



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 28, 2009

Electricity

Storms Cut Power to 71,000 Customers in Texas April 27

Heavy thunderstorms knocked out electricity to 56,000 CenterPoint Energy customers and 15,000 Oncor Electric Delivery customers on April 27, the utilities said. Oncor Electric restored power to most its affected customers by late evening.

http://www.star-telegram.com/state_news/story/1343198.html

http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/weather/090427_afternoon_storms

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=6782003>

Update: Substation Fire Cuts Power Briefly to 55,000 Maritime Electric Customers in Prince Edward Island, Canada April 27

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2009/04/28/pei-blackout-fire-cause.html?ref=rss>

AES's 493 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Reduced by April 27

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 243 MW by April 27.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904271515.html>

AES's 227 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by April 27

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by April 27.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200904271515.html>

Update: Exelon's 850 MW Dresden Nuke Unit 3 in Illinois Ramped Up to 99 Percent by April 28

Exelon shut the unit by April 24 to replace a valve. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of April 27 the unit was operating at 80 percent.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idINN2751472520090427>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Sithe's 875 MW Goreway Gas-fired Unit in Ontario Shut by April 28

Reuters, 9:17 April 28, 2009

Invenergy's 570 MW St Clair Gas-fired Unit in Ontario Shut by April 28

Reuters, 9:17 April 28, 2009

Atco's 378 MW Sheerness Coal-fired Unit 2 in Alberta Shut by April 27

Reuters, 9:17 April 28, 2009

Update: EPA Files Motion to Withdraw Air Permit for Sithe Global, Navajo Nation's Planned 1,500 MW Desert Rock Coal-fired Power Plant in New Mexico

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed with its Environmental Appeals Board to withdraw an air permit for the proposed 1,500 MW coal-fired Desert Rock Energy on Navajo Nation land in New Mexico, it said in a release. The permit—issued in July 2008—failed to address a range of potential, negative environmental impacts, according to the EPA. The EPA also said that the project's developers, Sithe Global LLC and the Navajo Nation's Dine Power Authority, did not consider outfitting the facility with integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) technology. That technology would have helped the facility reduce its emissions, the EPA said.

http://pepei.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?Section=ARTCL&SubSection=Display&PUBLICATION_ID=6&ARTICLE_ID=360440

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/244631F853971D64852575A5007444E6>

Reuters, 11:28 April 28, 2009

Update: SME Files with State to Build 120 MW Gas-fired Power Plant in Montana, in Place of Controversial Plans for Coal-fired Facility

Southern Montana Electric Generation and Transmission (SME) filed with the state's Department of Environmental Quality to build a 120 MW natural gas-fired power plant, instead of a contested 120 MW coal-fired facility. The company had received an air permit to build the coal-powered plant, but decided to amend its plans in response to environmental concerns.

<http://www.missoulian.com/articles/2009/04/27/bnews/br66.txt>

AEP Plans to Install 2,000 MW of Renewable Energy by End of 2011

AEP plans to add 2,000 MW of renewable energy by the end of 2011, or double its previous goal, the company said in a release. AEP has added 903 MW of wind generation since 2007, when the company committed to its original 1,000 MW goal.

<http://www.aep.com/newsroom/newsreleases/?id=1541>

NRG and United Illuminating Company's GenConn Energy Plans Two 200 MW Peaker Power Projects at Existing Power Plants in Connecticut

GenConn Energy plans to install 200 MW of dual-fired peaking power capacity at NRG Energy's existing Devon and Middletown facilities in Connecticut, the company said in a release. Each project will consist of four 50 MW turbines. GenConn expects to open the Devon plants in June 2010, and the Middletown units in June 2011.

GenConn is a joint venture of NRG Energy and The United Illuminating Company.

<http://investor.nrgenergy.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=121544&p=irol-news>

Petroleum

Update: Shell Declares Force Majeure after Power Failure at 145,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery April 23

Shell declared force majeure on crude oil receipts after a power failure forced shut its 145,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington refinery, beginning April 23. The force majeure event remained in effect as of yesterday, according to a company statement. Shell said that it expected to resume normal operations in 24 to 36 hours. The company gave that same time estimate on Friday; sources did not say what had caused the delay.

<http://www.dowjones.de/site/2009/04/shell-declares-force-majeure-following-washington-refinery-outage.html>

Bloomberg News, 19:38 April 27, 2009

Shell Expects Fire-Damaged Hydrotreater to Resume Normal Rates at 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery April 28

Shell expected the hydrotreater to resume normal rates today, April 28, at its 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas refinery, a spokeswoman said. The unit went offline on April 18 after a pump seal leak triggered a fire, she said. Separately at Deer Park, operators returned a coker unit to planned rates by April 27, according to the spokeswoman. The coker flare tripped away from the flare gas recovery system on April 17, Shell said previously in a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 10:01 April 28, 2009

Reuters, 15:49 April 27, 2009

Update: Valero Restarting 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery, Company Official Says April 28

Valero shut a coker unit in February, and then took offline the entire facility for additional work, a company official said. Operators repaired the coker, the steam system, and installed temporary boilers, he said. The official said the plant was “in the processing of starting back up,” but did not provide a timetable for full restoration.

Reuters, 11:58 April 28, 2009

DJN, 12:18 April 28, 2009

Bloomberg News, 12:09 April 28, 2009

Update: BP and Husky Postpone Production Start-Date by at Least One Year for Sunrise Oil-Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

BP and Husky had planned to begin bitumen production in 2012, but now expect to start output in 2013 or 2014. The companies said previously that they may “scale back the project.”

Bloomberg News, 11:15 April 28, 2009

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 28, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	48.58	46.19	118.76
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.19	3.55	10.72

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Peregrine Energy Plans 50 MW Biomass-fired Power Plant at Sunoco Facility in South Carolina—Plant to Replace Two Coal-fired Units

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/site/news/Stock%20News/2292635/>

NRC Renews Operating License of Areva NP's Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility in Washington for 40 Years

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-076.html>

Inspection Reveals Small Hole in Steel Lining of Reactor Containment Building at FirstEnergy's 923 MW Beaver Valley Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania—Unit was Offline at Time of Discovery, and Company Sees no Health Impact to Employees or Public

http://www.timesonline.com/articles/2009/04/25/news/top_stories/doc49f3c9217a2dd690281680.txt

TransAlta Plans 72 MW Ardenville Wind Farm in Alberta, Canada—Company Expects to Break Ground in First Quarter 2010, Open Facility by Early 2011

DJN, 08:56 April 28, 2009

Azerbaijan's Socar Seeks to Boost North American Oil Exports from 73,000 b/d in 2008 to 200,000 b/d by Unspecified Date

Reuters, 08:43 April 28, 2009

<http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=200904280843dowjonesdjonline000451&title=azerbaijan-to-double-throughput-at-baku-novorossiisk-pipeline>

Newfoundland and Labrador Oil Production Drops 16.1 Percent, Year-on-Year, from 379,196 b/d in March 2008 to 317,998 b/d in March 2009

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8521838.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Update: Alaska State Officials and Chevron Plan to Remove Remaining Stored Oil at Drift River Storage Terminal—Facility Remains Offline as Mount Redoubt Volcano Continues Activity

Bloomberg News, 18:46 April 27, 2009

BP Shuts Sarnia, Ontario-to-Green Springs, Ohio Propane Pipeline to Fix a Leak April 24

Bloomberg News, 14:45 April 27, 2009

U.S. Refiners Ready Contingency Plans in Event of Swine Flu Outbreak—No Impact to Production, Companies Say

Reuters, 13:24 April 27, 2009

President Obama Announces \$400 Million Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy to Help Develop Breakthrough Energy Technologies

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/27/obamas-call-to-create-not-just-consume/?em>

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/7347.htm>

Suspected Natural Gas Leak Triggers Explosion, Kills One in New York April 25

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/26/nyregion/26explode.html?_r=2&ref=nyregion

Gas Treater Shutdown, Flaring at Big Lake Gas Plant in Texas April 27

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=123462>

Update: Coast Guard Says Oregon LNG's Proposed LNG Terminal along Columbia River in Oregon Would Carry Minimal Security Impact

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

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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