



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, June 20, 2014

Electricity

Severe Thunderstorms Knock Out Power to Over 75,000 Dominion Customers in Virginia June 19

Thunderstorms, lightning, and strong winds brought down utility poles and lines Thursday night, knocking out power to 75,773 Dominion customers in Virginia, primarily in the Richmond and Hampton Roads areas. As of 2:00 p.m. EDT today, 5,794 Dominion customers remained without power. Dominion said it expects to have power fully restored by late this evening.

<https://www.dom.com/storm-center/dominion-electric-outage-summary.jsp>

<https://twitter.com/DomVAPower>

<http://hamptonroads.com/2014/06/thousands-without-power-may-be-out-until-evening>

OPPD Ramping Down 502 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Plant in Nebraska as Missouri River Rises June 20, Taking Flood Precautions at Two Other Plants

In a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Friday, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) said that it was ramping down its 502 MW Fort Calhoun nuclear power plant in Nebraska due to rising flood waters on the Missouri River. As of Friday morning, the plant was operating at 55 percent of capacity, down from full power on Thursday morning. OPPD plans to move the unit into hot shutdown, as required, at approximately 11:00 p.m. CDT Friday when the National Weather Service predicts the Missouri River at Fort Calhoun will exceed 1,004 feet mean sea level, and cold shutdown within 36 hours following entry into hot shutdown. Early Friday the river level was 998 feet 3 inches and rising approximately 0.5 inches per hour. On Thursday, OPPD said it was monitoring water levels and making preparations for possible flooding at Fort Calhoun and two other power plants on the Missouri River, although levels on Thursday did not put the plants in harm's way. At Fort Calhoun, sand-filled temporary berms have been erected around critical equipment and flood doors and mobile pumps have been staged to be used when needed. At the 1,390 MW Nebraska City Station coal-fired plant, OPPD was inspecting the levee surrounding the plant and had positioned sandbags, sand, and a sandloader on site should they be needed to mitigate water levels. Operators at both plants are reviewing the plans and lessons learned from the 2011 Missouri River flood to ensure they are prepared in the event they see additional rainfall. OPPD did not specify the third plant where it was taking precautions, but the utility also operates the 638 MW North Omaha coal-fired plant on the Missouri River just north of Omaha.

http://www.oppd.com/AboutUs/NewsEvents/22_000812#061920142

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140620en.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

NMC's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Minnesota Reduced to 25 Percent by June 20

On the morning of June 19 the unit was operating at full power before reducing to perform repairs discovered during a train safeguards logic test.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2014/20140620en.html>

Constellation's 835 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Unit 2 in Maryland Reduced to 82 Percent by June 20

On the morning of June 19 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Update: Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by June 19

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 333 MW that began by June 18.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201406191515.html>

OPPD to Phase out Coal at Its 638 MW North Omaha Power Plant in Nebraska

The Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) board has decided to phase out coal to generate electrical power at its North Omaha plant. The board said Thursday that the changes will let the utility comply with government regulations to reduce future greenhouse gas emissions. The board approved a plan to retire three units at its North Omaha plant by 2016. The two remaining generating units would remain on coal but be retrofitted with more emission controls and eventually would be altered to run on natural gas by 2023. A station unit in Nebraska City also will be retrofitted in 2016.

http://www.oppd.com/AboutUs/NewsEvents/22_000812#06192014

http://www.oppd.com/AboutUs/22_002644

http://newsok.com/district-to-phase-out-coal-at-omaha-power-plant/article/feed/701769?custom_click=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+newsok%2Fbusiness+%28NewsOK.com+RSS+-+business%29

InventivEnergy, NRG to Restart 50 MW Aspen Power Biomass Plant in Texas

InventivEnergy, LLC announced it selected NRG Energy Services, LLC to restart the Aspen Power biomass plant in Lufkin, Texas, and operate and maintain the facility once online to provide clean, renewable power for the Texas market. The Aspen power plant has the capacity to deliver approximately 50 MW to the grid and uses locally sourced clean wood-waste biomass as its fuel supply. The Aspen Power facility was shut in the fall of 2012 due to market economics. Work to restart the facility began in mid-May and commercial operations are expected to be achieved by late July.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=121544&p=irol-newsArticleNRG&ID=1941228>

Petroleum

North Dakota Department of Health Reports 2,000 Barrel Spill at Denbury Onshore Site

The North Dakota Department of Health reported June 17 that a spill of 2,000 barrels of water used in enhanced oil recovery at a Denbury Onshore site was due to a leak in the flow line in Slope County, North Dakota. Most of the water has soaked into the soil and a dike will be constructed to control runoff. The health department also reported that 20 barrels of oil and water spilled from a site owned by Kodiak Oil & Gas on June 20 into a small stream in Williams County, North Dakota. The spill was the result of a valve assembly failure.

<http://www.ndhan.gov/data/mrNews/2014-06-17-Marmarth%20and%20Ray%20Spills%20NR-v.FINAL.pdf>

Natural Gas

DCP Midstream Reports Flaring at Its 80 MMcf/d at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas June 19

DCP Midstream reported the pressure controller to motor valve failed and caused the valve to open. The controller was placed back online the flare was put out

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=199989>

Southern Union Reports SRU Shut at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas June 18

Southern Union reported operators noticed smoke coming out of the recycle blower packing and therefore shut the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) for safety. The recycle blower packing was leaking and was replaced. The expansion joint had a crack in it and also was replaced.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=199991>

Other News

Copper Reported Stolen from ComEd Substation in Des Plaines, Illinois

Authorities are investigating after \$14,213 worth of copper was taken from a ComEd substation in Des Plaines, Illinois between June 10 and June 13.

http://www.journal-topics.com/article_2a730c04-f725-11e3-b246-0017a43b2370.html

International News

Iraqi Troops Surrounded, Trapped in Iraq's Baiji Refinery – ABC News

Iraqi troops are outnumbered, surrounded, and trapped inside the Baiji oil refinery, a U.S. source told ABC News. Iraqi government forces have been battling Islamic State in Iraq and Levant (ISIL) militants for control of the country's biggest refinery since Tuesday. The ISIS fighters took control of much of the facility and were willing to keep the government forces isolated until they run out of food and ammunition, sources said. On Thursday President Obama agreed to send military advisers to Iraq and use targeted and precise military action if necessary.

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/troops-surrounded-trapped-iraqs-key-refinery-sources-abc/story?id=24231981>

http://www.cnn.com/2014/06/19/politics/us-iraq/index.html?hpt=hp_t1

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 20, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	106.43	106.64	95.09
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.64	4.50	3.93

Source: Reuters

Links

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

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

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

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov