



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, April 01, 2015

## *Electricity*

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### **Power Restored to 30,000 Idaho Power Customers after High Voltage Line Trip Knocks Out Five Substations March 31**

Idaho Power on Tuesday said power was restored to all 30,000 customers who were affected by an early morning outage. Idaho Power officials say it was an animal, most likely a bird, which tripped a high voltage line in Eagle, Idaho, around 7:30 a.m. MDT Tuesday, knocking out five substations. Power was restored completely by 10 a.m. MDT Tuesday.

<https://twitter.com/idahopower>

<http://www.ktvb.com/story/news/local/2015/03/31/outage-treasure-valley/70713342/>

### **NRC Begins Special Inspection at Entergy's 974 MW River Bend Nuclear Power Plant in Louisiana March 30**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on March 30 initiated a special inspection at Entergy's River Bend nuclear power plant to review circumstances surrounding March 9 and February 23 events in which equipment that provides cooling and ventilation to plant areas housing safety related equipment failed to start.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2015/15-006.iv.pdf>

### **Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Reduced to 85 Percent, 871 MW Unit 2 Reduced to 70 Percent by April 1**

On the morning of March 31 both units were operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

### **Update: AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by March 31**

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began by March 27.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201503311515.html>

## *Petroleum*

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### **North Dakota Launches Oil Rules Hoping to Limit U.S. Rail Disasters**

North Dakota will from Wednesday require the more than 1.2 million barrels of crude extracted each day from the state's Bakken shale formation be run through machines that remove volatile gases linked to recent crude-by-rail disasters. The step is designed to end the damage North Dakota crude oil—70 percent of which is transported via rail—can cause during derailments. The new regulations require every barrel of North Dakota crude to be filtered for ethane, propane, and other natural gas liquids (NGLs), which are found naturally co-mingled with oil. The goal would be to produce a barrel of Bakken crude with pressure of no more than 13.7 psi, similar to 13.5 psi for most gasoline.

Reuters, 1:00 April 1, 2015

### **U.S. Crude Oil in Storage Rose Last Week – EIA**

Crude oil inventories rose by 4.8 million barrels in the last week, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday, compared with analysts' expectations for an increase of 4.2 million barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma, delivery hub rose by 2.629 million barrels, EIA said. Cushing stockpiles hit a record two weeks ago and have continued to rise to new highs.

Reuters, 10:35 April 1, 2015

<http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/supply/weekly/>

## **HollyFrontier Reports Emissions at Its 125,000 b/d Tulsa, Oklahoma Refinery March 26, 27, 29**

HollyFrontier Corp reported excess emissions from sulfur recovery unit 2 (SRU) on March 29; excess sulfur dioxide emissions from SRU 2 during startup on March 27; and excess emissions nitrous oxide from the fluid catalytic cracking unit on March 26.

Reuters, 12:45 April 1, 2015

<http://www.hollyfrontier.com/operations/refineries/default.aspx>

## **Flint Hills Reports Flaring at Its 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery**

Flint Hills Resources said earlier Wednesday that operating conditions its Corpus Christi refinery made flaring necessary, according to a community alerting system.

Reuters, 5:50 April 1, 2015

Reuters, 3:20 April 1, 2015

## **Update: DOI Approval Moves Shell Step Closer to Arctic Drilling**

The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) on Tuesday upheld a 2008 lease sale in the Chukchi Sea off Alaska, moving Royal Dutch Shell a step closer to returning to oil and gas exploration in the Arctic since lost control of an oil rig called the Kulluk in 2012, which eventually ran aground. In anticipation of returning to the region for the first time since then, Shell has already moved rigs to Alaska. DOI's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will next consider Shell's exploration plan and perform an environmental assessment on it, which could take at least 30 days.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil\\_gas/a/137925/US\\_Approval\\_Moves\\_Shell\\_A\\_Step\\_Closer\\_To\\_Arctic\\_Drilling#thash.ZbvfgXcL.dpuf](http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/137925/US_Approval_Moves_Shell_A_Step_Closer_To_Arctic_Drilling#thash.ZbvfgXcL.dpuf)

## **Keyera and Kinder Morgan to Construct 4.8 Million Barrel Base Line Above Ground Crude Oil Storage Terminal in Alberta**

Keyera Corp. on Tuesday announced a 50-50 joint venture with Kinder Morgan, Inc. to build the Base Line Terminal, an above ground crude oil storage terminal near Edmonton, Alberta. The terminal is expected to be commissioned in phases, with the first tanks scheduled to be commissioned in the second half of 2017, based on the most recent construction schedule. Initially, 12 tanks will be constructed to provide customers with 4.8 million barrels of storage capacity. Sufficient land remains to add up to 1.8 million barrels of incremental storage capacity subject to future demand. The terminal will be connected via pipeline to Kinder Morgan's existing Edmonton storage terminals and will provide customers with access to all crude oil streams handled by Kinder Morgan. From the terminal, customers will be able to deliver products to end markets using multiple delivery options, including but not limited to major pipelines and nearby rail terminals operated by Keyera and Kinder Morgan. Kinder Morgan will oversee construction of the project and operate the terminal once it is in service.

<https://www.keyera.com/titanweb/keyera/webcms.nsf/AllDocs/740BA594ABBFB52F87257E190074C68F?OpenDocument>

## ***Natural Gas***

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Nothing to report.

## ***Other News***

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Nothing to report.

**Pemex Reports Fire at Abkatun Permanente Oil Platform in Gulf of Mexico April 1**

Pemex said at least four people died and 45 were injured after a fire broke out overnight on the Abkatun Permanente oil platform in the Bay of Campeche, Gulf of Mexico, leading to the evacuation of around 300 workers. The fire broke out in the dehydration and pumping area of the platform, Pemex said, though it was not clear what caused it. A Pemex spokesman could not immediately say whether local oil production had been affected. Pemex said it was battling the flames with eight firefighting boats. The affected platform produces around 40,000 b/d. Production at the rest of the Abkatun Pol Chuc complex, with a total output of around 300,000 b/d, was not affected.

Reuters, 12:13 April 1, 2015

Reuters, 15:54 April 1, 2015

**Iraq’s Basra Port has Oil Tanker Backlog Due to Bad Weather – Shipping Industry Sources**

A backlog of over 30 oil tankers has built up outside the Iraqi port of Basra and shippers face lengthy delays of up to three weeks to load oil because of bad weather, shipping industry sources said. More than 30 oil tankers, two-thirds of them supertankers (VLCC), with a combined capacity of around 50 million barrels are currently lying outside Basra, some of them since mid-March, Reuters shipping data shows. The strong winds and storms created a backlog into March and April, said two other maritime sources in Iraq.

Reuters, 00:42 April 1, 2015

**Gazprom Starts Constructing Sila Sibiri Gas Pipeline from Russia to China**

Gazprom has begun the implementation of the construction project of the Sila Sibiri pipeline from Yakutia, Russia to China. The company said construction work was being carried out according to schedule. The 30-year contract for the supply of up to 38 billion cubic meters (bcm) of natural gas per year was signed with China’s CNPC in May 2014. Under the contract, deliveries are due to begin in four to six years.

Reuters, 6:07 April 1, 2015

<http://www.interfax.com/newsinf.asp?id=532815>

**Energy Prices**

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b>			
April 1, 2015			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	50.07	48.67	99.96
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	2.62	2.78	4.47

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET 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)