



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, May 19, 2017

Electricity

Power Restoration Underway after Thunderstorms Hit Northeast U.S., Southeast Canada May 18–19

Power restoration was continuing after thunderstorms knocked out power to approximately 253,751 customers across the Northeast U.S. and Southeast Canada beginning on Thursday with impacts lasting into Friday. The storms produced heavy rain, hail, lightning, and winds of up to 65 mph. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Friday, approximately 58,720 customers remained without power. National Grid, the hardest hit utility with 98,000 customer outages in New York, said the majority of its outages were in Rensselaer, Albany, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington counties in New York. The utility said it was assessing the storm damage and no estimated time of power restoration was available for those areas. Hydro Quebec said its 66,000 customer outages were mainly caused by tripping circuit breakers and branches coming into contact with power lines. The table below shows the latest reported outages by utility.

Northeast U.S., Southeast Canada Customer Power Outages		
May 18–19, 2017		
Electric Utility	State	Latest Reported
Eversource	NH	266
National Grid	NY	17,381
Vermont Utilities	VT	2,500
Hydro Quebec	Quebec	12,358
Hydro One	Ontario	20,577
NB Power	New Brunswick	5,638
TOTAL*		58,720

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

Sources:

- <https://www.eversource.com/psnh/outage/outagemap.aspx>
- <https://www.nationalgridus.com/Upstate-NY-Home/Storms-Outages/Outage-Map>
- <http://www.vtoutages.com/Charts?StartDate=5%2F18%2F2017&EndDate=5%2F19%2F2017>
- <http://www.hydroone.com/StormCenter3/>
- <https://twitter.com/HydroOne>
- <http://nouvelles.hydroquebec.com/fr/pannes/hq/166/pannes-causees-par-des-orages-violents-accompagnes-de-forts-vents/>
- <http://www.nbpower.com/Open/Outages.aspx>
- <https://www.nbpower.com/blog/en/posts/2017/may/nb-power-restoration-update/>
- <http://poweroutages.hydroquebec.com/poweroutages/service-interruption-report/#bis>
- <http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/national/storms+cause+blackouts+quebec+ontario/13379332/story.html>
- <http://www.wcax.com/story/35470099/30k-ny-utility-customers-without-power-after-severe-storms>
- http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2017/05/thousands_without_power_across_several_counties_after_thunderstorm_rolls_through.html
- http://www.newyorkupstate.com/weather/2017/05/severe_storm_threat_increasing_for_upstate_ny_watch_likely_to_be_issued.html

Electrical Repairs Continue after Strong Storms Hit Central U.S. May 18–19

Repairs were continuing after strong storms knocked out power to approximately 132,000 customers in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma on Thursday with impacts lingering into Friday. Wind gusts of up to 70 mph were reported, downing trees and powerlines across the region. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Friday, 51,238 customers remained without power. Ameren, the hardest hit utility with 68,000 customer outages in Missouri, said crews were assessing repairs and restoration times were not immediately known. Oklahoma Gas and Electric, which reported 26,000 customer outages, said a large amount of damage was localized to specific neighborhoods and homes, which typically require additional time to make restorations. The utility had 560 crew members working to restore power with help from additional crews from Arkansas and Texas. The table below shows the latest reported outages by utility.

Central U.S. Customer Power Outages		
May 18–19, 2017		
Electric Utility	State	Latest Reported
Westar Energy	KS	800
Ameren	MO	41,976
KCP&L	MO	474
Oklahoma Gas and Electric	OK	5,878
PSO	OK	2,046
Cotton Electric Coop	OK	64
TOTAL*		51,238

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

Sources:

<http://outagemap.westarenergy.com/external/default.html>
<https://outagemap.ameren.com/>
<https://twitter.com/AmerenMissouri>
<http://outagemap.kcpl.com/external/default.html>
<https://twitter.com/OGandE>
<https://www.oge.com/wps/portal/oge/outages/systemwatch/?ut/>
<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/>
<https://twitter.com/cottonelectric>
<http://69.151.48.214/>
<http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/article151479812.html>
http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/thunderstorms-leave-without-power-down-trees-in-st-louis-area/article_89bed2ab-8b39-5289-9403-7f3eb85d4a36.html
<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/missouri/articles/2017-05-19/strong-storms-knock-out-power>

Update: Power Restoration Nears Completion after Storms, High Winds Hit Midwest May 17–19

Power restoration was continuing after strong storms producing lightning and high winds up to 70 mph knocked out power to approximately 257,100 customers across the Midwest beginning on Wednesday afternoon with impacts lasting into Friday. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Friday, 9,267 customers remained without power. Commonwealth Edison, the hardest hit utility with approximately 86,000 customer outages in Illinois, said it was able to restore the vast majority of power by 1:00 a.m. EDT Friday. DTE, which reported 76,000 customer outages in Michigan, said its crews were working 16-hour shifts around the clock to restore service. The utility said outages were scattered throughout southeast Michigan, with the majority concentrated in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb Counties. The table below shows the latest reported outages by utility.

Midwest Customer Power Outages		
May 17–19, 2017		
Electric Utility	State	Latest Reported
MidAmerican	IA	180
Commonwealth Edison	IL	1,797
DTE	MI	6,713
Consumers Energy	MI	440
Wisconsin Public Service	WI	32
We Energies	WI	105
TOTAL*		9,267

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

Sources:

<https://www.midamericanenergy.com/outagewatch/dsk.html>

https://twitter.com/MidAm_EnergyCo

<https://outagemap.comed.com/>

<https://www.comed.com/Outages/StormCenter/Pages/CurrentStormInformation.aspx>

<https://www.consumersenergy.com/outagemap>

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>

https://twitter.com/dte_energy

<https://accel.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx>

<https://www.we-energies.com/outagemapext/>

<http://woodtv.com/2017/05/18/thousands-without-power-as-wind-pummels-w-mi/>

<http://www.nbc26.com/news/overnight-power-outages-in-northeast-wisconsin>

https://twitter.com/we_energies

<http://www.fox47news.com/news/local-news/nearly-50000-customers-without-power-across-michigan>

Update: Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York at Full Power by May 19

On the morning of May 18 the unit was operating at 87 percent, reduced from full power on May 16.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

Solar Partners' 123 MW Ivanpah Solar Unit 1 in California Shut by May 18

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705181515.html>

WAPA-Desert Southwest Region's 525 MW Hoover Hydro Unit in California Reduced by May 18

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 145 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705181515.html>

Martinez Cogen Limited Partnership's 115 MW Natural Gas Unit in California Shut by May 18

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705181515.html>

Petroleum

Bengal Pipeline Halts Refined Product Shipments Due to Emergency Maintenance in Louisiana May 19

Bengal Pipeline Company on Friday notified the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of a temporary embargo on refined product pipeline shipments in southern Louisiana due to emergency maintenance. The filing did not specify the nature of the maintenance, nor an estimated completion date. The embargo will temporarily halt movements originating at the Norco and Garyville refineries and terminating at the Plantation Pipeline Junction in East Baton Rouge. All other movements under the company's tariff are unaffected by the embargo, according to the filing. The Bengal Pipeline system consists of two separate lines delivering products to Baton Rouge: a 305,000 b/d line running from the Motiva and Valero refineries in Norco, and from the Marathon refinery in Garyville; and a 210,000 b/d pipeline from the Motiva refinery in Convent. The system connects to the Plantation and Colonial pipeline systems in the Baton Rouge area. Bengal Pipeline Company is jointly owned by Colonial Pipeline Company and Shell Pipeline Company.

Reuters, 15:06 May 19, 2017

https://www.eia.gov/analysis/transportationfuels/padd1n3/pdf/transportation_fuels_padd1n3.pdf

BP's 413,500 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery Operating Normally despite Flaring May 18 – Sources

Operations were normal at BP Plc's Whiting, Indiana refinery despite flaring on Thursday morning and into the early afternoon, said sources familiar with plant operations. The sources said there were no malfunctions.

Reuters, 17:56 May 18, 2017

Valero Reports Process Unit Upset, Emissions at Its 335,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery May 19

Valero Energy Corp reported a process unit upset at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery on Friday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 16:21 May 19, 2017

Update: Citgo Reports FCCU Repairs Ongoing at its 157,500 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery May 19

Repairs to Citgo's fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) in the East Plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery will continue over the weekend, sources familiar with plant operations said on Friday. No date has been set for restarting the 69,000 b/d gasoline-producing FCCU, which was shut on Tuesday due to a line leak in the main production tower.

Reuters, 14:24 May 19, 2017

Tesoro Says No Offsite Impact from Leak at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery May 18

Tesoro on Thursday said it stopped an anhydrous ammonia leak from an exchanger at its Martinez, California refinery, according to a California Emergency Management Agency filing. The company said there was no offsite impacts and the cause of the incident was under investigation. Tesoro added that it did not anticipate any impact on its ability to fulfill customer product supply commitments.

Reuters, 21:17 May 18, 2017

DIR Approves Workplace Safety and Health Regulation to Reduce Risk of Major Incidents at Oil Refineries in California May 18

California's Department of Industrial Relations' (DIR) Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board on Thursday approved a new regulation to strengthen workplace safety and health standard at oil refineries across the state. The proposed regulation provides a framework for anticipating, preventing, and responding to hazards at refineries. Now that the Standards Board has approved the regulation, the state's Office of Administrative Law has 30 working days to review and approve the regulation. The Governor's Interagency Working Group on Refinery Safety, which was formed following a chemical release and fire at the Chevron refinery in Richmond in 2012, called for the establishment of an Interagency Refinery Task Force. The task force was mandated to improve workplace safety and health, emergency preparedness, and response procedures at refineries. The California Environmental Protection Agency formed the task force in August 2013, which includes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DIR, eight other state agencies, as well as local and regional agencies from across the state that have refineries in their jurisdictions.

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/DIRNews/2017/2017-37.pdf>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

U.S. Oil Awaits Approval to Build Ethanol Pipeline to the Port of Milwaukee in Wisconsin

U.S. Oil, a division of U.S. Venture Inc., is planning to construct a \$3 million pipeline that will allow the company to connect its Jones Island terminal site to the Port of Milwaukee for shipping bulk cargoes of ethanol to markets connected by the Great Lakes. As part of the project, the company's plan to acquire additional acreage near the port awaits final approval from the city's Common Council. If approved, the land would be used to construct an approximately 1,000-foot pipeline to connect the Jones Island tank farm to the port's liquid cargo pier.

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/milwaukee/2017/05/18/plans-underway-ship-ethanol-port-milwaukee-lake-michigan/327852001/>

POET Biorefining to Expand Production Capacity at Its Marion Ethanol Plant by 80 Million Gallons per Year in Ohio

POET Biorefining issued a press release on Tuesday detailing the company's proposed expansion project at its Marion ethanol facility in Ohio. POET plans to expand the plant's production capacity from nearly 70 million gallons per year to 150 million gallons per year. The project will cost approximately \$120 million and provide more than 225 construction-related jobs and 18-21 new permanent jobs for the area. Site work is planned to begin this summer with construction activities starting in the fall, and a completion estimated for Q3 2018.

<http://www.poet.com/pr/poet-biorefining-marion-to-double-capacity-with-expansion>

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 19, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	50.38	47.83	48.11
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.13	3.20	1.91

Source: Reuters

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/weekly/>

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

<https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/weekly/>

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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