



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, April 29, 2014

Electricity

Severe Weather, Tornadoes Knock out Power to Over 227,000 Customers in Southeast April 28–29

Over 227,000 customers lost power when strong storms and tornadoes moved across the Southeast Monday into Tuesday. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT today, 32,750 customers remained without power, according to utility websites and social media. Alabama Power, the hardest hit utility, reported over 108,000 customers lost power when the severe weather, which included tornadoes, struck Monday. Forecasters were predicting multiple rounds of severe storms through Wednesday, which could cause additional outages and complicate restoration efforts. Georgia Power Company reported 72,000 customers lost power due to the storms with the highest numbers in the metro Atlanta area. Entergy Mississippi said customer outages peaked at 42,937 at approximately 7:30 p.m. Monday night. The National Weather Service stated that more severe storms, with large hail, high winds, heavy rain, and tornadoes, could develop today in central Mississippi and are expected to cause additional power outages.

Midwest and Southeast Customer Power Outages			
April 28–29, 2014			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Alabama Power	AL	108,200	17,300
Huntsville Utilities	AL	4,500	500
Georgia Power	GA	72,000	6,252
Entergy Mississippi	MS	42,937	8,698
TOTAL*		227,637	32,750

*Total outages represent only electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

- <https://twitter.com/alabamapower>
- <https://twitter.com/Georgiapower?WT.svl=tw2>
- <http://outagemap.georgiapower.com/external/default.html>
- <https://twitter.com/EntergyMS>
- <http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ms.aspx>
- http://www.entergy.com/News_Room/newsrelease.aspx?NR_ID=2909
- <https://twitter.com/HSVUtilities>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Huntsville.Utilities/posts/745500475490877>
- <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2014/04/29/without-power-central-ms/8449205/>

Update: Entergy Arkansas Reports 3,700 Customers Remain without Power April 29, Assessing Tornado Damage to 500 kV Mayflower Substation

Entergy reported widespread damage to its facilities near Little Rock, Arkansas from storms and a tornado that hit the area on Sunday. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT today, 3,719 customers remained without power, down from a peak of 35,722 Sunday evening. The 500 kV Mayflower substation suffered significant damage. Preliminary reports show more than 300 poles down and 50 transmission structures down. Crews worked overnight to switch power around the damaged areas to restore service to customers.

- http://www.entergy.com/news_room/newsrelease.aspx?NR_ID=2908
- http://www.koontzelectric.com/koontz/Portals/0/pdf/Capabilities%20and%20Awards%20PDFs/substations_switchyard/022347_mayflower_500kv.pdf

Update: Entergy's 836 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 1 in Arkansas Ramps Up to 55 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 20 percent. Unit 1 was reduced to 20 percent, from full power on Sunday due to grid impacts from severe weather.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Reuters, 9:52 April 28, 2014

Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 57 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: Exelon's 850 MW Dresden Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Ramps Up to 92 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 17 percent after restarting by April 26. Unit 2 automatically shut April 14 after experiencing an electrical transient on a power transformer on the non-nuclear side of the plant.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

http://www.exeloncorp.com/Newsroom/pr_20140412_nuclear_Dresden-2-offline.aspx

Update: FPL's 510 MW Point Beach Nuclear Unit 1 in Wisconsin Shut by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 56 percent, down from full power by April 27.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: NMC's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Minnesota at Full Power by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 54 percent, up from 42 percent by April 26.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Ramps Up to 79 Percent by April 29

On the morning of April 28 the unit was operating at 51 percent, down from 86 percent by April 27.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

AES's 336 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by April 28

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201404281515.html>

NRG Energy and MidAmerican Solar Announce Substantial Completion of 290 MW Agua Caliente Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Arizona

NRG Energy, Inc. and MidAmerican Solar on Monday announced they have achieved substantial completion at their Agua Caliente Solar Photovoltaic Facility. Agua Caliente, the world's largest fully-operational solar photovoltaic facility, is located between Yuma and Phoenix, Arizona. The electricity generated by the station is being sold to Pacific Gas & Electric Company under a 25-year power purchase agreement.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=121544&p=irol-newsArticleNRG&ID=1923449>

EIA Expects 10,800 MW of Nuclear Generation to Shut in U.S. by 2020

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) on Monday said lower natural gas prices and stagnant growth in electric demand will lead to the loss of 10,800 MW of U.S. nuclear generation, or around 10 percent of total capacity, by 2020. About 6,000 MW of nuclear capacity will shut by 2020 in addition to six reactors totaling 4,800 MW that have already shut or plan to shut in that time period, the EIA said in its 2014 annual electric output study. In its 2013 report, the EIA projected only 7,700 MW, or about 7 percent, of nuclear capacity would retire by 2040. The EIA outlook changed after four reactors, Edison International's San Onofre 2 and 3, Dominion Resources' Kewaunee and Duke Energy's Crystal River, shut in 2013. A fifth reactor, Entergy Corp's Vermont Yankee, is set to retire by the end of 2014 and a sixth reactor, Exelon's Oyster Creek, is scheduled to shut in 2019.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/u-expects-10-pct-nuclear-225337920.html>

http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/aeo/section_issues.cfm#power_plant

Petroleum

Valero Executive Says Rates Cut at Sunray, Texas and Ardmore, Oklahoma Refineries Due to Lighter Crude Supply

Valero Energy Corp. has had to cut rates at its 156,000 b/d McKee refinery in Sunray, Texas, and its 85,000 b/d refinery in Ardmore, Oklahoma, because incoming inland U.S. light-sweet crudes were getting lighter, with higher condensate content, a Valero's executive told analysts on Tuesday. The two refineries can only run so much of those lighter components. The executive didn't specify when the refineries cut rates or if they were currently running at lower rates.

Reuters, 11:52 April 29, 2014

LyondellBasell Had One-week Crude Unit Outage at Its 268,000 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery in April

LyondellBasell Industries chief executive on Tuesday said its refinery in Houston, Texas had a one-week outage in April at one of its crude units. The refinery operated at 247,000 b/d in the first quarter 2014, up 8,000 b/d versus the prior quarter, the company said in its earnings release.

Reuters, 11:45 April 29, 2014

Natural Gas

CenterPoint Energy Reports Nearly 100 Natural Gas Leaks in Arkansas Due to Tornadoes April 28

CenterPoint Energy technicians responded throughout Sunday night into Monday to stop natural gas leaks and secure the distribution system following tornadoes that moved through the area. Company technicians worked primarily in Mayflower and Vilonia, Arkansas to secure nearly 100 natural gas leaks caused primarily by uprooted trees, a CenterPoint Energy area manager said. On Monday the company continued to perform leak surveys in the area to ensure the safety of its customers and distribution system.

<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/newsroom/newsreleases/64621c53a57a5410VgnVCM10000026a10d0aRCRD/>

Atmos Energy Warns of Gas Leaks from Tornadoes in Mississippi April 28

Atmos Energy on Monday warned those involved in tornado cleanup efforts in Mississippi to beware of potential natural gas leaks caused by the storm's destructive path. Atmos was still trying to assess all the damage received from Sunday night's tornadoes across Mississippi, the president of Atmos Energy Mississippi division said. The company dispatched several additional crews to the affected areas and responded to more than 50 gas leaks in Tupelo and 10 in New Hope. As of Tuesday afternoon, Atmos reported less than 200 of its customers were without gas service in Louisville, Mississippi, many of which are severely damaged homes, and that all leaks in the area were secure.

<http://www.wjtv.com/story/25376746/atmos-reps-say-beware-of-gas-leaks>

<https://twitter.com/atmosenergy>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Columbia May Declare State of Emergency due to 5-Week Blockade of EcoPetrol's Cano Limon-Covenas Pipeline – Energy Minister

Colombia's energy minister said on Tuesday there may be grounds for declaring a state of emergency if an indigenous community does not lift its five-week blockade preventing state-run oil company Ecopetrol from repairing the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline. The pipeline was shut March 25 after a bomb attack blamed on leftist rebels, causing the company to declare force majeure on at least 25 delivery contracts.

Reuters, 12:50 April 29, 2014

Iraqi Kurdish Oil Exports from Turkey Could Begin in May – Turkish Energy Minister

Turkey's Energy Minister said on Tuesday exports of Iraqi Kurdish oil stored at the port of Ceyhan could begin in May on the Mediterranean coast pending resolution of a dispute between Baghdad and Iraqi Kurdistan. The Kurds have sent 1.5 million barrels of oil through a new pipeline into storage tanks at Ceyhan, Turkey.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/132810/Minister_Iraqi_Kurdish_Oil_Exports_from_Turkey_Could_Begin_in_May#sthash.9prkjZYt.dpuf

Eni says Kazakhstan's Kashagan Pipeline Problem Mainly Related to Welding

The head of exploration and development at Eni said on Tuesday the main problem behind the shutdown of Kazakhstan's key Kashagan pipeline related to the welding and that the problem was worse than they considered. He said it was likely that two pipelines at the Kashagan field would need to be replaced and a tendering process for this had already begun with a final idea of costs and timing to be known in June.

Reuters, 10:58 April 29, 2014

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 29, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	101.64	102.16	93.60
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.78	4.77	4.16

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 & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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