



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday, June 15, 2007

Electricity

Wisconsin Energy's 518 MW Point Beach Nuke Unit 1 in Wisconsin Shut June 15

The company said the unit stopped sending power to the grid this morning because a bearing related to a turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump was hotter than it was supposed to be.

Bloomberg News, 10:59 June 15, 2007

Reuters, 11:33 June 15, 2007

Two 521+ MW Coal-fired Units Shut at Dominion's Mt. Storm Power Plant in West Virginia June 15 – Traders

Reuters, 13:33 June 15, 2007

Dominion's 584 MW Kincaid Coal-fired Unit in Illinois Shut June 15 – Traders

Reuters, 13:33 June 15, 2007

AES's 246 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 8 in California Shut June 14

Reuters, 13:33 June 15, 2007

Mirant's 237 MW Contra Costa Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Shut June 14

Reuters, 13:33 June 15, 2007

Petroleum

EIA Tells Senate: US Needs 1.2 Million b/d Gasoline Imports to Avoid Price Crunch

Energy Information Administration head Guy Caruso told a Senate committee on June 14 that the United States will need to import gasoline at a rate of about 1.2 million b/d to avoid "persistent pressure on gasoline prices." According to recent EIA statistics, the U.S. imported 1.15 million b/d during the week ending June 8.

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/6392963.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Oil Prices Rise to 9-Month High on Concern Refiners Won't Meet Demand – Bloomberg

According to a Bloomberg News story, crude oil prices are at the highest level in 9 months on concerns that because of continuing operational problems, U.S. refiners will be unable to keep up with the summer's growing gasoline demand.

Bloomberg News, June 15, 2007

U.S. Crude Oil Imports Drop in April with Steep Decline in Nigerian Volumes

According to new EIA data, U.S. crude oil imports fell in April compared with March, largely because of sharp declines in cargoes from Mexico, Angola, Kuwait and especially Nigeria. Compensating for the fewer barrels from those countries were higher volumes from Canada, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/company_level_imports/current/data/import.xls

Oil Daily, June 15, 2007

FCCU, Alkylation Unit, Blower and Compressor Shut at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 14

According to a Bloomberg News story, a lightning strike on June 14 idled the fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), an alkylation unit, the main blower and a compressor. Bloomberg News quotes a Total SA spokesman as saying that the FCCU and alkylation unit would be back in service late June 15. According to a filing with Texas regulators, the main air blower tripped during heavy lightning on June 14. During the restart the compressor tripped on a high level in the suction drum. The blower was put back on at twenty minutes later and charge was started back to the unit four hours after that. The compressor was restarted early June 15.

Bloomberg News, 11:48 June 15, 2007

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=92621>

Hydrocracking Unit Shut at Valero's 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery June 14

According to a filing with Texas regulators, the hydrocracking unit at the refinery's east plant shutdown due to loss of filter seal. Valero is working to repair equipment and return the unit to normal operation as quickly as possible.

The shutdown could last through this afternoon. According to the Valero website, the unit has a capacity of 12,000 b/d. A Valero spokesman said on Thursday night it appeared the hydrocracker shutdown would have no material impact on production.

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=92617>

<http://www.valero.com/AboutUs/Refineries/CorpusChristi.htm>

Reuters, 23:36 June 14, 2007

Hydrotreater, Two SCOT Units Shut at Alon USA's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery June 15

Alon USA said that a 22,000 b/d hydrotreater unit would be shut for a few hours after a storm briefly knocked out power but the shutdown will not have an impact on production. According to a filing with Texas regulators, the No. 1 and No. 2 Shell Off-gas Treating (SCOT) units were also shut due to the outage.

Bloomberg News, 11:10 June 15, 2007

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=92631>

http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/refinery_capacity_data/current/refcap06.xls

Enterprise Completes 240,000 b/d Expansion of Natural Gas Liquids Import/Export Terminal Along the Houston Ship Channel

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. announced on June 14 the completion of a project to expand the capabilities of its import/export terminal at the Houston Ship Channel to handle additional volumes of natural gas liquids (NGLs) and liquefied petroleum gases (LPGs). The expansion doubles the offloading capacity of the facility from 240,000 b/d to 480,000 b/d and provides the flexibility to simultaneously unload product from two vessels or two separate products from the same vessel. In addition, the terminal's maximum loading rate for exports has increased 14 percent from 140,000 b/d to 160,000 b/d.

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bw/070614/20070614006039.html?v=1>

Update: Freed Nigerian Oil Militant Pledges to Continue Struggle but End Criminal Acts

Mujahid Dokubo-Asari, a Nigerian former militia leader, whose release yesterday raised hopes of improved security in the Niger Delta, has vowed to continue his struggle for local control of oil wealth but not in a criminal way. Asari said: "I will not use any means that will be criminal, that will be counter-productive to the environment and the health of our people. But I want to assure you that I will never give up the struggle."

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L15379470.htm>

Shell Planning Cost Cuts at Nigerian Operations

Royal Dutch Shell is planning to cut costs by at least \$100 million at its Nigerian operations over the next few years to offset rising expenditures and lost revenue as violence continues to curtail oil production. Shell said it was implementing "an austerity program for three years," which will likely entail the cutting of over 200 jobs.

<http://energy.seekingalpha.com/article/38415>

Venezuelan Oil Industry Not Affected by Power Blackout – PDVSA

Reuters, 09:17 June 15, 2007

Natural Gas

Natural Gas Well Blows Wild in Caddo Parish, Louisiana June 14

<http://www.katc.com/Global/story.asp?S=6659289>

Other News

Because of High Inventories, AmerenUE Says PRB Delivery Issues Have Not Caused Concerns

Ameren spokesman Tim Fox said that the utility has seen some delays in coal shipments out of the Powder River Basin (PRB), following the recent heavy rain fall in Wyoming that prevented coal producers from meeting their production targets. But the delivery issues have not caused any concerns for the Missouri-based power generator because of sufficient coal inventories are on hand.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6393158.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 15, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	67.95	64.82	69.57
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.58	7.52	6.43

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

BP Says Prudhoe Bay Oil Field in Alaska Running Normally Despite Rumors of Disruption

Reuters, 12:29 June 15, 2007

U.S. Senate Rejects Proposal to Allow Natural Gas Drilling off Virginia Coast

Reuters, 20:21 June 15, 2007

Enbridge to Hold Open Season for 45,000 b/d Expansion of North Dakota Crude Oil Pipeline System

<http://www.enbridgeus.com/Reports/reportif.aspx?pl=0&rptSite=5&rpt=%2fphoenix.zhtml%3fc%3d63707%26p%3dirol-news%26nyo%3d0&tmi=2094&tmt=5>

Shell Withdraws Permit for Federal Oil Shale Lease in Colorado so it Can Refine its Process at a Private Test Site

http://cbs4denver.com/business/local_story_166073704.html

Tondu Corp. Scraps Plan for 600 MW Clean Coal Power Plant in Corpus Christi, Texas 125-250 MW Natural Gas-fired Plant to be Built Instead

<http://powermarketers.net/content/inc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5BmsmiqtnSTif%7DGL%7Dbfem%5Ev>

CPS Energy Seeks to Add 200 MW of Generation From Small Natural Gas-fired Peaking Units at Braunig Lake, Texas Power Plant

<http://powermarketers.net/contentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5Bmslluoq%5BTi%7DGL%7Dbfem%5Ev>

Publix Adds More Emergency Generators to Grocery Stores in Hurricane-prone Areas of Florida

<http://powermarketers.net/contentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5Bmslmmu%5BTi%7DGL%7Dbfem%5Ev>

Dubai May Build LNG Export Hub in Fujairah to avoid Strait of Hormuz

http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=155219&version=1&template_id=48&parent_id=28

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/index.aspx>.

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