



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, July 16, 2010

Major Developments

Update: BP Says Pressure Continues to Rise as Well Remains Shut-in in Gulf of Mexico July 16

BP continued the well integrity test on July 16 at the blown-out MC252 well in the Gulf of Mexico, and the well was not leaking any oil into the Gulf, the company said on July 16. Pressure continued to rise in the well - a positive sign - and engineers were expected to continue various testing, as of latest reports. President Obama referred to the cap as "good news," but said it was "important that we don't get ahead of ourselves here." He said it remained possible that new problems "could be even more catastrophic" than the earlier leak. Officials still see a relief well as a hope for a more permanent fix. BP halted relief well drilling for the well integrity test, but a spokesman said by July 16 that the company expected to restart the work.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/17/us/17spill.html?hp>

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/07/16/gulf.oil.disaster/index.html?hpt=T2>

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7063770>

<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/786995/>

Update: BP Recovers About 9,305 Barrels of Oil at Site of Blown-Out Well in Gulf of Mexico July 15

BP collected 5,875 barrels of oil, flared an additional 3,430 barrels of oil, and flared about 22.5 million cubic feet of natural gas on July 15 at the blown-out MC252 well in the Gulf of Mexico, the company said on its website. Due to the well integrity test, it did not recover any oil during the last half of the day.

<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to More than 150,000 Customers in Michigan July 15-16

Storms cut power to about 106,000 DTE Energy customers and 46,000 Consumers Energy customers in Michigan on July 15-16, multiple sources reported. Some 64,000 DTE Energy customers and 11,200 Consumers Energy customers were still without power, as of latest reports.

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100716/NEWS05/307160001/Power-out-for-thousands-storms-may-return-Sunday>

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2010/07/about_5300_still_without_power.html

<http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=240509&cID=2>

AES's 495 MW Alamitos Gas-Fired Unit 6 in California Shut by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

Cabrillo Power's 330 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 5 in California Shut by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Shut by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

AES's 336 MW Alamos Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Reduced by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 151 MW by July 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

Cabrillo Power's 300 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Reduced by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 150 MW by July 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

Update: Cabrillo Power's 110 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by July 15

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007151515.html>

TVA Reduces All Three Units at 3,391 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant in Alabama by July 16

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) reduced all three units by July 16 at its 3,391 MW Browns Ferry nuclear power plant in Alabama to "maintain river temperature permit with the state of Alabama," a spokesman said. The 1,155 MW Unit 1 was operating at 54 percent power, from 90 percent yesterday, the 1,118 MW Unit 2 was operating at 56 percent power, from full power yesterday, and the 1,118 MW Unit 3 was operating at 54 percent power, from full power yesterday, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN169519920100716>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Luminant to Shut 593 MW Big Brown Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas July 16

Luminant expected to shut the unit on July 16 "to repair a boiler tube leak," it said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=142373>

Update: Dominion Restarts 815 MW Surry Nuclear Unit 2 in Virginia by July 16

The unit shut on July 11 due to a leaking water pipe, according to the Associated Press. Dominion stopped restarting the unit by July 15 because of an issue with a voltage regulator, a company spokesman said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 15 the unit was not operating.

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/virginia/2-dominion-power-reactors-offl.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Central Maine Power to Install Smart Meters for All of its 620,000 Customers in Maine

The company plans to finish the installations by early 2012, according to a project affiliate.

<http://www.trilliantinc.com/news-events/press-room/press-releases/central-maine-power-proceeds-with-trilliant-for-smart-grid-communications-network/>

Update: PGE Producing Power from Final Phase of Planned 450 MW Biglow Canyon Wind Farm in Oregon by July 15

Portland General Electric Company (PGE) opened 24 of 76 turbines at the third and final phase of its planned 450 MW Biglow Canyon wind farm in Oregon, it said on July 15. The company expects to install all 76 Phase 3 turbines – about 175 MW of capacity – by the end of the third quarter 2010. The first two phases, representing about 275 MW of capacity, began producing power in December 2007 and August 2009. Given the variability of wind power, the plant is expected to produce an average of around 150 MW.

http://www.portlandgeneral.com/our_company/news_issues/news/07_15_2010_final_phase_of_pge_s_biglow_c.aspx

Invenergy Plans 200 MW Wind Farm in Nebraska

The company aims to install 133 turbines across 45,000 acres in northeast Nebraska, it said in a proposal to the Nebraska Power Review Board.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9GVLFKO1.htm>

Lansing BWL Plans 100 MW Gas-Fired Power Plant in Michigan

The Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) expects the facility to replace three units, and a combined 120 MW of power, at the existing coal-fired Moores Park Steam Plant in Michigan. The company is also aiming to phase out units at its coal-fired Eckert Power Station, also in Michigan. It could break ground in April 2011 and begin operations by January 2013.

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100716/NEWS03/7160323/1004/NEWS03>

Update: NRG to Permanently Shut 177 MW Indian River Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Delaware in 2013

NRG Energy Inc. and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Secretary signed a deal under which the company will, in 2013, permanently shut the 177 MW coal-fired Unit 3 at its Indian River power plant in Delaware, the DNREC said on July 15. The company has already shuttered the facility's 82 MW Unit 2, agreed to shut its 82 MW Unit 1 in May 2011, and agreed to install pollution controls on its 442 MW Unit 4.

http://www.nrgenergy.com/pdf/factsheets/factsheet_indian-river.pdf

http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/News/Pages/DNREC_Secretary_signs_agreement_with_NRG_to_shutdown_additional_coal_unit_at_Indian_River_power_plant.aspx

Petroleum

ExxonMobil Reduces Rates after Compressor Trip at 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery July 15

ExxonMobil reduced "Feed rates to affected units" after a compressor trip triggered flaring at its 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas refinery on July 15, it said in a filing with state regulators. The company restarted the compressor, and said the incident had not impacted supplies. "All customer needs were met," according to the filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=142407>

Citgo Restarts FCC at 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery July 15

Citgo restarted the gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) on July 15 at its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois refinery, a company official said. The unit shut due to storm-related damage on July 6, the company said previously.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100709-706315.html>

Reuters, 12:09 July 16, 2010

Update: DOI Inspector General Disputes Allegations that BLM Personnel Were Pressured to Complete Resource Management Plans ahead of 2008 Lease Sale in Utah

The Department of Interior's (DOI) Office of Inspector General found no evidence to support the claim that undue pressure was exerted on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to complete Resource Management Plans (RMPs) ahead of a late-2008 lease sale in Utah. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar had alleged that the Bush administration rushed the RMPs just prior to leaving office. Citing that rush, he pulled 77 parcels – after the fact – from the auction. The Inspector General, however, did determine that BLM contributed to the perception that the lease sale was rushed when it failed to provide advanced notice to the National Park Service (NPS) of a revised parcel lease, refused to place parcels identified by the NPS back on the deferred list to allow further review of their eligibility for leasing, and announced the lease sale on Election Day.

http://www.doi.gov/images/stories/reports/pdf/BLM%20Lease%20Report_508.pdf

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700047632/Report-disputes-Salazars-claims.html>

Statoil Restarts Production at 78,000 b/d Gullfaks C Platform in North Sea

Statoil shut the field on May 19 after a change in pressure and loss of drill fluid resulted in the loss of one barrier in the well; the incident led to uncertainty about the integrity of the remaining barrier, Statoil said. The platform yields 78,000 b/d of oil and 420 million standard cubic metres/year of natural gas, according to Reuters.

<http://www.statoil.com/en/NewsAndMedia/News/2010/Pages/14JulGullfaksC.aspx>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE66D1GL20100714>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

United States Added More Power Capacity from Renewable Sources than from Conventional Sources in 2009: UNEP and REN21

Renewables accounted for more than 50 percent of new power capacity in the United States last year, marking the second year in a row that the nation added more capacity from renewable sources than from conventional sources, according to twin reports from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21). Renewable sources accounted for 25 percent of global power capacity and 18 percent of worldwide power production. This year or next, experts predict that the world as a whole will add more capacity to the electricity supply from renewable than non-renewable sources.

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=630&ArticleID=6647&l=en>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 16, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	75.54	76.04	60.86
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.43	4.61	3.37

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

County Officials Give Environmental Approval from Teanaway Solar Reserve's Proposed 75 MW Solar Power Facility in Washington

<http://teanawaysolarreserve.com/updates/>

Environmental Groups to Sue LCRA for Alleged Environmental Problems at Fayette Coal-Fired Power Plant in Texas

<http://www.statesman.com/news/local/environmental-groups-say-they-will-sue-lcra-over-805610.html>

Update: Tritium Levels Still Elevated in Wells at Exelon's 641 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant in New Jersey by July 12

<http://blogs.app.com/enviroguy/2010/07/12/tritium-remains-high-in-some-oyster-creek-wells/>

North Carolina Companies Not Converting Pig Waste into Electricity, Despite State Law Requiring them to Derive almost 0.1 Percent of Power Sales from Swine Waste by 2012

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9GVLIK00.htm>

Power Outage Forces Offline PdVSA's 146,000 b/d El Palito Refinery in Venezuela July 15 – Company Begins Restarting Facility July 16

Reuters, 10:13 July 16, 2010

International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Forms Group to Collect Research, Direct Industry Programs Related to Deepwater Horizon Incident in Gulf of Mexico

http://www.ogi.com/index/article-display/8227032423/articles/oil-gas-journal/general-interest-2/hse/2010/07/gulf-spill_prompts.html

Nexen Shuts Scott Oil Platform in North Sea, Citing Problems along Associated Pipeline System – Scott/Telford Fields Produced an Average 18,000 b/d in Second Quarter 2010

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1522161220100715>

Section Reopened along St. Lawrence Seaway in Canada July 15 – Ship Ran Aground on July 12, Forcing Shut Segment

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/technology/Stuck+seaway+reopens+shipping+traffic/3285461/story.html>

Iraq Plans Pipeline to Deliver Oil from Majnoun, East Baghdad, Qayara, and Najma Fields to Turkey

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-07-16/iraq-oil-export-facilities-plan-to-cost-50-billion-mees-says.html>

Plumber Cuts Natural Gas Pipeline, Causing Leak and Forcing Local Evacuations July 14

<http://newstalkradiowhio.com/localnews/2010/07/plumbers-gaff-causes-gas-leak.html>

Compressor Rod Failure Triggers Flaring at Big Lake Gas Plant in Texas July 15

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=142411>

Natural Gas Pipeline Explosion Severely Burns Utility Worker in Georgia July 15

<http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=12815492>

Brazilian Ethanol Exports to Dip to 664 Million Liters First Half of 2010 from 1.45 Billion Liters in First Half of 2010 Last Year: Industry Experts

DJN, 12:08 July 16, 2010

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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