



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 12, 2011

Electricity

Storm Knocks Out Power to 45,000 Alabama Power Customers in Alabama April 11

Some 5,500 customers remained without power, as of latest reports.

<http://www.tuscaloosaneews.com/article/20110411/NEWS/110419947/1007?Title=Storms-cause-power-outages-and-tree-damage-throughout-Tuscaloosa-County&tc=ar>

<http://twitter.com/alabamapower/>

Substation Fire Cuts Electricity Briefly to about 28,000 Meade County RECC Customers in Kentucky April 11

The fire knocked out power to about 28,000 customers, but the company restored service to most of those customers in a little more than an hour, according to news and official sources. There were no injuries reported.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110411/NEWS01/304110096/Three-Kentucky-counties-affected-by-power-substation-fire?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Home>

<http://www.fox41.com/story/14426322/substation-fire-cuts-fire-to-three-ky-counties>

<http://www.wave3.com/story/14426196/substation-fire-leaves-75000-in-the-dark>

Update: After Monday Storms, Fewer than 20,000 Oncor Customers Remain without Power in Texas April 12

Storms knocked out power to some 93,000 Oncor customers in Texas on April 11, but only 15,091 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>

Update: Southern's 839 MW Farley Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama at Full Power by April 12

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 11 the unit was operating at 56 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Calpine's 188 MW Los Esteros Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by April 11

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by April 11.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201104111515.html>

Update: Intergen's 180 MW Ciclo Combinado Mexicali Gas-Fired Unit in Mexico Returns to Service by April 11

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201104111515.html>

Update: PG&E Asks NRC to Postpone License Renewal at 2,160 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in California, Pending Results of Company's Seismic Tests

Citing the nuclear disaster in Japan, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) yesterday asked the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to delay final action on the utility's ongoing license renewal application for the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California until the company submits findings from advanced 3-D seismic studies related to the facility. PG&E said it planned to accelerate the completion of those studies.

http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/newsreleases/20110411/pgampe_commits_to_finishing_3-d_seismic_studies_related_to_diablo_canyon_before_seeking_final_issuance_of_renewed_licenses.shtml

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/nuclear/california.html>

SunPower, Flextronics to Dedicate 75 MW/Year Solar Panel Manufacturing Facility in Milpitas, California April 12

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/sunpowers-and-flextronics-new-solar-manufacturing-plant-creates-jobs-economic-benefits-and-clean-affordable-energy-119682304.html>

Bow City Power, Fluor Canada Plan 1,000 MW Coal-Fired Power Plant and Associated Carbon-Capture Equipment near Calgary, Alberta

The facility would be equipped to capture one million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year. That CO₂ would be used for enhanced oil recovery.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/technology/BowCity+Fluor+join+forces+plant/4598574/story.html>

Petroleum

Update: After Early-February Fire, Husky Energy Ramping up Production at 82,000 b/d Lloydminster Heavy Oil Upgrader in Alberta, Canada by April 11

The upgrader was operating at 75 to 85 percent and ramping up toward full production, as of April 11. A pipeline froze and burst at the facility on February 2, releasing fuel onto equipment and triggering a minor fire that damaged a hydrocracker fractionation unit, according to Husky. The company said the damage was not extensive, but said it performed the repairs in a congested space under extremely cold weather conditions.

http://www.huskyenergy.com/news/release.asp?release_id=1425915

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/04/11/huskyenergy-upgrader-idUKN1111880820110411>

Update: Trafigura to Export Rebel-Sold Crude Cargo as Vitol Delivers Gasoline Cargo to Rebel-Controlled Port in Libya by April 12: Trade Sources

Vitol recently delivered a gasoline cargo to the rebel-controlled Benghazi port, and Trafigura expected to transport an apparently rebel-sold oil cargo from the Brega port, trade sources said on April 12. Civil war and sanctions have hampered the nation's oil production and exports for weeks, but political support for the rebels in the Western world has "encouraged" the recent transactions, according to a source familiar with the situation.

Reuters, 10:14 April 12, 2011

Reduced Demand Leads Saudi Arabia to Reduce Oil Production by Approximately 500,000 b/d by April 12: Industry Sources

Saudi Arabia reduced its oil production to approximately 8.5 to 8.6 million b/d of oil by April 12, compared to 9.0 to 9.2 million b/d in March 2011, industry sources said. The nation raised output in March to compensate for lost production in Libya.

Reuters, 09:54 April 12, 2011

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Explosion Injures Three Workers at Abengoa Bioenergy's 88 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant in Madison, Illinois

The explosion and fire occurred in a maintenance shed on the morning of April 11. The blaze burned itself out before the fire department arrived. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production. One of the workers sustained serious burns, but none of the injuries were considered life-threatening.

<http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/7655/explosion-at-illinois-ethanol-plant-injures-three-employees>

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_fe897646-6447-11e0-930c-001a4bcf6878.html

Tornado Knocks Out Power to Quad County Corn Processors' Ethanol Plant in Galva, Iowa April 9

A tornado cut power to the plant on April 9; the company resumed operations by April 11.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110411/NEWS/110411018>

Update: Japan Raises Alert Level for Disaster at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant by April 12 – New Rating Puts Crisis on Par with Chernobyl

Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) has raised its assessment of the seriousness of the disaster at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, giving the accident a provisional Level 7 rating on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed on April 12. Level 7 is the scale's worst possible rating. It applies to events involving "widespread health and environmental effects" and the "external release of a significant fraction of the reactor core inventory," according to the New York Times. The Chernobyl accident in 1986 is the only other incident to receive a Level 7 rating. NISA estimated that the Fukushima Daiichi facility had released far less radioactive material than was released from Chernobyl – about 10 percent of the quantity – but an executive at Tokyo Electric Power said "the radiation leak has not stopped completely" and that the company was concerned "that it could eventually exceed Chernobyl." Separately at Fukushima Daiichi, a fire was extinguished on April 12; the blaze did not affect the facility's cooling systems or radiation levels near the plant, according to Tokyo Electric Power.

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/tsunamiupdate01.html>

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/13/world/asia/13japan.html?_r=1&hp

Reuters, 07:48 April 12, 2011

Reuters, 20:46 April 11, 2011

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 12, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	105.42	107.35	84.52
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.05	4.21	3.90

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: Thunderstorms, Winds Cut Power to about 22,000 Hydro One Customers in Ontario, Canada April 11 – Fewer than 1,000 Remain without Power April 12

http://www.cp24.com/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20110411/110411_ontario_storm/20110411/?hub=CP24Home

<http://www.hydroone.com/stormcenter/>

Update: DOE Finalizes \$1.6 Billion Loan Guarantee for BrightSource Energy's Proposed 392 MW Ivanpah Solar Complex in California April 11

<http://www.energy.gov/news/10262.htm>

US Wind Force, Edison Mission Energy Break Ground on Planned 55 MW Pinnacle Wind Farm at NewPage near Keyser, West Virginia by April 11

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/US-Wind-Force-Edison-Mission-bw-932267844.html?x=0&.v=1>

Idaho Winds LLC Begins Construction on Proposed 22 MW Sawtooth Wind Project in Elmore County, Idaho by April 8

http://www.windtoday.net/articles/Construction_Begins_on_22_MW_Sawtooth_Wind_Project-107402.html

Compressor Trip Causes Flaring at ConocoPhillips' 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery April 11

Reuters, 05:13 April 12, 2011

Fuel Gas System Imbalance Triggers Sulfur Dioxide Release, Unit Rate Reduction at Motiva's 235,000 b/d Convent, Louisiana Refinery April 11

Reuters, 00:15 April 12, 2011

Nationwide Blackouts Likely to Reduce Oil Output in Venezuela during April 2011, IEA Says – Nation Produced 2.2 Million b/d in March 2011

DJN, 09:47 April 12, 2011

Wildfires Destroy One Oilfield Structure, Threaten Numerous Others in Texas over Weekend: Texas State Forest Service

<http://lubbockonline.com/local-news/2011-04-11/fire-burns-40000-plus-acres-so-far>

Montana Department of Transportation Authorizes Imperial Oil to Transport Refinery Megaload through Montana April 8 – Company to Deliver Equipment to Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9MHKS5G0.htm>

E-T Energy Plans 10,000 b/d (Heavy Oil/Bitumen) Phase 1 Commercial Development at Poplar Creek Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

<http://www.e-tenergy.com/TOTAL-CCEMC%20Press%20Release%20final%2020110410.pdf>

Sanctions to Blame as Iran Storing up to 38 Million Barrels of Oil in VLCCs: Shipping Executive

http://www.tradearabia.com/news/OGN_196790.html

Propane Gas Explosion, Multiple Propane Leaks Prompt Local Evacuations in Serene Lakes, California by April 11

<http://www.modbee.com/2011/04/11/1639381/serene-lakes-blast-area-evacuated.html>

Blackstone and Alta Resources to Invest up to \$1 Billion to Acquire, Develop Unconventional Oil-and-Gas Assets in North America

http://www.blackstone.com/cps/rde/xchg/bxcom/hs/news_pressrelease_6806.htm

Storm Cuts Power to Myrtle Springs Facility, Leading to “Temporary Reduction of Feed Gas to” Eustace Gas Plant in Texas April 11 – Incident Causes SRU Swing, Forces Company to Make Adjustments

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=153205>

Despite June 2011 Deadline, Some 64 Percent of 500 Underground U.S. Coal Mines Have Yet to Install Mandated Communication/Tracking System Equipment: MSHA Official

http://www.ydr.com/business/ci_17800467

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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