



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, April 07, 2011

## **Electricity**

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### **Update: After Early-Week Storms, Utilities Restore Power to Most Customers across U.S. South by April 7**

Some 6,479 Duke Energy customers in North and South Carolina and 6,271 Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLGW) customers in Tennessee remained without power on April 7, days after storms cut electricity to more than 1.2 million customers across multiple southern U.S. states, according to news and company sources. Other utilities reported scattered outages. To see a full list of affected utilities, please see yesterday's Energy Assurance Daily.

<http://www.duke-energy.com/south-carolina/outages/current.asp>

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2011/apr/07/more-6000-homes-businesses-remain-without-power-ml/>

<http://www.nespower.com/OutageMap/default.aspx>

<http://www.macon.com/2011/04/07/1516698/stubborn-power-outages-linger.html>

<http://www.georgiaemc.com/stormcentral/outagesbyregion.aspxhttps://www.appalachianpower.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=April%204%20Spring%20Wind/Rain%20Storm>

<http://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>

### **Update: Duke Energy's 1,100 MW McGuire Nuclear Unit 2 in North Carolina Ramped Up to 77 Percent by April 7**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 6 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: AES's 175 MW Alamitos Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by April 6**

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201104061515.html>

### **NRC Launches Special Inspection at Exelon's 2,336 MW Byron and 2,360 MW Braidwood Nuclear Power Plants in Illinois April 6 – Agency to Review Company's Handling of Two Equipment Issues**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) launched the Special Inspection to review the company's handling of two equipment issues, the agency said on April 6. The first issue – identified by NRC inspectors in February – involves the operability of backup systems that would be used to remove heat from the reactor in case of a reactor trip or an accident. The second issue is associated with the loss of control room equipment alarms during maintenance activities in 2010 and 2011. Neither of the issues posed an immediate threat to public health and safety.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2011/11-007.iii.pdf>

## **Petroleum**

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### **Leak Leads Marathon to Shut Unit at 240,000 b/d Catlettsburg, Kentucky Refinery April 6**

A hydrogen fluoride leak led Marathon to shut an unspecified unit at the facility on April 6, according to a regulatory filing. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-07/marathon-shuts-unit-after-release-at-catlettsburg-refinery-1-.html>

## **Colombia Exported 365,000 b/d of Crude Oil to United States in 2010, Compared to 276,000 b/d in 2009**

Colombia produced 884,000 b/d in March 2011, marking a 100,000 b/d increase from August 2010, according to Barclay's Capital.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-colombia-oil-20110407,0,558696.story>

## **Update: Libya Blames Britain, Rebels Blame Pro-Gadhafi Forces for Attack that Forced Offline Production at Rebel-Controlled Oilfields in Libya April 7**

Libya blamed Britain and rebels blamed pro-Gadhafi forces for an attack that forced offline production at the rebel-controlled 12 billion barrel Sarir and 3 billion barrel Messla oilfields in Libya on April 7, multiple news and official sources reported. Libya said "British war planes" had attacked Sarir, damaging an oil pipeline and field equipment. NATO, which is overseeing military operations in Libya, denied the allegation. Regardless of the attacker, the shutdowns were expected to hamper the rebels' capacity to maintain oil production; prior to the incident, they had been producing 100,000 b/d of crude. Also before the attack, the rebels sold their first cargo of crude oil. That oil was thought to be headed for China, as of latest reports.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/business/7511126.html>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJQE73600M20110407>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFLDE7361J020110407>

[http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/6179065047/articles/oil-gas-journal/general-interest-2/20100/april-2011/libya\\_nato\\_dismisses.html?cmpid=EnlDailyApril72011](http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/6179065047/articles/oil-gas-journal/general-interest-2/20100/april-2011/libya_nato_dismisses.html?cmpid=EnlDailyApril72011)

## **Libyan Oil Production at 250,000-300,000 b/d: Chairman of National Oil Corporation**

The nation typically produces about 1.6 million b/d.

Reuters, 04:31 April 7, 2011

## **Natural Gas**

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Nothing to report.

## **Other News**

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### **POET to Produce Enough Corn Oil to Yield as Much as 60 MMGal/Yr. of Biodiesel**

POET plans to produce more than 500 million pounds/year of corn oil at its U.S. facilities, and companies could convert that corn oil into as much as 60 MMGal/Yr. of biodiesel, POET said on April 6.

<http://www.poet.com/discovery/releases/showRelease.asp?id=268&year=2011&categoryid=0>

### **GE Plans 400 MW Thin-Film Solar Panel Factory in United States**

GE plans to build a 400 MW advanced technology thin-film solar panel factory in the United States, the company said on April 7. It would be larger than any currently-operating U.S. solar panel manufacturing plant. The company is considering multiple locations for the new facility, and expects to decide on a final location shortly.

<http://www.genewscenter.com/Press-Releases/GE-Achieves-Highest-Publicly-Reported-Efficiency-for-Thin-Film-Solar-Earns-New-Orders-and-Unveils-Plans-to-Build-US-Manufacturing-Plant-2fd7.aspx>

## Update: Major Aftershock Rattles Japan, but No New Damage Seen at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant April 7

A 7.4 magnitude earthquake prompted a tsunami warning in Japan on April 7, but the warning was eventually lifted and the aftershock did not cause any new damage at Tokyo Electric Power's earthquake-and-tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, multiple news, official and company sources reported. The aftershock did prompt an evacuation from the Fukushima Daiichi facility, but workers were injecting nitrogen into one of the site's reactors – a bid to prevent hydrogen from accumulating – as of latest reports. The quake also forced shut two of three external power systems at the Onagawa nuclear power plant and cut external power supplies at two other facilities: a fuel reprocessing plant at Rokkasho and a nuclear power plant at Higashidori. All three of the plants were offline at the time of the aftershock. The facilities in Rokkasho and Higashidori were running on emergency diesel generators, as of April 7.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/07/us-japan-idUSTRE72A0SS20110407>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/08/world/asia/08japan.html?hp>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-07/japan-workers-pump-nitrogen-into-damaged-reactor-to-reduce-risk-of-blast.html>

## Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 7, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	109.09	105.83	86.30
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.17	4.25	4.16

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

### Man Dies in Likely Electrocution during Suspected Attempt to Steal Copper at Hydro-Quebec Electric Facility in Quebec, Canada by April 7

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/killed+during+possible+attempted+copper+theft/4574756/story.html>

### Federal, State, and Local Officials to Participate in Three-Day Emergency Simulation at SCE's 2,200 WM San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant in California from April 12

<http://www.ocregister.com/news/emergency-295294-plant-agency.html>

### NRC Conducts Power Outage Simulation at Peach Bottom Nuclear Power Plant in Pennsylvania, Surry Nuclear Power Plant in Virginia by April 7 – Regulators Refer to Exercise as “Very Unrealistic Event,” but House Democrats Say Simulated Meltdown was Only “Narrowly Averted” at Peach Bottom Facility

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704013604576246682739045102.html?ru=yahoo&mod=yahoo\\_hs](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704013604576246682739045102.html?ru=yahoo&mod=yahoo_hs)

### NRC Sees “No Basis at This Point” for Expanding 10-Mile Emergency Planning Zone around U.S. Nuclear Power Facilities

[http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/2011/April/06/IP\\_NRC\\_emer-06Apr11.html](http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/2011/April/06/IP_NRC_emer-06Apr11.html)

### Beacon Power Plans 20 MW Underground Flywheel Plant in Hazleton, Pennsylvania

<http://citizensvoice.com/news/energy-firm-picks-hazleton-over-windy-city-1.1129211#axzz1IqbGY26k>

**Ground Shifting Believed to Blame for Rupture along Petro-Hunt LLC-Owned, 3-Inch Oil Pipeline in North Dakota April 2 – Line Leaked Estimated Five Barrels of Oil**

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9MEARPO0.htm>

**Enbridge Expects to Incorporate “Accelerated Process of Inspections, Testing and Refurbishment” in 2011 along Recently-Ruptured, 290,000 b/d, 30-Inch, Crude Oil-Carrying, Indiana-to-Ontario Lakehead System Line 6B**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/04/enbridge\\_plans\\_accelerated\\_pip.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/04/enbridge_plans_accelerated_pip.html)

**Colorado State University Team Sees More than 70 Percent Chance That One or More Major Hurricane Will Strike U.S. Coastline during 2011 Atlantic Hurricane Season**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/06/us-storm-forecast-csu-idUSTRE7353W420110406>

**Ecopetrol Studying Economic Feasibility of Constructing 559-to-746-Mile Oil Pipeline in Colombia – Line Would Link Heavy Oilfields in Nation’s Llanos Region to Pacific Ocean, Improve Deliveries to Asian Customers**

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Oil/8761403>

**E Energy Adams Seeks to Add Unit Training Capabilities at Ethanol Plant in Gage County, Nebraska – New Capabilities Would Enable Company to Ship Out as Many as 96 Cars at a Time**

[http://www.beatricedailysun.com/news/local/article\\_d936600e-60bc-11e0-ba89-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.beatricedailysun.com/news/local/article_d936600e-60bc-11e0-ba89-001cc4c002e0.html)

**Construction Crew Causes Rupture along 2-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline, Prompting Local Evacuations in Decatur, Illinois April 5 – Ameren Illinois Controls Leak within Minutes**

[http://www.herald-review.com/news/local/article\\_8a356393-375a-5a3f-833a-690ee5bdf338.html](http://www.herald-review.com/news/local/article_8a356393-375a-5a3f-833a-690ee5bdf338.html)

**Construction Crew Ruptures 2-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline in Attleboro, Massachusetts, Triggering Local Evacuations April 6 – Columbia Gas Plugs Leak in Less Than Two Hours**

<http://www.thesunchronicle.com/articles/2011/04/06/news/9132448.txt>

**Electrical Malfunction Forces Shut Gas Receipt Facility, Causes Disruptions at Eustace Gas Plant in Texas April 6**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153031>

**Compressor Failure at Nelly Booster Station Leads DCP Fullerton to Request Shut-in at Downstream Natural Gas Facility in Texas April 6-7**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153033>

**Abnormal Liquids Volumes on Plant Inlet Leads to Emissions Event at Pittsburg Gas Plant in Texas April 6**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153040>

**Failure Leads to Shutdown, Emissions Event at Aker Gas Plant in Texas April 6**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153017>

**Copano Processing Reports Flaring at Houston Central Gas Plant in Texas April 6**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153030>

**Iran Seeks to Produce More than 35 Tcf of Natural Gas over 35-Year Span at North Pars Field**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=105859](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=105859)

## 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>

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