



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, May 26, 2011

Electricity

Fresh Batch of Storms Batter Utilities in the U.S. Midwest, Cutting Power to Over 180,000 Customers May 25-26

Just days after a severe spring storm knocked out power to about 367,000 customers in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Tennessee, a new system caused a second wave of power outages across the U.S. Midwest. At least 182,671 customers lost power in Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Illinois, and Kentucky the night of May 25-26. Utility companies quickly restored power to many customers, leaving under 57,000 without power as of latest reports. According to a FirstEnergy spokesman, the storms affected five separate substations in Richland County, Ohio. The storms also caused significant damage to the Greensburg, Indiana municipal airport. For more information about the storms that hit the U.S. Midwest on May 23-24, please see the Energy Assurance Daily report from May 24.

U.S. Midwest Customer Power Outages			
May 25-26			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Duke Energy	OH	35,374	2,965
FirstEnergy	OH	20,440	<12,500**
Duke Energy	IN	40,000	26,255
Nashville Electric Service	TN	22,000	8,225
Middle Tennessee EMC	TN	15,000	1,000
Ameren	IL	28,575	4,234
LG&E	KY	15,000	1,223
Duke Energy	KY	6,282	502
TOTAL*		182,671	<56,904

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

** FirstEnergy reported a range of predicted customers without power, with 12,500 as the upper limit.

Sources:

<http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?id=1424050>

OH:

Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/outages/current.asp>

FirstEnergy: <http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/article/20110526/NEWS01/105260304/Storm-ends-chase-cuts-power?odyssey=nav/head> , http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=OH ,
http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/messages.do?state_code=OH ,
http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/regionalMessages.do?state_code=OH

IN:

Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp> ,
<http://www.wibc.com/news/Story.aspx?id=1424038> ,

TN:

Nashville Electric Service: <http://www.nespower.com/OutageMap/default.aspx> ,
<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110526/NEWS01/110525036/Overnight-storms-bring-more-trees-power-lines-down-across-Midstate>

Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation: <http://www.mtemc.com/news.cfm/id/464>

IL:

Ameren: <http://www.illinoisoutage.com/go/doc/1787/1099023/> ,
<http://www.illinoisoutage.com/go/page/1787/27999/>

KY:

Louisville Gas & Electric (LG&E): <http://stormcenter.lge-ku.com/default.html> , <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110526/NEWS01/305260044/4-500-still-without-power-Jefferson-County-tornadoes-reported-near-Bedford-Brownstown-Indiana?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Home>
Duke Energy: <http://www.duke-energy.com/kentucky/outages/current.asp>

Update: Entergy Reports Over 24,000 Customers Lose Power in Arkansas and Mississippi May 25-26

Entergy reported a peak of 13,115 customers lost power in Arkansas on May 25, and a peak of 10,969 customers without power in Mississippi on May 26. As of latest reports, 3,327 Arkansas customers and 7,469 Mississippi customers were still in the dark.

<http://viewoutage.entergy.com/ar.aspx>
<http://viewoutage.entergy.com/ms.aspx>

Update: Empire District Electric Still Has 11,500 Missouri Customers in the Dark May 26

The cooperative reported on its website that 11,500 customers are still without power in southwestern Missouri as of May 26, down from a peak of 20,000 after a devastating storm and tornado passed through Joplin, Missouri on May 22-23. The cooperative announced that the number of customer outages may “fluctuate due to weather or other challenges that may arise during the restoration process.” Ameren reported on its website that it had restored power to 72,000 Missouri customers who lost power earlier this week – according to its outage map, only scattered outages remain.

Empire District Electric Cooperative: <https://www.empiredistrict.com/> ,
<https://www.empiredistrict.com/Outages/OutageMap.aspx>
Ameren: <http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=MO> ,
<http://www.ameren.com/sites/ae/OutageCenter/Pages/default.aspx>

Update: Less than 12,000 Customers are without Power in Oklahoma and Only a Small Number of Outages Remain in Texas May 26

Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) reported that 11,826 customers were still without power the morning of May 26, after severe weather knocked out power to 45,177 OG&E customers from May 24-25. Other affected utilities in Texas and Oklahoma reported only scattered outages.

<http://www.kjrh.com/dpp/news/state/Some-20,780-Oklahoma-customers-without-electricity>
<http://www.oncor.com/community/outages/#>
http://oaec.coop/Latest_News.php

Update: Most Dominion Power Customers Restored in Southeastern Virginia by May 26

Dominion reported only 3,747 customers currently without power, down from a peak of 192,000 on May 24. All customers are due to be restored by this evening.

<http://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>
<http://twitter.com/#!/DomVAPower/status/73718447669903360>

Update: Entergy's 951 MW Indian Point Nuclear Unit 2 in New York Ramped Up to 63 Percent by May 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 1 percent. The unit was shut by May 20 to replace three high voltage bushings on a main electrical transformer.

Reuters, 08:00 May 26, 2011

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Update: TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Ramped Up to 43 Percent by May 26

All three units at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) plant were shut on April 27 after losing outside power due to thunderstorms and tornadoes throughout the U.S. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 21 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

NMC's 578 MW Monticello Nuclear Unit in Minnesota Ramped Up to 35 Percent by May 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 13 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Alternate Power Supply Interruption During Unit 2 Refueling Outage at Exelon's 2,345 MW Limerick Nuclear Plant in Pennsylvania Reported to NRC May 25

According to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the power supply interruption "deenergized the 2A RPS/UPS power distribution panel loads including the Division IA and IIA RPS relays and Division IA and IIA NSSSS [Nuclear Steam Supply Shutoff System] relays."

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110526en.html>

Unit 1 Turbine Driven Auxiliary Feedwater System Inoperable at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant in Tennessee, According to NRC Report May 25

According to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Turbine Driven Auxiliary Feedwater System had been recently rebuilt.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110526en.html>

Fire at Bluegrass Energy Substation Causes Outages in Madison County, Kentucky May 25

Areas of northern Berea were without power due to the incident. The explosion occurred about 1 a.m. and by approximately 5 a.m. firefighters had contained the blaze. There are estimates of when power would be restored.

<http://www.lex18.com/news/explosion-at-madison-county-electrical-substation>

Hydro-Québec Announces Plans for 3 Million Smart Meter Installations in Quebec, Canada May 25

Three pilot projects in Boucherville, Montreal and Memphrémagog will be completed by May 2012, before the new meters are installed throughout the province. The company expects installations to be complete by 2017.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/hydro-quebec-announces-rollout-of-advanced-metering-infrastructure-122586423.html>

PSE&G Submits Application to New Jersey Board of Public Utilities for North Central Reliability Project in New Jersey by May 26

The project includes upgrades to transmission lines and substations with the goal of reducing transmission congestion. Upgrades could begin in early 2012, with completion scheduled for June 2014.

Reuters, 11:51 May 26, 2011

NYISO Estimates the State Has Enough Electricity Supply to Address Expected Peak Summer Demand

NYISO estimates that the state has sufficient generating capacity, transmission capability and demand-side resources to meet the summer electricity demand, even factoring in the possibility of extreme conditions.

Reuters, 14:35 May 25, 2011

Petroleum

Update: Plains All American Pipeline LP Restarts 150,000 b/d Southern Leg of the Rainbow Oil Pipeline in Alberta, Canada May 25

The open portion of the pipeline is flowing at 136,000 b/d. Wildfires and a power outage caused the pipeline shutdown last week. Canadian Natural is also restarting 40,000 b/d Pelican Lake oil field, which had been shutdown as a result of the Rainbow pipeline outage. The northern portion of the 187,000 bpd line remains closed following an oil spill on April 29.

Reuters, 17:54 May 25, 2011

Reuters, 13:07 May 25, 2011

Pump Seal Failure Causes Oil Leak on Enterprise Products Partners LP Crude Pipeline in Seminole, Oklahoma by May 26

A filing with the National Response Center indicates “It is unknown when the leak began.”

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-05-23/oil-leak-reported-on-enterprise-products-pipeline-nrc-says.html>

Valero Performs Unplanned Maintenance on Gas Oil Treatment Unit at the 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi Refinery East Plant in Texas May 26

The company indicates maintenance will take place May 25-26.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=154909>

Reuters, 11:36 May 26, 2011

Reuters, 14:47 May 26, 2011

Marathon Oil Corp. Restarts Units at its 206,000 b/d Robinson Refinery in Illinois May 26

Storms caused the outage on Wednesday, May 25. Power has been restored back to the refinery and the company is in the process of restarting the units.

Reuters, Thursday, 26 May 2011 13:02

Power Failure Results in Shutdown of Coker Unit at Total’s 232,000 b/d Port Arthur Refinery in Texas May 26

The shutdown resulted in flaring for three hours. The unit was restarted thereafter.

Reuters, 12:50 May 26, 2011

Pasadena Refining Reports Alkylation Unit Snag at its 100,000 b/d Refinery in Pasadena, Texas on May 26

According to a filing with state regulators, a broken pipe nipple on the pump resulted in flaring.

Reuters, 12:00 May 26, 2011

Brief Process Upset at the Alky Unit at Delek’s 60,000 b/d Refinery in Tyler, Texas by May 26

Reuters, 20:59 May 25, 2011

Natural Gas

Update: Turkmenistan’s South Iolotan to be Second Largest Natural Gas Field in the World, According to British Auditor

South Iolotan is estimated to be second only in size to the South Pars field in Iran. Officials estimate reserves at South Iolotan to be equal to 742 trillion cubic feet. Turkmenistan has the world’s fourth-largest natural gas reserves.

Reuters, 13:18 May 25, 2011

Other News

Repairs Performed at North Robertson Gas Plant in Seminole, Texas May 25-26

The electrical system at the plant was damaged by recent fires. The repairs required flaring of gas associated with units TB1, TB2 and TB3.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=154949>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=154950>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=154951>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices May 26, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	100.58	98.66	71.26
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.37	4.15	4.08

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Gasoline Leak Prompts Evacuations at Post Office Square Shopping Plaza in Essex Junction, Vermont May 24

<http://www.wcax.com/story/14710134/gas-leak-shuts-down-essex-shopping-plaza>

38 MW Chestnut Flats Wind Farm in Blair County, Pennsylvania to Enter Commercial Operation by the End of 2011

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delmarva-Revises-Wind-Power-zacks-495381904.html?x=0&.v=1>

BP, Rio Tinto, and Multinational Partners Deem 250 MW Kern Hydrogen Plant in Kern County, California Uneconomic, Arrange for Sale of Plant

<http://www.bakersfield.com/news/business/economy/x504581245/BP-Rio-Tinto-back-off-proposed-Kern-hydrogen-plant>

Malfunction Causes Turbine to Shut at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas May 25

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=154944>

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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