



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, July 24, 2009

## Electricity

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### **7.1-Mile 138 kV PPL Power Line in Pennsylvania Approved**

With a unanimous vote, the Public Utility Commission determined construction of PPL's Coopersburg Tap Line, from Upper Saucon Township to Richland Township is necessary to ensure reliable electricity for a growing number of customers in that area.

[http://www.mcall.com/news/local/all-a1\\_2ppl.6966989jul24,0,2049920.story](http://www.mcall.com/news/local/all-a1_2ppl.6966989jul24,0,2049920.story)

### **BPA Employees Find Pipe Bomb; Deactivated by Bomb Squad**

During a routine grounds check at a power plant around 1 p.m. on July 22, employees at the Bonneville Power Administration in Ashland, Oregon, found an active, homemade pipe bomb. The Oregon State Police Bomb Squad had deactivated the bomb by about 3:20 p.m. As of the afternoon of July 22, police had no leads on who may have been responsible for the bomb.

<http://www.dailytidings.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090722/NEWS01/907229996/-1/NEWSMAP>

### **FERC, DOE Voice Support for Protection Against Cyber Attack for Smart Grid**

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and Department of Energy officials Sudeen Kelly and Patricia Hoffman, respectively, told members of Congress on July 23 that smart grid technology should include protection against cyber attacks. Congress was told that cyber security tools should be imbedded within smart grid systems so that they do not need patches added on later. Sudeen Kelly noted that, "The significant benefits of smart grid technologies must be achieved without taking reliability and security risks that could be exploited to cause great harm to our nation's citizens and economy." DOE has made available to utilities about \$4 billion for smart grid Projects and says cyber security should be addressed in every phase of the project's engineering lifecycle.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6462228.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

### **Exelon to Focus on Nuke Upgrades, Transmission**

CEO John Rowe said Exelon will focus on increasing the capacity of units in its existing fleet instead of building new nuclear plants. Rowe said uprates for nuclear plants cost about half as much as it would to build a new plant and that the execution risk was "substantially lower." He also mentioned opportunities to build transmission projects in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic and promised specific transmission plans by the end of the 2009.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6462454.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

### **Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuke Unit 1 in Illinois Ramped Up to 83 Percent by July 24**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 23 the unit was operating at 64 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuke Unit 1 in Ohio Reduced to 37 Percent by July 24**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 23 the unit was operating at full power. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

### **Reliant's 245 MW Coolwater Aggregate Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Reduced by July 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 110 MW on July 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200907231515.html>

### **Mirant's 312 MW Pittsburg Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Shut by July 23**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 23.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200907231515.html>

Reuters, 20:01 July 23, 2009

### **Enmax's 250 MW Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut by July 24**

It is unknown when the unit will return to service.

Reuters, 08:06 July 24, 2009

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Fire in 600,000 b/d Storage Tank at Teppco's Refinery in Texas Quickly Extinguished July 24**

The fire was set off by lightning as thunderstorms passed over the Texas Gulf Coast. A company spokesman said a foam fire suppression system put the fire out about 45 minutes after it started.

Reuters, 20:08 July 23, 2009

### **Irving Oil, BP Decide Not to Build Refinery in East Canada**

On July 24, after an 18-month study of the feasibility of building a refinery in St. John in eastern Canada, BP announced its decision not to build, citing the recession and a drop in the demand for gasoline in the United States and Canada. If economic conditions improve sufficiently in the future, the project may be revived.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iWi9Oqj30T-4YzZMWamNUWhwAa8Q>

Reuters, 11:10 July 24, 2009

### **Gasoline-making FCC and Alkylation Unit at Coffeyville Resources' 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery Shut by July 24**

Reuters, 10:49 July 24, 2009

### **Number of New Offshore Oil/Gas Wells to Decreasing in 2009**

According to data from Derrick Petroleum Services, the number of new offshore oil and gas exploration wells will shrink by about 15 percent in 2009, as lower crude prices curb investments and hit smaller oil and gas producers.

Out of the 360 or so offshore wildcat wells to be drilled worldwide in 2009, Norway will be most active with nearly 50, followed by the United States, Britain, Brazil and Australia.

Reuters, 10:35 July 24, 2009

## ***Natural Gas***

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Nothing to report.

## ***Other News***

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Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 24, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	66.23	63.83	124.62
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.66	3.21	9.70

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Overnight Storms Cause Power Outages to More Than 21,000 CL&P Customers in Connecticut July 23; Power Restored to All but 600 by Noon July 24

[http://www.courant.com/news/weather/hc-web-wet-weather-0724jul25\\_0,6765394.story](http://www.courant.com/news/weather/hc-web-wet-weather-0724jul25_0,6765394.story)

[http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/weather/severe\\_weather/news\\_wtnh\\_severe\\_weather\\_leaves\\_16k\\_powerless\\_200907240922](http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/weather/severe_weather/news_wtnh_severe_weather_leaves_16k_powerless_200907240922)

### UPDATE: PGE's 740 MW Colstrip Coal-fired Unit 4 in Montana Out Until November

Reuters, 14:39 July 23, 2009

### Basketball-size Oil Blobs Washing Ashore on Texas Beaches

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/24/us/24brfs-OILBLOBSBLOO\\_BRF.html?\\_r=1&emc=tnt&tntemail=y](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/24/us/24brfs-OILBLOBSBLOO_BRF.html?_r=1&emc=tnt&tntemail=y)

### Texas Energy Companies Battling Oil-field Thefts

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=78572](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=78572)

### Five Power Companies to Decide Future of Proposed 580 MW Coal-fired Plant to Serve Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, and Iowa

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Companies-to-decide-on-SD-apf-4109119461.html?x=0&v=1>

### Demsey Booster Station in Texas Engines Tripped Offline July 24, 2009; Engines Restarted

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127203>

## Links

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*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](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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*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. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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