



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 17, 2012

Electricity

Update: More Than 38,000 DTE, CMS Energy Customers without Power in Metro Detroit April 17 following Wind Storms Yesterday

DTE Energy reported Tuesday morning that 31,000 of its 106,000 customers in Metro Detroit that were affected by high winds were still without power, according to reports. The utility expects to restore power to the vast majority of its customers by late Tuesday night. CMS Energy Corp. said that about 7,000 of its 96,000 affected Consumers Energy customers were without power as of Tuesday morning, reports said.

<http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/DTE-31-000-customers-without-power-in-Metro-Detroit/-/1719418/10931560/-/10a969vz/-/index.html>

<http://www.npr.org/local/stories/Michigan-Radio/150810243>

Indiana Michigan Power Files Plan to Extend Operations of Its 2,069 MW Cook Nuclear Power Plant in Michigan

American Electric Power Co. said Tuesday its Indiana Michigan Power utility filed a plan with Indiana regulators to extend the operation of the two-unit Cook nuclear power plant in Michigan, according to reports. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2005 extended the original 40-year operating licenses for another 20 years until 2034 for Unit 1 and 2037 for Unit 2.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/17/aep-cook->

[idUSL2E8FH5ER20120417?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/17/aep-cook-idUSL2E8FH5ER20120417?type=companyNews&feedType=RSS&feedName=companyNews&rpc=43)

Update: Duke Energy's 1,129 MW Catawba Nuclear Unit 1 in South Carolina Restarts April 16, Ramps Up to 14 Percent by April 17

Unit 1 has been shut since it automatically tripped April 4 when the plant lost offsite power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Update: Southern's 1,152 MW Vogtle Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Ramped Up to 70 Percent by April 17

Southern Nuclear Operating Co. restarted Unit 1 Sunday following repairs to a water pump. The reactor was manually tripped Saturday afternoon when the Main Feedwater Pump B discharge flow lowered unexpectedly.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Update: Calpine's 135 MW Calpine American I Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by April 16

The unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201204161515.html>

Petroleum

Update: TransCanada to Restart 591,000 b/d Keystone Oil Pipeline "Soon" after Dislodging Inspection Tool

TransCanada Corp. said on Tuesday it preparing to restart its Keystone oil pipeline after dislodging part of an inspection tool that got stuck in the line in March, according to a spokesman. The pipeline, which carries Canadian crude oil to the U.S. Midwest and Midcontinent from Alberta, will resume flows "as soon as it is safe to do so," the spokesman said in an email. He said the company shut the line down recently to make the repair.

Reuters, 11:40 April 17, 2012

Update: Delta Air Lines's Purchase of ConocoPhillips's Shuttered Trainer, Pennsylvania Refinery Could Be Announced This Week – Sources

A purchase by Delta Air Lines of ConocoPhillips's idled 185,000 b/d Trainer, Pennsylvania refinery could be announced as early as this week, according to two sources with knowledge of the negotiations. Reports last week announced a proposal under which Delta would purchase the refinery and JP Morgan's commodities team would finance the refining process, including buying and shipping crude oil from overseas. Delta would then buy the jet fuel from JP Morgan at a wholesale rate, and the bank would sell the other products made by the refinery into the market, the source said.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL2E8FH5E920120417>

Flint Hills Reports Hydrocracker Unit Upset at Its 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery April 16

Flint Hills Resources reported that during heavy rain on Monday, two heaters tripped in the hydrocracker unit (HCU), causing flaring, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The rain also initiated pressure control issues in the de-ethanizer section of the HCU, which resulted in a mechanical failure of a bleeder valve and caused a release to atmosphere. The company had reported flaring and vapor release at the refinery on Monday.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=167255>

Hydrogen Charge Pump Snag Shuts Hydrocracker at Motiva's 236,400 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery April 16

Motiva Enterprises reported a hydrogen charge pump tripped offline Monday evening at its Norco refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators shut the hydrocracking unit as a result, causing flaring, the filing said.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1008849

ExxonMobil Reports Unspecified Unit Shutdown at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery April 16

ExxonMobil reported the shutdown of an unspecified unit on Monday at its Joliet refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The company had reported a brief shutdown of a turbine generator in an earlier filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 04:03 April 17, 2012

Crane Falls on Steam Lines at Citgo's 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery April 17

Citgo Petroleum said a crane fell over on steam lines at its Lemont refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators on Tuesday. The filing did not specify the extent of the damage or whether refinery operations were affected by the incident but said in-house cleanup was underway.

Reuters, 11:17 April 17, 2012

Update: Suncor Returns Upgrader to Normal Operations April 16 after Unplanned Maintenance at Its 361,000 b/d Fort McMurray, Alberta Oil Sands Facility

Suncor Energy reported yesterday that it has completed maintenance on Upgrader 2 at its oil sands facility located north of Fort McMurray, Alberta and that the upgrader has now returned to normal operations. Suncor announced March 13 that it was taking the upgrader offline for unplanned maintenance due to a fractionator performance issue. Suncor does not anticipate this will result in a change to its annual production guidance.

<http://www.suncor.com/en/newsroom/2418.aspx?id=1598808>

Update: Shell Extends Open Season for the 300,000 b/d Houma-to-Houston Pipeline Reversal Project until April 27

Shell Pipeline announced it is extending a previously announced binding open season period for firm capacity on the Houma, Louisiana-to-Houston, Texas pipeline system reversal project ("Ho-Ho Reversal") by one week, until April 27, to accommodate requests by shippers for final management approval for commitments. The project would reverse the existing Ho-Ho service to connect Houston and Port Arthur, Texas markets with Louisiana markets and could enable the distribution of approximately 300,000 b/d of crude across the region, depending upon crudes types shipped. Subject to customer commitments and regulatory approval, the Ho-Ho Reversal is expected to begin service in early 2013.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/shell-pipeline-extends-open-season-for-the-houma-to-houston-reversal-project-until-april-27-2012-2012-04-17>

http://www.shell.us/home/content/usa/products_services/solutions_for_businesses/pipeline/houma/

Natural Gas

Update: FERC Approves Cheniere's Sabine Pass Liquefaction Project in Louisiana

Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P. announced yesterday that its subsidiaries, Sabine Pass Liquefaction, LLC and Sabine Pass LNG, L.P. (collectively, "Sabine Pass"), have received authorization from the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to site, construct, and operate facilities for the liquefaction and export of domestically produced natural gas at the Sabine Pass liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal located in Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The FERC approval authorizes the development of up to four modular LNG trains. The Sabine Pass terminal has a regasification and send-out capacity of 4.0 Bcf/d and storage capacity of 16.9 billion cubic feet equivalent (Bcfe).

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=101667&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1683624>

Update: Williams Partners Extends and Modifies Open Season for Atlantic Access Pipeline Connecting Shale Natural Gas to Atlantic Seaboard and Southeastern U.S. Markets

Williams Partners L.P. announced yesterday it was proposing certain modifications to its Atlantic Access project, a proposed expansion of its Transco interstate pipeline to connect natural gas supplies originating in western West Virginia and Pennsylvania to growing markets in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, and Gulf Coast regions. The modified plans increase the total firm transportation capacity from 180 MMcf/d to 230 MMcf/d to transport growing supplies of natural gas from northern Pennsylvania bi-directionally along Transco's existing Leidy Line to Leidy and other premium markets along the Atlantic seaboard. The new plans also offer additional firm transportation paths and revise the proposed in-service date to December 2015.

<http://www.williamsip.com/profiles/investor/ResLibraryView.asp?ResLibraryID=53348&BzID=1296&g=345&Nav=0&LangID=1&s=0>

Other News

Nothing to report

International News

Iraq Seen Sustaining Southern Oil Exports Surge – Industry Sources

Iraq's oil exports are surging this month to record rates expected to be sustained for the rest of the year, industry sources said on Monday. Exports from the southern ports increased by 190,000 b/d so far in April to 2.11 MMb/d, according to shipping data tracked by Reuters, and Iraqi and Western oil executives expect exports overall to climb in April towards 2.5 MMb/d. A new floating single point mooring terminal that opened offshore Basra last month has eased export constraints, and more oil is flowing from the southern fields of Rumaila, West Qurna-1, and Subair and from the 400,000 b/d Kirkuk field in the north.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/16/iraq-oil-exports-idUSL6E8FG8N120120416?feedType=RSS&feedName=marketsNews&rpc=43>

Canada to Streamline Federal Environmental Reviews of Major Industrial Projects

Canada has announced a plan to streamline environmental reviews on major industrial projects, in an effort to help speed the development of mines and pipelines, the government said on Tuesday. The plan includes reducing the number of government organizations responsible for project reviews from 40 to 3, transferring responsibility for some reviews from federal to provincial governments, ensuring each project is assessed only once, and imposing legally binding fixed timetables on the reviews, according to the Natural Resources Minister, who said Canada must do more to compete with other countries for fast-growing markets and scarce capital.

Reuters, 10:32 April 17, 2012

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-04-17/canada-plans-to-speed-up-environmental-project-reviews>

Update: Argentine President to Ask Congress to Expropriate YPF, Share Ownership with Provinces

Argentine President Cristina Kirchner said Monday she will ask Congress to expropriate YPF SA, allowing the government to share ownership of the company with oil-producing provinces. Kirchner has blamed YPF for declining oil and gas production in Argentina, saying that a lack of investment in the sector has led Argentina to incur an energy deficit. There is widespread public support for state management of the company, which makes it seem likely the bill will become law. YPF is majority owned by Spain's Repsol YPF SA, which owns 57.4 percent, but Argentina's Eskenazi family, which holds 25.5 percent, is responsible for day-to-day operations. The rest of the company's shares trade on stock exchanges in New York and Buenos Aires.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=116979

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 17, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	104.54	101.57	109.24
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.88	1.99	4.12

Source: Reuters

Links

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

Updated after 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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