



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, July 19, 2013

## **Electricity**

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### **Massachusetts Experiencing Spot Outages as Northeast Heat Wave Continues for Ninth Day July 19; ISO New England Implementing Actions to Manage Capacity Deficiency**

Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Richard K. Sullivan reported that 1,200 customers in Western Massachusetts, Newton, and Milton were experiencing spot outages as high electricity usage from a heat wave stresses the region's electrical grid for a ninth consecutive day. Sullivan said that utilities have been proactive in managing demand by having companies voluntarily go off grid power. Sullivan also said the State is closely monitoring the Pilgrim nuclear power plant amid concerns it may have to shut down if the bay water used for plant cooling exceeds the 75 degree Fahrenheit maximum. ISO New England (ISO-NE) tweeted that grid conditions remained tight at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time and urged voluntary conservation as the grid entered the peak demand time of day. On Friday afternoon ISO-NE also implemented actions 1, 2, 3, and 5 of Operating Procedures No. 4 (OP4) to manage capacity deficiency. During a capacity deficiency, the region has adequate resources to meet the demand for electricity, but the ISO needs to take action to balance supply and demand and maintain the operating reserves needed to run the bulk power system reliably.

[http://bostonherald.com/news\\_opinion/local\\_coverage/2013/07/mass\\_energy\\_czar\\_warns\\_electrical\\_grid\\_is\\_stressed\\_by\\_heat\\_wave](http://bostonherald.com/news_opinion/local_coverage/2013/07/mass_energy_czar_warns_electrical_grid_is_stressed_by_heat_wave)

<https://twitter.com/isonewengland>

<http://www.iso->

[ne.com/calendar/detail.action?eventId=121516&date=20130719&cats=&type=2&link=yes&filter=off](http://www.iso-ne.com/calendar/detail.action?eventId=121516&date=20130719&cats=&type=2&link=yes&filter=off)

[http://www.iso-ne.com/rules\\_proceeds/operating/isonone/op4/op4\\_rto\\_final.pdf](http://www.iso-ne.com/rules_proceeds/operating/isonone/op4/op4_rto_final.pdf)

### **Blackout Leaves 123,000 SDG&E Customers Without Power in Southern California Overnight July 18–19**

A power outage in San Diego and Orange counties in California left about 123,000 San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) customers without power late Thursday night and early Friday morning. Almost all customers had their power restored by 3:00 a.m. local time Friday morning, and the company is investigating the cause of the outage. A spokesman for SDG&E said the outage may have been caused by faulty circuits.

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Massive-Blackout-Hits-South-orange-county-San-Diego-216115731.html>

### **Entergy's 813 MW FitzPatrick Nuclear Unit in New York Reduced to 80 Percent by July 19**

On the morning of July 18 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

### **SCE Accuses Mitsubishi of Contract Violations Related to Defective Steam Generators at SCE's Shuttered San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant in California**

Southern California Edison (SCE), operator of the now-closed San Onofre nuclear power plant, accused Mitsubishi Heavy Industries of contract violations in failing to properly design or quickly repair the defective steam generators it built for the plant. The steam generators manufactured by Mitsubishi were installed in Unit 2 in 2009 and in Unit 3 in 2010 and came with a 20-year warranty, but leaks in the steam generators on both units forced the plant offline in January 2012. The plant was permanently shut down in June 2013.

Reuters, 1:38 July 19, 2013

### **RES to Begin Construction on 200 MW Pleasant Valley Wind Farm in Minnesota in 2014**

RES America Developments Inc. announced Friday that it is working with Xcel Energy to construct a 200 MW Pleasant Valley Wind Farm near Austin, Minnesota. Construction is scheduled to start in mid-2014 and will be completed by the end of 2015.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/res-americas-develop-construct-200-130000634.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Motiva Reports Butadiene Release at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery July 18**

Motiva Enterprises LLC reported a release of butadiene from a clamp on a line at its Norco refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Repairs were underway at the refinery.  
Reuters, 2:35 July 19, 2013

### **ExxonMobil Reports Flaring at Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery July 18**

ExxonMobil Corp. said unplanned flaring at its Torrance refinery was due to work in a tank farm.  
Reuters, 20:38 July 18, 2013

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Talos Energy Shuts Two Natural Gas Wells after Condensate, Natural Gas Leak at Production Platform in Gulf of Mexico July 9**

Talos Energy LLC reported that it shut two active natural gas wells July 9 when condensate and gas leaked from an inactive well that shares the same platform about 75 miles southwest of Port Fourchon. The leak, which occurred during attempts to permanently plug the inactive well, released less than 420 gallons of condensate and a small amount of natural gas. The company said July 16 that it has not yet resumed production from two active wells.  
<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/794893cacd5a47faa7f08dca9513a78f/LA--Gas-Well-Leak/>

### **Southern Union Shuts Compressors to Check Low Oil Level Alarm at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas July 17**

Southern Union reported that on Wednesday evening, the Emperor Units 3 and 4 compressors at its Keystone plant were shut down due to a low oil level alarm on the Unit 4 compressor. The Emperor units were repaired and both were returned to service by Thursday afternoon.  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=185631>

### **Enbridge Shuts AGI Unit for Repairs at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas July 18**

Enbridge shut the No. 2 acid gas injector (AGI) unit at its Tilden plant Thursday evening to replace a dump valve on the fifth stage scrubber, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. After the scrubber was replaced, operators restarted the No. 2 AGI unit.  
<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=185652>

## ***Other News***

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### **Update: Noble Americas to Restart 100 MMGal/Year South Bend Ethanol Plant in Indiana by Early 2014**

Noble Americas Corp. has taken over the former New Energy Corp. ethanol plant in South Bend, Indiana and expects to restart it by early next year. New Energy Corp. shut the plant last November citing poor economics.  
[http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/local/keynews/localeconomy/article\\_49a61e4e-efe3-11e2-98b9-0019bb30f31a.html](http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/local/keynews/localeconomy/article_49a61e4e-efe3-11e2-98b9-0019bb30f31a.html)

### **Westmoreland Announces First Coal Delivery via New Rail Line from Absaloka Coal Mine in Montana**

Westmoreland Coal Company today announced that it delivered its first shipment of coal via a new railway built at Westmoreland Resources, Inc.'s Absaloka Mine in Hardin, Montana.  
[http://www.westmoreland.com/library/2013\\_New\\_Releases/News371\\_Western\\_Wye\\_July\\_19\\_2013.pdf](http://www.westmoreland.com/library/2013_New_Releases/News371_Western_Wye_July_19_2013.pdf)

## International News

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### Pirates Hijack Crude Oil Tanker Off the Coast of Gabon July 15

An oil tanker with a 20-person crew was hijacked by pirates on Monday near the main port in Gabon where oil is loaded for transport to international markets. According to security firm AKE, there has been no contact with the crew of the tanker, which is operated by the Turkish firm Geden Lines. The International Maritime Bureau warned earlier this week of a “worrying surge” of attacks by pirates in the Gulf of Guinea.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=40103](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=40103)

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 19, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	108.08	105.49	92.62
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.66	3.64	2.84

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***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](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>

Please direct comments and questions to: [ead@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)