/2011/03/26/gas-plant-explosion-in-noble-county>

Equipment Failure Temporarily Forces Shut Boyd Compressor Station in Texas March 28 – Units Restarted in about Three Hours

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=152546>

Unitil to Install Plastic Natural Gas Pipes in Place of More Than 100 Miles of Cast-Iron Pipe in Maine – Company to Begin Work in April 2011

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Unitil-to-replace-pipeline-in-apf-3809321830.html?x=0&.v=1>

EPA Proposes Standards to Protect Fish, Other Aquatic Organisms Drawn into Cooling Water Systems at Large Power Plants and Factories March 28

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/1a6586526d351a1d852578610077d4c8!OpenDocument>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-29/power-generators-must-protect-fish-under-u-s-epa-rules-for-cooling-water.html>

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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