



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, April 11, 2011

Electricity

Storms Cut Power to 93,000 Oncor Customers in Texas April 11

Some 56,623 customers remained without power, as of latest reports.

<http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Sever-Weather-Blog-Tornado-warning-in-Parker-County-119577029.html>

<https://maps.oncor.com/summary.asp>

PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Shut by April 10

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 9 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/>

Duke Energy's 1,129 MW Catawba Nuclear Unit 2 in South Carolina Reduced, Ramped up Over Weekend

The unit ramped down from full power on the morning of April 8 to 86 percent power by the morning of April 9, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The unit returned to full power by April 10, the NRC reported.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Reduced, Ramped up Over Weekend

The unit ramped down from 96 percent power on the morning of April 8 to 69 percent power by April 9, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The unit returned to 88 percent power by April 10 and 96 percent power by April 11, the NRC reported.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Southern's 839 MW Farley Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Reduced to 60 Percent by April 9

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 8 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/>

Hydrogen Burn Leads Energy Northwest to Declare Unusual Event at 1,107 MW Columbia Nuclear Power Plant in Washington April 8

Energy Northwest declared an Unusual Event "due to a small hydrogen burn when opening the stator cooling water system for maintenance," according to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The incident did not cause any "injuries or equipment damage," the filing said. The company terminated the unusual event in less than five hours.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110408en.html>

After Brief Shutdown, Luminant Restarting 593 MW Big Brown Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas April 11

The unit shut "due to a malfunction of the 345 kV transmission line," but Luminant began resuming service "immediately following the trip," the company said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153160>

Luminant to Shut, Restart 593 MW Monticello Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas April 10-11

Luminant expected to shut the unit on April 10 to fix a leaking feed water heater, but planned to restart the unit on April 10-11, it said in multiple filings with state regulators. Separately on April 11, the company reduced the unit's load after the "electrostatic precipitator (ESP) 2A transformer rectifier (TR) load center tripped during a thunderstorm," it said in another filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153106>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153108>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153166>

PSE&G Plans High-Voltage Electric Substation as Part of Expansion at Bergen Switching Station in New Jersey

Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) awarded Siemens a contract to develop an indoor 230 kV, 4000A, 80kA gas-insulated substation (GIS) and associated gas-insulated bus (GIB) as part of an expansion at the existing Bergen switching station in Ridgefield, New Jersey, Siemens said on April 11. Siemens plans to commission the substation in stages from the end of 2012 through April 2013.

Petroleum

Update: Shell Aimed to Restart CDU over Weekend at 340,000 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery

Shell aimed to try to restart the crude distillation unit (CDU) over the weekend, traders said on April 8, after a leak led the company to shut the unit on March 31.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201104081249dowjonesdjonline000486&title=shell-to-attempt-restart-of-deer-park-crude-unit-this-weekend-traders>

<http://english.capital.gr/News.asp?id=1166322>

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/industries/2011/04/01/shell-reports-shutdown-deer-park-crude-distillation-unit/>

Update: Valero Restarts Hydrocracker at 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery by April 8

The company shut the unit to repair a compressor seal leak on March 31, a spokesman said previously.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-08/valero-port-arthur-texas-oil-refinery-restarts-hydrocracker.html>

Koch Pipeline Company Plans 20-Inch Crude Oil Pipeline in Eagle Ford, Texas

Koch Pipeline Company, L.P. plans to build a 20-inch crude oil pipeline from Pettus, Texas, to Corpus Christi, Texas, the company said on April 11. It was not immediately clear how much oil the line would transport, but Koch said the project would increase its pipeline capacity from Karnes County to the Corpus Christi area to approximately 250,000 b/d. The company expects to complete the line in mid-2012.

<http://www.kochind.com/files/041111KPLPlanningAnotherNewPipelineinTexas%20.pdf>

Genesis Energy to Expand Crude Oil Pipeline and Terminating Capabilities in Texas, Construct Sour Gas Processing Facility at Holly's Refining Complex in Tulsa, Oklahoma

Genesis Energy, L.P. plans to refurbish three newly-acquired, above-ground storage tanks – representing aggregate capacity of about 230,000 barrels – in Texas City, Texas, and convert the tanks to store crude oil, the company said on April 11. Genesis also plans to construct a truck station, tankage, and possible pipeline interconnects at West Columbia, Texas to help deliver crude from the Eagle Ford and elsewhere to refiners in the greater Houston/Texas City area and markets accessible via barge from the new Texas City terminal. Once the refurbishment, tie-in and all interconnecting pipe are completed, estimated to be in the fourth quarter of 2011, Genesis will be able to handle approximately 40,000 barrels per day of crude oil through the Texas City terminal. Separately, Genesis plans to install a new sour gas processing facility at Holly Refining and Marketing's refining complex in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Genesis expects to complete that facility no later than the fourth quarter of 2012.

<http://www.genesiscrudeoil.com/pdf/news/2011/04-11-11b.pdf>

Statoil Launches Oil Production at Planned 100,000 Boe/d Peregrino Field Offshore Brazil by April 11

Statoil began producing oil last week at the Peregrino field offshore Brazil, the company said on April 11. The field contains 300 to 600 recoverable million barrels of oil equivalents, with a significant yet-to-find potential. The company expects to gradually ramp up production to a plateau of 100,000 boe/d.

http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2011/Pages/06Apr_Peregrino.aspx

Citing Uncertainty over Future Oil Sales, Libyan Rebels Reduce Crude Oil Deliveries to Tobruk Port by 75 Percent by April 11

Libyan rebels have reduced oil deliveries to the Tobruk port by 75 percent, a source at a local refinery said on April 11, as rebels seek to avoid filling storage tanks "until we know when the vessel is coming so we won't be stuck with an overflow." The rebels had been producing approximately 100,000-120,000 b/d of oil. The refinery source said that rate had been reduced, but he did not say by how much. Separately in Libya, a petroleum engineer at Tobruk said an attack last week by pro-Gadhafi forces had halted production at the rebel-controlled Sarir oilfield, but had not – as previously reported – forced offline an export pipeline to Tobruk. A rebel newspaper, meanwhile, said on April 7 that pro-Gadhafi fighters had attacked Zueitina Oil Company's 103 Kilo oilfield in southeastern Libya. The company produced 70,000 b/d of oil in Libya, according to the rebel newspaper.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Oil/8774507>

Natural Gas

Citing Riser Damage, Statoil Shuts 70,000 Boe/d Njord, 50,000 Boe/d Visund Oil-and-Gas-Fields Offshore Norway April 1-8 – Gas Leak Leads Company to Evacuate Workers from Visund Field April 9

Statoil shut its 70,000 boe/d Njord oil-and-gas field on April 1 and expected to shut its 50,000 boe/d Visund oil-and-gas field on April 8, the company said, citing "internal damage to flexible risers" at Njord and a plan "to conduct special investigations at Visund." Despite the shutdowns, a gas leak at Visund led Statoil to temporarily evacuate approximately half of the platform's 123 workers on April 9, the company said. Statoil said the leak was "believed to have started at a point in a fixed riser carrying oil and gas." The company plugged the leak within less than five hours. Risers are pipes that carry oil and gas between the seabed and the installation.

http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2011/Pages/08Apr_Njord.aspx

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE73A06920110411>

Reuters, 10:10 April 9, 2011

Other News

Sunshine Way Ethanol Plans 200 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant in Gibsonton, Florida

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/growth/article1154785.ece>

Update: Aftershock Briefly Disrupts Efforts to Cool Reactors at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan April 11

A magnitude 6.6 aftershock briefly disrupted Tokyo Electric Power's efforts to inject water into three reactors at its earthquake-and-tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan on March 11, news and official sources reported. Also on April 11, Japanese officials widened the evacuation zone near the facility, citing elevated levels of accumulated radiation. The nation's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, meanwhile, issued an order over the weekend requiring companies to deploy at least two emergency diesel engines at non-operating, low-temperature nuclear reactors. Such facilities had, prior to the order, only been required to have one backup power source.

Reuters, 10:16 April 11, 2011

Reuters, 08:21 April 11, 2011

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 11, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	109.75	107.65	84.61
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.05	4.32	3.92

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Ameren Reports 20,286 Customers without Power in Illinois April 9 – Fewer than 100 in the Dark, as of Latest Reports

<http://apps.ameren.com/outage/OutageMap.aspx?state=IL>

Thunderstorms Cut Power to about 20,000 Duke Energy Customers in North Carolina April 9

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/04/10/2212912/winds-large-hail-pummel-region.html>

Winds, Hail, and Rain Knock Out Electricity to More than 14,500 Appalachian Power Customers in Virginia and West Virginia April 8

<http://www.statejournal.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=97410>

Storms, Suspected Tornadoes Cut Power to More Than 10,200 We Energies Customers and Approximately 8,100 Wisconsin Public Service Customers in Wisconsin April 10

<http://www.postcrescent.com/article/20110410/APC0101/110410056/1004/Grand-Chute-police-look-for-leads-in-robbery-of-Anchor-Bank/Severe-weather-races-through-Fox-Cities?odyssey=nav|head>

<http://whbl.com/news/articles/2011/apr/11/surveying-damage/>

Atlantic City Electric Reports 10,170 Customers without Power in New Jersey April 10 – Just 31 Customers without Electricity, as of April 11

<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

Storm Cuts Electricity to 11,000 Hydro One Customers in Ontario, Canada April 11

http://ottawa.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20110411/OTT_STORMS_110411/20110411/?hub=OttawaHome

NRC Says UniStar Nuclear is Not Eligible to Construct Nuclear Power Unit at Existing Calvert Cliffs Facility Maryland Because Company is Not U.S.-Owned – Despite Decision, Agency Expects to Continue to Process Company's Application

http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-04-08/business/bs-bz-calvert-cliffs-denial-20110408_1_edf-unistar-nuclear-energy-calvert-cliffs

NRC Okays Exelon's Request to Increase Capacity by 16 MW at 1,189 MW Unit 1 and by 16 MW at 1,189 MW Unit 2 at Limerick Nuclear Power Plant in Pennsylvania April 11

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2011/11-064.pdf>

U.S. Geothermal Receives Key Reservoir Certificate from DOE Independent Reservoir Engineer for Proposed 23 MW Geothermal Power Plant at Neal Hot Springs in Eastern Oregon by April 11

<http://www.usgeothermal.com/NewsReleases/April-11-2011.pdf>

Tanker Truck Catches Fire at Colonial Oil Company Plant in Savannah, Georgia, Killing One and Injuring Two Others April 8

<http://www2.wsav.com/news/2011/apr/08/12/tanker-truck-explodes-lathrop-avenue-ar-1691118/>

BOEMRE Approves Tenth Deepwater Drilling Permit since Deepwater Horizon Disaster April 8 – Statoil to Drill Well #1 in Walker Ridge Block 969 Approximately 219 Miles Offshore Louisiana

<http://www.boemre.gov/ooc/press/2011/press0408a.htm>

Iranian Navy Foils Pirates' Bid to Commandeer Iranian-Owned Voyager 1 Oil Tanker in Indian Ocean, Offshore Pakistan April 10

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/174131.html>

Onshore U.S. Oil Rig Count Eclipses Gas Rig Count for First Time in 16 Years during Late-March 2011

http://www.energyintel.com/DocumentDetail.asp?Try=Yes&document_id=714192&publication_id=9

Rupture along 2-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Leads to Local Evacuation in Chicago, Illinois April 7 – Peoples Gas Shuts Off Line within Less Than Two Hours

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chibrknews-near-north-side-hotel-evacuated-20110407,0.899957.story?track=rss>

Pennsylvania DEP Orders In-State Operator to Plug Three Abandoned Natural Gas Wells Discovered during Investigation of Late-February House Explosion in McKean County April 8

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/news_releases/14288

Methane Emitted during Hydraulic Fracturing Process Offsets Natural Gas' Environmental Advantage over Coal in Energy Production: Cornell University Researchers

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/677-e2-wire/155101-report-gas-from-fracking-worse-than-coal-on-climate>

Repairs at Third-Party Facility Leads to Pressure Spike, Booster Shutdown at Lost Peak Booster Station in Texas April 10-11 – Booster Restarted April 11

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153170>

Compressor Shutdown Causes Emissions Event at Cedar Lake Booster Station in Texas April 9

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153151>

Switch Failure Leads to Hours-Long Plant-Wide Shutdown at Waha Gas Plant in Texas April 8 – Separate Power Failure Forces Shut Amine Plant, AGI Compressor for Less Than Two Hours at Waha Plant April 9

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153153>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153149>

Compressor Shutdown Triggers Flaring at East Vealmoor Gas Plant in Texas April 8-9

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153147>

Failure at DCP's Fullerton Gas Plant Leads to Flaring at XTO Energy's Russell Compressor Station in Texas April 8-11

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153111>

Problems at DCP-Owned Gas Plant Forces Shut Targa-Owned Compressor, Leads to Flaring at West Seminole San Andres Unit Central Tank Battery in Texas April 8-15

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153144>

Off-Spec Product Leads to Flaring, Adjustments at Copano Processing's Houston Central Gas Plant in Texas April 9

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153148>

Wildfires Force Shut Chevron's NGL Pipeline, Lead to 50 Percent Rate Reduction at Targa Gas Plant in Texas April 10 – Disruptions Force Shut West Waddell Booster Station

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153158>

Force Energy to Explore, Develop Zoro 1 Lithium Property in Manitoba, Canada - Property Contains Total Undiluted Tonnage of 1,727,550 Tons Grading 0.945 Percent Lithium Dioxide

<http://www.americanbankingnews.com/2011/04/11/force-energy-begins-lithium-and-rare-earth-minerals-exploration-program/>

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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