



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, August 03, 2011

Electricity

Thunderstorms in Illinois and Wisconsin Knock Out Power to about 155,000 Customers August 2-3

Strong storms and accompanying high winds in the Chicago area downed trees and delayed some Metra trains for hours. The following utilities reported outages due to thunderstorms that struck on August 2:

- Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) said that two powerful storms caused 143,000 northern Illinois customers to lose power Tuesday night. As of latest reports, about 49,000 customers remain without power. According to the company, the “vast majority” of impacted customers will be restored by midnight tonight.
- We Energies reported a peak of 12,000 Wisconsin customers without power at the height of the storm. As of latest reports, just 39 are still in the dark.

<http://www.nbcchicago.com/weather/stories/Heat-Makes-Way-For-Storms-126576448.html>

ComEd: <https://www.comed.com/sites/newsroom/Pages/stormcenter.aspx> ,

<http://twitter.com/#!/ComEd/status/98643328387661824> ,

<https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/OutageMap.aspx>

We Energies: <http://www.620wtmj.com/news/local/126653913.html> , <http://www.we-energies.com/outagemapext/>

Units 2 and 3 Each Reduced to 50 Percent at TVA’s Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Alabama by August 3

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 2 that both units were operating at full power. Each unit has a capacity of 1,118 MW.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Progress Energy’s 872 MW Brunswick Nuclear Unit 1 in North Carolina at Full Power by August 3

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 2 the unit was operating at 50 percent. Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

Operators Reports Vulnerability from a Potential High Energy Line Break at Entergy’s 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 2 August 2

According to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), operators reported that a “postulated High Energy Line Break (HELB) could potentially cause both the Red and Green Train Emergency Safeguard Features (ESF) Rooms to exceed their environmentally qualified temperature limits.” The filing was classified as an “unanalyzed condition.”

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110803en.html>

AES’s 495 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by August 2

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

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201108021515.html>

Update: AES’s 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by August 2

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

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201108021515.html>

Calpine/Mitsui's 212 MW Greenfield Gas-Fired Unit 1 in Ontario Shut August 2

Reuters, 21:29 August 2, 2011

Smart Grid Demonstration Project in U.S. Pacific Northwest to Involve Over 60,000 Utility Customers for Five Years

The Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project (PNW-SGDP) is a collaborative project involving the Bonneville Power Administration, five technology partners, and 11 utilities in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. The project, which will demonstrate the potential for smart grid technology, is being managed by Battelle.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/NorthWestern-Energy-Selects-bw-2913942003.html?x=0&.v=1>

Update: Federal Judge Rules Xcel Energy Does Not Have to Pay \$2.25 Million Fine for Building Comanche Coal-Fired Power Plant in Pueblo, Colorado without Proper Air Pollution Permit

The judge ruled that the company should not pay the fine because requirements to obtain a permit changed frequently during the application process in 2004.

http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/morning_roundup/2011/08/xcel-energy-colorado-power-plant-fines.html?ana=RSS&s=article_search&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+bizj_twincities+%28Minneapolis+%2F+St.+Paul+Business+Journal%29

Richmond Power & Light to Convert 100 MW Whitewater Valley Coal-Fired Plant in Indiana to Burn Gas Produced by Solid Waste by Spring 2013

The utility will retrofit a 66 MW coal-fired unit to run on gasification technology. The company will shutter the plant's other 34 MW unit at the same time. The conversion will cost between \$150-160 million.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Coal/6339911>

Petroleum

Lion Oil Restarts Gas Processing Unit at 75,000 b/d El Dorado, Arkansas Refinery Following Unexpected Unit Shutdown August 2

The cause of the shutdown has not yet been determined, though a filing with the National Response Center indicated that Great Lakes Chemical Corp. is a suspected responsible party for the incident.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/03/refinery-operations-lionoil-eldorado-idUSWNAB525220110803>

Update: Plains All American Applies to Reopen 480-Mile, 220,000 b/d Rainbow Crude Oil Pipeline in Alberta by July 28

The company informed the province's Energy Resources Conservation Board (ECRB) that the pipeline is fixed and is ready to be restarted. The pipeline, which was discovered to be leaking on April 29, spilled about 28,000 barrels of oil in northern Alberta before it was shut. Before the leak the pipeline carried about 187,000 b/d from Zama to Edmonton in Alberta.

<http://calgary.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20110729/plains-midstream-canada-oil-leak-pipeline-110729/20110729/?hub=CalgaryHome>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/story/2011/07/28/edm-oil-spill-reopen.html>

BP Says World War II-Era Mine Removed from Vicinity of Forties Crude Oil Pipeline in North Sea Offshore Scotland August 3

The unexploded mine was safely towed away from the key Forties oil pipeline for disposal. The mine was discovered lying adjacent to the pipeline in March about 25 miles (40 kilometers) off the coast of Scotland.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27442

Update: Xcite Submits Final Draft of Field Development Plan to U.K. Government for Bentley Oil Field in U.K. North Sea by August 3

According to previous reports, the field contains an estimated 160 million barrels of oil.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=109744

<http://www.xcite-energy.com/news%5CXEL%20PR%20Ops%20Update%20FDP%20Jul11.pdf>

Operators Report SRU Units Trip during Fuel Gas System Cleaning at Citgo's 427,800 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery

According to a company filing, "an upset enriched a fuel gas system with sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide," resulting in trips at the refinery's sulfur recovery units (SRUs). The company had reported on August 2 that production rates were reduced for a short period due to a mechanical issue.

Reuters, 00:34 August 3, 2011

Tesoro Restarting 93,400 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery August 3 after Power Outage Causes Complete Shutdown August 2

The shutdown was required due to a failure at one of the local electric utility's substations. The outage will not impact supply to customers. The refinery is expected to be fully restored later today.

Reuters, 07:40 August 3, 2011

<http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201108031044dowjonesdjonline000421&title=tesoro-reports-outage-at-hawaii-refinery>

ConocoPhillips Reports Flaring Due to Equipment Malfunction at 247,000 b/d Alliance Refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana August 2

It was not clear from reports which equipment malfunctioned.

Reuters, 00:22 August 3, 2011

Natural Gas

Enterprise Products Partners Reports Multiple Problems at Mont Belvieu Complex in Texas August 2

According to a filing with state regulators, an equipment failure led to over-pressurization at the debutanizer early August 2. News reports indicate that the company also reported a brief power outage caused a trip at the plant August 2.

Reuters, 00:07 August 3, 2011

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=157574>

Other News

Illinois Governor Signs Law Advancing Power Holdings of Illinois LLC's Proposed Coal Gasification Plant in Waltonville, Illinois August 2

The law pushes gas utilities in the state to sign ten-year contracts to sell the synthetic natural gas (SNG) produced at the Southern Illinois Coal to SNG facility. The proposed facility will produce 65 Bcf of SNG each year. It is due to begin operations in 2014.

<http://www.powerholdingsllc.com/index.asp?page=3>

http://www.wjbradio.com/index.php?f=news_single&id=28280

<http://www.wpsdlocal6.com/news/il-state-news/Coal-and-gas-plant-to-break-ground-in-southern-Illinois-126623913.html>

http://thesouthern.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_3a9d545e-1e61-11e0-935b-001cc4c002e0.html

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices August 3, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	91.50	98.00	82.14
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.30	4.43	4.94

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Duke Energy Reports 12,134 Customers Lose Power in Ohio August 3 – Just 104 Remain without Power Currently

<http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/outages/current.asp>

Update: State Government Resumes Permitting Process to Restart Dormant, State-Owned 50 MW Healy Clean Coal Plant in Alaska – State Would Sell Plant to Golden Valley Electric Association

http://newsminer.com/view/full_story/14930319/article-Hopeful-news--State-decides-to-restart-Healy-plant-permitting?instance=home_opinion_editorial

http://newsminer.com/view/full_story/14918649/article-State-revives-Healy-Clean-Coal-plant-start-up-?instance=home_news_window_left_top_3

Louisiana DNR to Grant KGRA Energy \$1.95 Million to Develop 10 MW Waste Heat Recovery Project at Newsprint and Linerboard Mill in Louisiana August 2 – Project to Break Ground in 1Q 2012

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/kgra-energy-secures-195m-commitment-from-state-of-louisiana-for-development-of-large-scale-waste-heat-recovery-system-126579128.html>

NRC Approves Cyber Security Plan for Entergy's Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant in New York

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Cybersecurity-plan-for-apf-2325699082.html?x=0&.v=1>

Copper Theft from Transformers at Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Electrical Substation in Surry County, North Carolina Leads to 1,420-Gallon Mineral Oil Spill July 30

http://www.mtairynews.com/view/full_story/14916564/article-Oil-spill-caused-by-theft-at-electrical-substation?instance=secondary_news_left_column

Energy Secretary Chu Announces on August 2 a \$50 Million Investment over Two Years for SUNPATH, a Program to Help Solar PV Companies with Pilot-Scale Commercial Production Scale Up Their Manufacturing Capabilities

<http://www.energy.gov/news/10451.htm>

Shell Shuts Adibawa Oil Flowstation in Nigeria Due to Multiple Leaks on Two Connected Oil Pipelines August 3 – Reports Indicate Local Youths May Be Responsible

<http://af.reuters.com/article/investingNews/idAFJOE7720HL20110803>

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/industries/2011/08/03/shell-flowstation-in-nigeria-shut-after-pipeline-leaks/>

Update: 430-Mile State Right-of-Way Granted for Alaska Gasline Development's Proposed 737-Mile, 24-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline in Alaska July 25

http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/072911/oil_ssgpp.shtml

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 EDT every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM EDT every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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