



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, April 01, 2010

Electricity

AES's 506 MW Redondo Gas-Fired Unit 7 in California Shut by March 31

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by March 31.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201003311515.html>

Update: FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuclear Unit 1 in Ohio at Full Power by April 1

The unit was reduced after a March 28 fire, a company spokesman said previously. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 31 the unit was operating at 85 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:01 April 1, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Unit in Washington Ramped Up to 62 Percent by April 1

Operators reduced the unit after they found a pinhole-sized tube leak affecting a feedwater heater over the weekend, a plant spokeswoman said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of March 31 the unit was operating at 40 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:12 April 1, 2010

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Ramped Up to 97 Percent by April 1

The unit shut automatically due to a "main turbine trip," the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of March 31 the unit was operating at 37 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100326en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Responding to Complaints, CPUC-Appoints Evaluator to Assess PG&E Smart Meters in California

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) appointed The Structure Group to independently evaluate Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) Smart Meters in California, CPUC said on March 30. The move came "in response to concern expressed by consumers" and local politicians "over high energy bills that occurred around the same time PG&E installed Smart Meters in the San Joaquin Valley area." CPUC received more than 600 complaints regarding Smart Meters; nearly all of those complaints came from PG&E's service territory.

http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PUBLISHED/NEWS_RELEASE/115561.htm

Judges Urge TCEQ to Reject or Remand Air Permit for Las Brisas Energy Center, LLC's 1,320 MW Petroleum Coke-Fired Power Plant in Corpus Christi, Texas

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) should reject or remand air permits for the proposed facility, two judges said in a Proposal for Decision (PFD), due to a lack of analysis "regarding the maximum achievable control technology," a failure "to properly account for secondary emissions," a failure to "properly account for emissions from material handling," and improper modeling procedures, among other factors. TCEQ issued a draft permit on January 7, 2009, and that permit was revised on June 11, 2009. The project would include four 330 MW boilers and upgrades to the Port of Corpus Christi's existing bulk terminal, according to the company's website.

<http://web.caller.com/2010/pdf/0330lasbrisas.pdf>

<http://www.caller.com/news/2010/mar/29/judges-recommend-denial-of-las-brisas-permit/>

<http://www.lasbrisasenergy.com/faq.html>

RES Americas Plans 252.2 MW Cedar Point Wind Power Project in Colorado

The company expects to break ground in mid-2010 and open the project in 2011. It plans to construct a 42-mile transmission line to link the project with Public Service Company of Colorado's Missile Site Substation.

<http://www.your-story.org/res-americas-announces-power-purchase-agreement-in-eastern-colorado-159431/>

Enbridge and RES Canada Plan 99 MW Greenwich Wind Energy Project in Ontario, Canada

Enbridge and Renewable Energy Systems Canada (RES Canada) expect to complete most of the project in late 2011.

<http://www.enbridge.com/investor/pdf/2010-03-31-news-release.pdf>

Sea Breeze Power Plans 99 MW Phase I at Knob Hill Wind Farm in British Columbia, Canada

Sea Breeze Power Corp. expects to break ground in the second quarter of 2011 and open the project in the fourth quarter of 2012.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/knob-hill-wind-farm---bc-hydro-offers-20-year-electricity-purchase-agreement-89643797.html>

Idaho Power Signs Smart Grid Funding Contract with DOE

Idaho Power secured \$47 million in stimulus funding for its Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program, the company said on March 31. It plans to deploy a smart meter network for each of its 475,000 customers, according to SmartGrid.gov.

<http://www.idahopower.com/NewsCommunity/News/upClose/showupClose.cfm?prID=2367>

<http://www.smartgrid.gov/project/idaho-power-company-smart-grid-project>

Update: TransAlta Retires All Units at Former 537 MW Wabamun Coal-fired Power Plant in Alberta, Canada

TransAlta retired the facility's 279 MW Unit 4 on March 31, 2010, more than five years after it closed the site's 62 MW Unit 1 and 57 MW Unit 2, and more than seven years after it shuttered the project's 139 MW Unit 3.

<http://www.transalta.com/newsroom/news-releases/2010-04-01/transalta-fully-retires-all-units-its-wabamun-power-plant>

Petroleum

ConocoPhillips Reports FCC-Related Malfunction at 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery

A coil leak led to a process upset and triggered flaring at ConocoPhillips 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas refinery, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The flaring was associated with Unit 27; the company previously identified that unit as a fluid catalytic cracker (FCC), according to Bloomberg News.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=137734>

Bloomberg News, 16:10 March 31, 2010

O&G Production Could Begin in Seven Years along U.S. Atlantic Continental Shelf: IHS CERA

The offshore U.S. Atlantic continental shelf could hold 3.8 billion barrels of oil and 137 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and the Obama Administration's proposal to open new prospects could allow companies to begin tapping those resources in seven years, IHS Cambridge Energy Resources (IHS CERA) said on March 31.

http://press.ihc.com/article_display.cfm?article_id=4225

Shell Begins Production at Planned 100,000 Boe/d Perdido O&G Development in Gulf of Mexico March 31

The site is the world's deepest offshore drilling and production facility. It is estimated the field will eventually yield more than 100,000 boe/d.

http://www.shell.com/home/content/investor/news_and_library/press_releases/2010/perdido_starts_production_31032010.html

Update: U.S. DOI Reaches Deal to End Fast-Track Approvals for O&G Drilling in Rocky Mountains

The U.S. Department of the Interior reached a legal settlement to end a practice that allowed companies to receive oil-and-gas (O&G) drilling permits without undergoing a full environmental review. Federal land managers had, under the policy, authorized almost 7,000 O&G projects from 2006 to 2008.

http://www.trib.com/news/state-and-local/article_587f1aa2-c27b-5d96-893d-bb7c08143b63.html

Update: PdVSA Restarts Fire-Downed Cat Cracker at Cardon, Venezuela Refinery by April 1

The fire caused "minor" damage to the unit, a refinery manager said.

Bloomberg News, 12:48 April 1, 2010

Natural Gas

Westcoast Energy Plans 250 MMcf/d Fort Nelson North Gas Processing Facility in British Columbia, Canada

The National Energy Board (NEB) approved the company's application to construct and operate the facility, but attached to its authorization 22 conditions involving safety, environmental, and other concerns, the NEB said on March 31.

<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/nwsrls/2010/nwsrls08-eng.html>

Natural Gas Production to Rise in British Columbia and Decline in Alberta as Nation Shifts Toward Unconventional Sources: NEB

Alberta's natural gas production is expected to decline by 4.2 Bcf/d over the next three years, from 12.7 Bcf/d in 2010 to 8.5 Bcf/d in 2012, while British Columbia's output is slated to rise by 1 Bcf/d, from 2.7 Bcf/d to 3.7 Bcf/d, the National Energy Board (NEB) says in a recent report, "Short Term Canadian Natural Gas Deliverability 2010-2012." The shift will come amid an increase in the production of tight and unconventional natural gas.

<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/nwsrls/2010/nwsrls07-eng.html>

Other News

DOT and EPA Establish Fuel Economy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards April 1

The Department of Transportation's (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established fuel economy standards that will, starting with 2012 model year vehicles, "require automakers to improve fleet-wide fuel economy and reduce fleet-wide greenhouse gas emissions by approximately five percent every year." NHTSA's fuel economy standard will, for the combined industry-wide fleet in model year 2016, reach an estimated 34.1 miles per gallon. The rules are the first national greenhouse gas emissions standards, and could save about 1.8 billion barrels of oil over the covered vehicles' lives.

<http://www.dot.gov/affairs/2010/dot5610.htm>

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/562b44f2588b871a852576f800544e01!OpenDocument>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 1, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	84.39	81.05	47.66
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.93	4.02	3.58

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Substation Malfunction Cuts Power to Almost 22,000 National Grid Customers in Massachusetts April 1 – Company Restores Service to All within Hours

http://www.eagletribune.com/punews/local_story_091093126.html

Blue Lake Power Awaits PG&E Approval to Restart 12 MW Wood-fired Power Plant in California – Facility Has Been Shut Since 1999

http://www.times-standard.com/localnews/cj_14798969

CAISO Proposes to Offer Spinning Reserves and Other Ancillary Services on California Grid in Bid to Boost Energy Storage and Demand Response

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=15017027

Enfinity Canada Plans 30 MW Stardale Solar Power Project in Ontario, Canada - Company to Break Ground in April 2010 and Finish Work by End of Year

<http://www.ottawasun.com/money/2010/03/30/13407856.html>

BP Contests OSHA-Levied \$3 Million in Fines Regarding Safety Issues at 155,000 b/d Toledo, Ohio Refinery

Reuters, 13:31 March 31, 2010

Update: FERC Okays TransCanada's Plan to Hold Open Season by End of April for Planned Alaska-to-Lower 48 Natural Gas Pipeline

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN3122413320100331?type=usDollarRpt>

<http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=12239444>

Companies Will Have to Spend at Least Twice as Much Money to Maintain 2001-2009 Natural Gas Production Levels over Next Decade in Cook Inlet, Alaska: Petrotechnical Resources of Alaska Study

http://homernews.com/stories/033110/business_bu_008.shtml

Rail Companies Upgrade Infrastructure to Handle Sand Deliveries for Natural Gas Drillers in Marcellus Shale, Pennsylvania

<http://cbs3.com/wireapnews/Pa.railroads.booming.2.1602345.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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