



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, May 23, 2017

Electricity

TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Reduced to 89 Percent by May 23

On the morning of May 22 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Update: AES's 498 MW Alamos Natural Gas-Fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by May 22

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 118 MW that began on May 21.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705221515.html>

AES's 495 MW Alamos Natural Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Shut by May 22

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201705221515.html>

Petroleum

Update: Shell Completes HCU Restart, Resumes Operations of Main Conversion Units at Its 235,000 b/d Convent, Louisiana Refinery May 23

Royal Dutch Shell completed the restart of the 45,000 b/d heavy oil hydrocracker unit (HCU) at its Convent, Louisiana refinery and brought the unit to full capacity for the first time in nine months, a source familiar with plant operations said on Tuesday. It was the third restart attempt this year, as well as the first time the HCU achieved normal production capacity since a fire damaged one of the unit's processing trains on August 11, 2016. The HCU ran at half capacity from late November to early March. Shell also said it resumed normal operations of its main conversion units at the refinery.

Reuters, 11:14 May 23, 2017

Reuters, 10:11 May 23, 2017

Shell Reports Leak at Its 285,500 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery May 22

Royal Dutch Shell reported an onsite leak at its Deer Park, Texas refinery on May 22, according to a community information phone line message.

Reuters, 16:49 May 22, 2017

Total Shuts Residual Unit after Fire at Its 225,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery May 23 – Sources

Total SA shut the residual processing complex at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery on Tuesday after a brief flange fire broke out, injuring two contract workers, according to Gulf Coast market sources. The flange fire was quickly extinguished, the sources added, and a Total spokeswoman said both workers were treated at the refinery for minor burns and returned to work.

Reuters, 14:17 May 23, 2017

U.S. DOE Expresses Grid Reliability, Supply Disruption Concerns in Southern California Due to Ongoing Closure of SoCalGas' 86 Bcf Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility May 19

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) sent a letter to the California Energy Commission (CEC) last Friday expressing concern about local electricity and natural gas reliability risks in Southern California from the continued closure of Southern California Gas' (SoCalGas) Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility. Without the availability of Aliso Canyon, the region remains vulnerable to energy supply disruptions and possible electricity blackouts, the Acting Under Secretary for Science and Energy at the U.S. DOE said in the letter. California has prevented SoCalGas from injecting gas into Aliso Canyon since the uncontrollable gas leak from a failed well at the facility which lasted from October 2015–February 2016. Following that incident, officials with the CEC and other state stakeholders required the company to conduct a rigorous set of safety and integrity tests on each of the 114 remaining wells at the facility prior to reauthorizing the injection and withdrawal of natural gas from the reservoir. In addition, the working inventory in the reservoir was restricted to a maximum of 15 Bcf of supply, which is significantly below the facility's total working storage capacity of about 86 Bcf. SoCalGas completed all tests by early 2017 and has formally requested approval with the state in order to resume operations. Reuters, 16:34 May 22, 2017

DCP Midstream Reports Flaring at Its 70 MMcf/d Fullerton Gas Plant in Texas May 20

DCP Midstream reported the West turbine shut down at its Fullerton gas plant. The site had to flare to keep pressure off of the receivers. The turbine helper was started up and the pressure was lowered to eliminate the need for the flare.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=258320>

Consumers Energy Investing Nearly \$440 Million to Enhance Safety, Reliability of Natural Gas System in Michigan

Consumers Energy on May 22 announced plans to spend nearly \$440 million in 2017 to modernize its natural gas system. Upgrade projects include \$75 million to complete 40 improvement projects and replace 67 miles of pipe with plastic and steel; \$120 million in its natural gas system to keep up with growth in Michigan; and \$183 million in pipeline integrity to help ensure the continued safe delivery of natural gas.

<https://old.consumersenergy.com/News.aspx?id=8756&year=2017>

Other News

Update: U.S. DOE Reports Protective Cover Installation Complete Over Partially-Collapsed Tunnel at Hanford Nuclear Site in Washington May 22

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on Monday said workers finished installing a protective cover over a partially-collapsed tunnel that contained radioactive waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Washington. The tunnel, which partially collapsed on May 9, contained highly radioactive wastes left over from production of plutonium for nuclear weapons. The hole left by the partial collapse was filled with more than 50 truckloads of soil the next day. DOE said no workers were injured and no airborne radiation escaped into the environment as a result of the incident. The agency said the cover will provide additional protection while work continues to find a permanent fix. The 360-foot long rail tunnel that collapsed was built in 1956 from timber, concrete, and steel and the entrance was sealed in 1965. The tunnel contains about 780 cubic yards of waste—a mixture of radioactive and chemical waste and irradiated equipment, including eight contaminated rail cars used to haul the fuel rods. Reuters, 21:17 May 22, 2017

International News

Rebels Attack Natural Gas Pipeline in Niger Delta Region May 20

Suspected oil rebels on May 20 attacked a natural gas pipeline operated by Nigerian Gas Company Limited near Sanomi creek in Nigeria's restive delta region, a company spokesman said. The attack and subsequent explosion occurred close to the oil hub of Warri in the Delta state, and is the first attack on Nigeria's oil and gas infrastructure in months. Saturday's conflict took place amid ongoing peace negotiations between Niger Delta leaders and President Muhammadu Buhari's government.

Reuters, 8:47 May 23, 2017

<https://guardian.ng/news/suspected-oil-militants-attack-niger-delta-pipeline/>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 23, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	51.12	48.64	48.02
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	3.21	3.27	1.81
\$/Million Btu			

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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