



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, May 27, 2008

Electricity

Storms Cut Power to 58,532 Connecticut Light & Power Customers in Connecticut May 27

Heavy storms downed trees and power lines, and cut electricity to 58,532 Connecticut Light & Power customers May 27.

As of 4 PM EDT: <http://www.cl-p.com/stormcenter/map.asp>
<http://www.nbc30.com/news/16405254/detail.html>

Storms, Tornado Cut Power to 30,000 Xcel Customers in Minnesota May 25—One Dead, Nine Others Injured

Severe storms and a tornado ripped through Minnesota May 25, cutting power to 30,000 Xcel customers. The storms left one dead, and injured nine others in Hugo, Minnesota; 50 homes were ruined.

<http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6622110&version=61&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/05/25/xcel/>

Power Failure Shuts Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuke Unit 2 in Connecticut May 24

The unit stalled after it lost off-site power early May 24. It had been restarting from a May 22 outage. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission labeled the incident an "unusual event," and the company is continuing to investigate the cause.

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--millstoneincident0524may24.0.1044135.story>

CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydroelectric Unit in California Reduced May 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 341 MW on May 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805231515.html>

Duke Energy's 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Power Block 2 in California Reduced May 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 260 MW on May 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805231515.html>

Duke's 337 MW Morro Bay Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut May 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage on May 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805231515.html>

Luminant to Idle 545 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas

The company expected to halt the unit May 26 to repair a tube leak, according to filings with state regulators. It did not say when the unit would be back online.

Reuters, 09:12 May 27, 2008

PNM's 152 MW Twin Oaks Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas Shut May 25

Reuters, 11:12 May 27, 2008

OPG Shuts 535 MW Lennox Oil-and-Gas-fired Unit 1 in Ontario by May 27

Reuters, 08:52 May 27, 2008

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 1 in Ontario Shuts by May 27

Reuters, 08:47 May 27, 2008

ENMAX's 250 MW Calgary Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut May 26

Reuters, 11:12 May 27, 2008

Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuke Unit 2 in Pennsylvania at Full Power by May 25

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 24 the unit was operating at 60 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

TVA's 1,125 MW Watts Bar Nuke Unit 1 in Tennessee Ramped Up to 70 Percent by May 27

The company shut the unit May 18 to fix a hydrogen leak in a generator-cooling system. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 26 the unit was operating at 3 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:15 May 27, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuke Unit 1 in Illinois at Full Power by May 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 66 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuke Unit in Washington Ramped Up to 85 Percent by May 27

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 26 the unit was operating at 49 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Exelon's 1,093 MW Peach Bottom Nuke Unit 3 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 95 Percent by May 25

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 24 the unit was operating at 63 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Southern's 870 MW Hatch Nuke Unit 2 in Georgia at Full Power by May 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 88 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Progress Energy's 834 MW Crystal River Nuke Unit 3 in Florida at Full Power by May 25

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 24 the unit was operating at 85 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

AEP to Restart 675 MW Pirkey Coal-fired Power Plant in Texas May 25-29

American Electric Power (AEP) shut the unit by May 23 to repair a boiler tube leak. The company expected to return the unit to service May 25-29, according to a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 09:36 May 27, 2008

Luminant Restarts 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas by May 27

The unit tripped May 26 after a cable malfunction caused a main boiler control computer error. The company expected to return the unit to service later May 26. A spokesperson confirmed that the unit returned to service, according to a May 27 news source.

Reuters, 10:14 May 27, 2008

Bloomberg News, 10:50 May 27, 2008

Entergy's 730 MW Palisades Nuke Unit in Michigan at Full Power by May 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of May 25 the unit was operating at 22 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Duke's 756 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Returns to Service May 23

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805231515.html>

Intergen's 322 MW Central La Rosita Gas-fired Unit in Mexico Returns to Service May 24

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805241515.html>

City of Vernon's 134 MW Malburg Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service May 26

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage on May 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805261515.html>

Update: Bruce Power's 822 MW Bruce B Nuclear Power Station in Ontario Back in Service May 25

The company halted the unit May 23 to repair control room computer equipment.

Reuters, 08:30 May 27, 2008

Update: OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 4 in Ontario Back in Service by May 27

The unit went offline by April 22.

Reuters, 08:47 May 27, 2008

Update: OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 5 in Ontario Back in Service by May 27

The unit went offline by May 19.

Reuters, 08:47 May 27, 2008

Update: OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 3 Returns to Service by May 27

The unit stalled by May 22.

Reuters, 08:47 May 27, 2008

With Two New Power Plants and the 400-500 MW Wausau, Wisconsin-Duluth, Minnesota Transmission Line, Wisconsin Says Summer Energy Supply Should Meet Demand

Three major electricity projects should keep Wisconsin well-supplied for the summer, according to a Public Service Commission official. We Energies opened its 545 MW Port Washington natural gas-fired unit May 23, and Wisconsin Public Service's 500 MW Weston 4 coal-fired power plant should open by summer. In addition, American Transmission's Wausau, Wisconsin to Duluth, Minnesota transmission line—opened this year—can move 400 MW to 500 MW of electricity per day.

<http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/news/weston4.aspx>

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=754123>

http://wecnews.wisconsinenergy.com/news/newsrel/pages/newsrelease_123

Soaring Costs at Issue as Developers Plan New Nuclear Power Plants

New nuclear power plants could cost between \$5 billion and \$12 billion, according to recent estimates. Those totals mark a two-to-four fold surge from prior projections. Rising commodities prices, a lack of skilled labor and diminished supplies are at least partly to blame for the price boom.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121055252677483933.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

NRC Says FPL Needs to Improve Operations at Turkey Point Nuclear Reactors in Florida

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said Florida Power & Light (FPL) does not have enough employees at its Turkey Point facility, even as FPL seeks to add two new reactors. The NRC toured the plant this month, and said FPL's workers log too many overtime hours.

http://www.palmbeachpost.com/opinion/content/opinion/epaper/2008/05/24/a10a_fpl_edit_0524.html

Vectren Withdraws Request to Build 100 MW Gas-fired Peaking Unit in Indiana – Signs Agreement for Long-term Purchase of Power Instead

Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana signed a deal to purchase 100 MW of electricity from 2010 to 2012. With that purchase, the company said it would no longer need its proposed 100 MW peaking unit.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=121125&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1150366&highlight=>

Petroleum

Shell Curtails Oil Production in Nigeria After Rebel Attack

Rebels assaulted a Shell oil pipeline May 26, as Shell worked to fix damage wrought by prior militant attacks. The latest attack caused an oil spill along the Nembe Creek trunk line in the Niger Delta, and forced Shell to shut in an unspecified quantity of oil output. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) claimed responsibility for the assault, and Shell confirmed the attack. MEND also said it had killed 11 soldiers, but a Nigerian spokesperson said those claims were untrue.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/GCA-Olympics/idUSL2630754820080526>

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5iJvS5i3wZ0a-WJX9hiWslEq2YvA>

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=62290

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/7013820.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Hydrocracker Upset at ExxonMobil's 563,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery May 24— Company Resumes Normal Operations by May 26

A leak on an oil skimming valve in a sour water drum caused an upset in the Hydrocracking Unit 1, according to the company. The incident resulted in flaring, but did not affect production, the company said.

Bloomberg News, 10:43 May 26, 2008

Reuters, 15:28 May 26, 2008

Valero Halts 55,000 b/d FCC at 160,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery May 27

The company shut the 55,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) after it found a leak in an expansion joint. A spokesperson said the outage should not be “lengthy,” but declined to give an exact date for the unit’s return.

Reuters, 11:09 May 27, 2008

Update: Repairs to Fire-Damaged Unit Behind Schedule at Valero's 275,000 b/d Aruba Refinery

A fire damaged a 155,000 b/d crude oil vacuum distillation unit in January. The company had expected to restart the unit by mid-May, but repairs are still ongoing, as of May 27. According to a spokesperson, however, it is “reasonable to expect” the unit to return to service soon.

Reuters, 10:56 May 27, 2008

Valero Delays Restart Date for 50,000 b/d Coker at 210,000 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery

The company planned to shut the unit for 37 days, starting in March or April. It had expected to return the coker to service by mid-May, but work was not complete, as of May 27. The unit could be back online soon, according to a spokesperson.

Reuters, 10:56 May 27, 2008

Oil Spill Shuts in 138,000 b/d Crude Output in Norway's North Sea May 24 Most Production Back by May 25

An oil spill forced StatoilHydro to halt output at three North Sea oilfields May 24: the 75,000 b/d Snorre A, the 44,000 b/d Vigdis, and the 19,000 b/d Statfjord A. Workers resumed production at Snorre A and Vigdis on Sunday, May 25, but were still cleaning Statfjord A on Monday, May 26.

Reuters, 08:09 May 24, 2008

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=62284

Update: CHS Completes Upgrade, Boosts Fuel Output at 60,000 b/d Montana Refinery

The project included a 15,000 b/d coker, a sulfur recovery unit and upgrades to process units throughout the refinery. Though the refinery's throughput remains rated at 60,000 barrels-per-day, the addition of the coker will increase the refinery's gasoline production by about 9,500 b/d.

<http://chsinc.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=72>

Natural Gas

Update: Palomar Gas Transmission Announces Non-Binding Open Season for Proposed 1.3 Bcf/d, 36-inch, 220-mile Natural Gas Pipeline in Oregon

The pipeline would move Rocky Mountain natural gas from TransCanada's existing GTN System in central Oregon to Northwest Pipeline's Grants Pass Lateral and NW Natural's distribution system near Molalla, Oregon. It would also include a section to allow deliveries along NW Natural's system west and north of Molalla. Pending approvals, the pipeline would open for service in late 2011. The current open season runs through June 20, 2008. Palomar is a joint venture of TransCanada Corporation and Northwest Natural Gas Company.

http://www.transcanada.com/news/2008_news/20080526.html

Route Changed for Proposed Rockies Alliance Gas Pipeline

The route of Questar Pipeline Corp. and Alliance Pipeline Inc.'s proposed Rockies Alliance Pipeline has changed. The companies now plan to deliver gas from Wamsutter, Wyoming through the Cheyenne area and on to a gas trading hub in Ventura, Iowa. Originally the pipeline was to run from northeast Wyoming to the Emerson natural gas trading hub on the border of Minnesota and Canada but the route was changed after receiving comments from shippers. Under the original plan, the proposed pipeline's capacity would be 1.4 Bcf/d.

<http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2008/05/26/news/wyoming/26-pipeline.txt>

Update: SES Scraps Plans for 1 Bcf/d LNG Terminal at Port of Long Beach, California

The project faced strong activist opposition, and regulatory, technical and political hurdles. In January, 2007 the Port of Long Beach rejected SES's environmental documents, and declined to complete the review process. A court later upheld the port's right to abandon the review.

http://www.cunninghamreport.com/news_item.php?id=311

Other News

DOE Inks \$2.7 Billion Contract with Shaw Areva MOX Services to Build Nuclear Fuel Plant in South Carolina

The facility will convert weapons-grade plutonium into fuel for nuclear reactors. It will be the first such plant in the United States. DOE will own the plant, but Shaw Areva MOX Services will operate it. It will be located at the Savannah River nuclear complex in South Carolina.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/05/23/business/EU-FIN-France-US-Nuclear.php>

<http://www.thestate.com/local/story/414443.html>

Green Hunter Energy to Open Biodiesel Plant on Houston Ship Channel June 2

GreenHunter Energy will open the nation's largest biodiesel production plant to date on June 2. The facility will produce 105 million gallons of "white-water" B100 biodiesel per year. The converted waste-oil refinery on the Houston Ship Channel gives GreenHunter's renewable fuels campus direct deepwater access and the ability to transport products via barge, rail, and truck. Generators at the site will provide enough electricity for GreenHunter to sell unneeded power back to the grid. The facility also includes basic terminal operations and 700,000 barrels of storage capacity for feedstock management. The plant will produce biodiesel from multiple feedstocks, including non-edible sources such as tallow and jatropha.

<http://sev.prnewswire.com/oil-energy/20080522/LATH08922052008-1.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices May 27, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	129.73	128.93	64.11
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	11.56	11.10	7.47

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Storms Cut Power to 10,000 We Energies Customers, 6,000 Others in Wisconsin May 25

<http://www.wsaw.com/home/headlines/19257239.html>

<http://www.wbay.com/Global/story.asp?S=8379994>

Rain Storm Cuts Power to 15,000 AmerenUE Customers in Missouri Over Weekend

http://www.bnd.com/breaking_news/story/352036.html

Spectra Energy to Pursue Feasibility of Large-Scale Carbon Capture and Storage Project Near Fort Nelson Natural Gas Processing Plant in British Columbia

http://www.spectraenergy.com/news/releases/2008/May/20080526_01.asp

Libya Aims to Boost Oil Output to 2 Million b/d This Year, Targeting 3 Million b/d by 2012

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=62289

Strike Stalls 17 Oil Tankers at Fos-Lavera Oil Port in France May 27

Reuters, 09:31 May 27, 2008

TransAlta to Boost Capacity at Summerview Wind Farm in Alberta by 66 MW, to a Total 136 MW—Project to Enter Service in First Quarter, 2010

Reuters, 09:13 May 27, 2008

Update: After May 10 Fire, Ineos to Restart Diesel-Producing Hydrocracker by End of May at 200,000 b/d Grangemouth Refinery in United Kingdom

Reuters, 12:53 May 27, 2008

Crane Collapse Kills One at Construction Site Near Kansas City Power & Light's Iatan Power Plant in Missouri—Incident Should not Postpone Company's Proposed Summer, 2010 Start Date for New Coal-fired Power Plant

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=1409149>

North Dakota's Public Service Commission Denies Groups' Request to Postpone Evaluation of Otter Tail Power and Montana-Dakota Utilities' Proposed Big Stone II Power Facility

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=10364023

Update: West Virginia’s State Supreme Court Votes Not to Hear NiSource’s Appeal of \$404 Million Class Action Lawsuit Verdict from 2007—NiSource to Appeal Case to U.S. Supreme Court

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/nisource-to-appeal-w-va-case-to-u-s-supreme-court.406832.shtml>

Pipeline Explosion Halts Natural Gas Movement from Iran to Turkey May 25-26

<http://www.africasia.com/services/news/newsitem.php?area=mideast&item=080526142242.c3jouui1.php>

NRC Says Containment Leak at Indian Point Nuclear Plant in New York Within Regulatory Limits

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/25/nyregion/nyregionspecial2/25nukewe.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

Contractor Arrested at Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant in New Jersey After Drugs Uncovered During Vehicle Search

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080523/NEWS/80523084>

At Secretary Bodman’s Request, National Coal Council Study Highlights Methods to Increase Clean Coal Use

http://www.upi.com/International_Security/Energy/Briefing/

Power Plant Construction Costs up 19 Percent From Last Year, 69 Percent from 2005—Price Surge Contributing to Higher Electricity Rates

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121184813975221465.html>

Oncor to Purchase, Install 3 Million “Smart” Meters in Texas—Move Should Reduce Utilities’ Costs and Boost Reliability

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121185846630321989.html>

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.

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

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