



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, June 23, 2016

Electricity

Strong Storms, High Winds Knock Out Power to Over 243,000 Customers in Central, Eastern States June 22–23

A string of strong storms producing high winds and at least one tornado knocked out power to at least 243,303 customers across several Central and Eastern states on Wednesday night and into Thursday. The National Weather Service (NWS) said a 100 mph wind gust was recorded in the town of Battle Ground, Indiana and also confirmed that an EF0 tornado, with an estimated wind speed of 80 mph, touched down in Clinton County, Ohio. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, 68,627 customers remained without power. Duke Energy, the hardest hit utility with 34,000 customer outages in Ohio, said power was expected to be restored to all customers by 11:30 p.m. EDT Thursday. Dayton Power & Light, which reported 18,000 customer outages, said it expects to have 95 percent of its customers restored by Thursday night. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by utility. The “Affected” column shows the total count of customers that lost power at one point or another over the course of the storm for each utility. These outages may not have occurred concurrently and are not the same as peak outages.

Central and Eastern U.S. Customer Power Outages			
June 22–23, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
Commonwealth Edison	IL	14,804	1,716
Ameren	IL	4,340	144
Indianapolis Power and Light	IN	20,853	2,267
Duke Energy	IN	20,337	5,463
Indiana and Michigan Power	IN	5,800	4,017
NIPSCO	IN	3,602	266
Tipmont REMC	IN	4,000	42
Carroll White REMC	IN	3,000	2,615
Kosciusko REMC	IN	1,500	190
Kentucky Power	KY	2,400	572
Pepco	MD	2,639	7
Consumers Energy	MI	5,359	1,206
Indiana and Michigan Power	MI	3,267	1,803
Duke Energy	NC	6,285	509
Jersey Central Power and Light	NJ	1,784	251
Duke Energy	OH	34,000	6,623
AEP Ohio	OH	23,749	5,334
Dayton Power and Light	OH	22,851	3,489
South Central Power Company	OH	3,500	177
Buckeye Rural Electric Cooperative	OH	1,500	534
PECO	PA	3,858	208
FirstEnergy	PA	1,432	330
Dominion	VA	7,206	857
Appalachian Power	VA	1,731	1,235
Appalachian Power	WV	22,162	14,934
FirstEnergy	WV	21,344	13,838
TOTAL*		243,303	68,627

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

Sources:

https://www.comed.com/_layouts/comedsp/OutageMap.aspx
<http://apps.ameren.com/outage/OutageMap.aspx?state=IL>
<http://apps.iplpower.com/outages/outagemap.aspx>
<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/in/default.html>
<https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
https://twitter.com/IN_MI_Power
<http://www.nipscooutages.com/WSSNisourceOutageMap/outagemap.html?action=city&reloaded=true>
<http://kremc.com/storms-cause-considerable-damage-kremc-territory/>
<https://www.facebook.com/carrollwhite.remec>
<https://ebill.cwremc.com/woViewer/mapviewer.html?config=Outage+Web+Map>
<https://www.tipmont.org/tipmont-remc-crews-restoring-power-following-storms>
<https://www.tipmont.org/outages>
<https://www.facebook.com/KentuckyPower>
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<http://www.pepco.com/pages/connectwithus/outages/outagemaps.aspx>
<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/ncsc/default.html>
<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/ohky/default.html>
<https://www.aepohio.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
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<https://www.facebook.com/buckeyerec/>
<https://www.dpandl.com/customer-service/outage-center/outage-map/>
<https://twitter.com/dpltoday>
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https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/the-latest-tornado-watch-for-much-of-northern-illinois/2016/06/22/7b464da4-38db-11e6-af02-1df55f0c77ff_story.html
<http://abc22now.com/news/local/thousands-without-power-across-ohio-after-severe-weather-strikes>
<http://wlfj.com/2016/06/23/several-power-outages-reported-as-storms-hit-viewing-area/>

Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts Reduced to 30 Percent by June 23

On the morning of June 22 the unit was operating at 74 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi at Full Power by June 23

On the morning of June 22 the unit was operating at 77 percent after restarting and ramping up to 1 percent on June 19. The unit shut from full power on June 17 due to an automatic reactor scram during testing.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160620en.htm>

Exelon's 1,161 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 72 Percent by June 23

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 71 Percent by June 23

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 90 Percent by June 23

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 72 Percent by June 23

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois at Full Power by June 23

On the morning of June 22 the unit was operating at 84 percent, reduced from full power on June 17.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

OPPD's 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Unit in Nebraska Shut by June 22

The unit was shut from full power due to a turbine trip. Operators are analyzing the cause of the situation, focusing on the speed and power controls of the turbine. Crews are working to resolve the issue and restore the unit to service.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160623en.html>

<http://www.oppd.com/news-resources/news-releases/2016/june/oppd-s-fort-calhoun-station-temporarily-taken-offline/>

Update: APS's 1,243 MW Palo Verde Nuclear Unit 1 in Arizona Ramps Up to 93 Percent by June 23

On the morning of June 22 the unit was operating at 83 percent, reduced from full power on June 21.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: Sempra's 155 MW Copper Mountain Solar Unit 2 in California Returns to Service by June 22

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on June 20.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201606221515.html>

Update: AES's 175 MW Redondo Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by June 22

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on June 20.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201606221515.html>

Mesquite's 165 MW Solar Unit 1 in California Shut by June 22

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201606221515.html>

Xcel Energy Seeks Regulatory Approval for 345 kV Transmission Line from Texas to New Mexico

Xcel Energy has begun seeking regulatory approval for a 345 kV power line between Texas and New Mexico to extend its electrical transmission system. The company on Wednesday announced the 240-mile line to connect a substation north of Abernathy, Texas, to a similar site in Eddy County, New Mexico. Officials with Xcel say the westward extension will help ensure that power can move freely into oil and gas producing regions.

http://www.valleymorningstar.com/news/state/article_ddc24883-971b-5e29-bf3c-89d6d01252cd.html

North Dakota PSC Approves NextEra's Proposed 100 MW Wind Farm, Transmission Line June 22

North Dakota's Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a proposed wind farm and associated 4.5-mile electric transmission line in Oliver and Morton counties. A subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources is planning the wind farm of up to 48 turbines and associated facilities on about 34 square miles in northeastern Morton County and southeastern Oliver County.

Reuters, 20:32 June 22, 2016

Crimson Pipeline Reports 700 Barrel Crude Oil Spill in California June 23

Crimson Pipeline reported a spill of 700 barrels of crude oil from its Southern California Pipeline System in Ventura County on Thursday, but the oil was quickly contained in a dry creek bed and did not reach the Pacific Ocean, officials said. The Ventura County Fire Department had initially estimated the size of the leak from the Crimson Pipeline at 5,000 barrels, but later said a much smaller amount was released stretching a half-mile. Public agencies, including the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, Ventura County Office of Emergency Services, the U.S. Coast Guard, State Parks, and local government all responded to the incident, which was initially reported around 5:30 a.m. PDT. Officials said the line was shut shortly after the discovery of the spill. Additionally, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) said it had sent investigators to provide assistance to the California state fire marshal, who is responsible for the investigation of the spill to determine the cause. Thursday's spill was not expected to impact crude supplies to Southern California refineries, which each day normally process more than 1 million barrels and rely heavily on the delivery of crude from tankers to the Port of Long Beach. The impacted pipeline supplies crude to Tesoro Corp's 256,830 b/d Carson, California, but was not expected to impact the refiner's ability to supply its customers, a representative for the refiner said on Thursday.

Reuters, 14:34 June 23, 2016

<http://www.crimsonpl.com/pipeline/maps/map-soucal.htm>

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-ventura-county-oil-spill-20160623-snap-story.html>

West Shore's Milwaukee to Green Bay Pipeline Closed Indefinitely in Wisconsin

West Shore Pipe Line Co. has shut down its 55-year old Milwaukee to Green Bay product pipeline indefinitely as it considers the future of the aging line. The pipeline was closed for repairs and inspection on March 10 and hasn't been reopened since. Without the pipeline, the only way to deliver fuel to Green Bay and beyond to Michigan's Upper Peninsula is to use additional tanker trucks. Governor Scott Walker issued an emergency declaration in May allowing tanker truck drivers to work extra hours each week in order to make more fuel runs to Green Bay. Additionally, the Governor's administration said it met with West Shore officials this week and will continue working to develop a long-term supply plan. An official with Kwip Trip convenience stores said drivers were waiting in line to refuel for four hours or longer, and that the retail chain had hired outside haulers to assist its fleet and help prevent fuel shortages. West Shore owns a 650-mile product distribution system within Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. Product pipelines extend from East Chicago, Ind., around Chicago to Milwaukee and Green Bay. A separate fuel line runs from the Chicago area to Janesville and Madison.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/pipeline-serving-green-bay-closes-indefinitely-b99749027z1-383975071.html>

Reuters, 10:46 June 23, 2016

Update: DOT's Preliminary Findings Cite Improperly Maintained Track in Union Pacific's June 3 Crude Oil Train Derailment in Oregon

The U.S. Department of Transportation on Thursday released its preliminary findings on Union Pacific's June 3 oil train derailment in Oregon, saying the company failed to properly maintain its track. A total of 16 cars of the 96-car Union Pacific train derailed and caught fire near Mosier, Oregon. The preliminary investigation determined the derailment was caused by broken lag bolts leading to wide track gauge, according to the report. A Union Pacific spokesman said a comment on the report was forthcoming.

http://www.fra.dot.gov/eLib/details/L17964#p1_z5_gD

Reuters, 12:58 June 23, 2016

Update: Suncor to Truck Oil from Its 38,000 b/d Mackay River Oil Sand Facility in Alberta until Pipeline Repaired June 22

Suncor Energy is putting temporary infrastructure in place at its Mackay River oil sands facility in northern Alberta so it can remove oil from the plant by truck while a clogged pipeline is being cleared, two sources said on Wednesday. The Enbridge pipeline became blocked after heavy oil cooled in the system, prolonging a shutdown of the Mackay River thermal project that was shut as a precaution in early May due to the Fort McMurray wildfire. One source said Suncor was aiming to transport around 10,000 b/d by truck and needed to move the bitumen volumes so it can sustain production and maintain pressure in its oil sands reservoir. Thermal operations require ongoing steam injection to operate effectively and prolonged shutdowns raise the risk of upsetting delicate reservoirs. Suncor had previously said the facility was expected to be operating at pre-wildfire production rates by mid-July.

Reuters, 17:40 June 22, 2016

Update: TransCanada Cuts Oil Flows for Remainder of June on Its 590,000 b/d Keystone Pipeline from Alberta to Illinois, Oklahoma – Notice

TransCanada Corp on Wednesday cut its forecast for crude flows on its Keystone Pipeline from Hardisty, Alberta to Patoka, Illinois and Cushing, Oklahoma for the remainder of June, according to a shipper notice. Flows on the pipeline will average 396,140 b/d from June 22 until the end of the month, according to the notice, a 7 percent decline from where the operator had forecast monthly flows around the start of June. The cut comes as producers in Canada are working to restore production after a massive wildfire knocked more than 1 million b/d of oil production offline in May. A June 7 shipper notice had forecast flows on the pipeline to average 425,963 b/d through the end of June. TransCanada anticipates 49 percent of the Keystone volume to flow to the Hartford/Patoka hub, and the remainder to ship to Cushing, according to the latest notice.

Reuters, 19:16 June 22, 2016

Tesoro Says Operations Unaffected at Its 256,830 b/d Carson, California Refinery after Crimson Pipeline Crude Oil Spill June 23

Tesoro Corp said it did not expect Crimson Pipeline's crude oil spill to have an impact on operations at its Carson, California refinery. Crimson Pipeline is one of the sources for crude oil delivery to the refinery.

Reuters, 14:33 June 23, 2016

Shell Reports Unit Startup at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery June 22

Royal Dutch Shell reported a unit startup at its Martinez, California refinery, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services. Shell reported the startup was a multi-day process.

Reuters 15:19 June 22, 2016

U.S. Refineries Increase Crude Processing Capacity by 349,948 b/d in 2015 – EIA

U.S. crude oil refining capacity grew by 349,948 b/d, or 2 percentage points, in 2015 to 18.3 million b/d, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency's (EIA) refinery capacity report posted on Wednesday. Most of the growth was in Texas, which added 218,503 b/d, as condensate splitters were built in Houston and Corpus Christi, Texas and existing refineries removed inefficiencies to boost crude oil intake. The number of operating refineries increased by one to 141, but two plants were idle when the EIA conducted its assessment of the refineries in January.

Reuters, 9:57 June 23, 2016

U.S. Court Strikes down Obama Fracking Rules for Public Lands June 22

A federal judge has struck down the Obama administration's rules for hydraulic fracturing on public lands. The ruling, which the White House vowed to appeal, halts the administration's efforts to address what it sees as safety concerns in the industry and reverses what producers had seen as a first step toward full federal regulation of all fracking activity. The U.S. Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lacked Congressional authority to set fracking regulations for federal and Indian lands, U.S. District Judge Scott Skavdahl in Wyoming ruled late on Tuesday. BLM's rules, issued in their final form in March 2015, would have required companies to provide data on chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing and to take steps to prevent leakage from oil and gas wells on federally owned land.

Reuters, 14:28 June 22, 2016

SoCalGas Keeps Gas Flowing in California despite Heat Wave, Aliso Canyon Closure

Southern California Gas (SoCalGas) was able to keep natural gas flowing this week as a heat wave hit California, despite the closure of its 86 Bcf Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility. Aliso Canyon was shut in October 2015 after a massive leak, which was plugged in February 2016, was detected. In January, state regulators ordered SoCalGas to reduce the amount of gas in Aliso Canyon to 15 Bcf, which is being held to reduce the risk of gas curtailments and power interruptions this summer. SoCalGas said it delivered about 3.3 Bcf of gas and received 3.2 Bcf from pipelines, using 0.1 Bcf from storage other than Aliso Canyon on Monday. With cooler weather on Tuesday, however, deliveries fell to an estimated 2.9 Bcf, while pipeline receipts were expected to reach 3.1 Bcf, allowing some injections back into storage. Aliso Canyon, located in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, is the biggest of SoCalGas' four storage fields. It provides service to the region's 17 gas-fired power plants, refineries and other key parts of California's economy. SoCalGas forecast demand this summer would peak around 3.2 Bcf, with power generators using over 1.9 Bcf, noncore large industrial customers like refineries using 0.6 Bcf and core mostly residential customers using 0.6 Bcf. While the SoCalGas system can accept up to 3.875 Bcf of pipeline supplies, it usually only moves about 3 Bcf and has not received more than 3.4 Bcf/d at any time in the last five years, leaving storage to make up the difference. SoCalGas' three remaining storage facilities have a combined withdrawal capacity of 1.7 Bcf/d, but cannot make up for all of Aliso Canyon's capability to support demand in the Los Angeles Basin because they are smaller or located too far away. SoCalGas has said it hopes to return the facility to partial service by the end of the summer, but cannot inject gas into the field until it inspects all 114 wells. As of June 17, SoCalGas said it completed integrity tests on 23 wells, nine of which have already been approved by state regulators.

Reuters, 14:11 June 22, 2016

ExxonMobil Reports Unit Shut at Its 65 MMcf/d Dollarhide Gas Plant in Texas June 22

ExxonMobil reported the Wauk-3 unit shut on low auxiliary coolant level. The coolant line was replaced and the unit was restarted.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=236127>

Maryland Department of the Environment Releases Suggested Revisions to Gas Drilling Plan June 22

The Maryland Department of the Environment on Wednesday released issue papers for revising its proposed hydraulic fracturing regulations in an effort to add safeguards for public health and the environment after an 18-month review of regulations. There are no fracking operations in Maryland presently, but a portion of the western side of the state sits atop the Marcellus Shale, which runs underground from New York to Tennessee. Many provisions in the January 2015 proposal remain unchanged and the department said it was looking at ways to maintain or improve environmental protection and add flexibility where needed, and to deal with some issues not addressed in the 2015 proposal. The agency also said it would focus more on preventing problems at well sites through design standards, instead of overreliance on setbacks and location restrictions. Three public meetings have been scheduled to discuss the issue papers. The agency must adopt regulations by October 1, and will propose a revised set of regulations in the Maryland Register ahead of the October deadline. After that, the department will provide an additional 30-day comment period before taking any final action on the regulations. No drilling would be permitted in Maryland before October 1, 2017.

Reuters, 15:01 June 22, 2016

<http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Land/mining/marcellus/Pages/index.aspx>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
June 23, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	49.26	46.09	61.00
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.78	2.62	2.78

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

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

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