



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, August 05, 2013

Electricity

Blown Transformer Knocks Out Power to 110,000 FPL Customers in Florida August 1

Florida Power & Light Co. (FPL) reported that a transformer blew at a substation Thursday night, knocking out power to 110,000 customers in Volusia County, Florida. Power was restored within 90 minutes of the outage. FPL crews said they are still investigating what caused the transformer to blow.

<http://www.news-journalonline.com/article/20130801/NEWS/130809898/1040?Title=FPL-Outage-hits-110-000-customers-&tc=ar>

<http://www.wftv.com/news/news/thousands-without-power-volusia-county/nZBpc/>

Update: Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Restarts by August 4, Ramps Up to 42 Percent by August 5

The unit restarted and was operating at 4 percent by the morning of August 4 after being shut down on July 31 due to a reactor scram caused by a turbine generator trip, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Update: PSE&G's 1,049 MW Hope Creek Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Ramped Up to 94 Percent by August 3

The unit was reduced to 76 percent due to a circulating water pump that tripped overnight August 1-2, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit ramped up to 94 percent by the morning of August 3 and was holding at that rate on the morning of August 5.

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

Progress Energy's 900 MW Harris Nuclear Unit 1 in North Carolina Ramped Up to 73 Percent by August 5

On the morning of August 4 the unit was operating at 13 percent after being reduced from full power to 8 percent on August 3, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Alert Lifted at Alabama Power's 888 MW Farley Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama August 3

The Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant declared an alert on unit 1 Saturday morning due to an inadvertent release of carbon dioxide from a fire suppression system during maintenance activities. Plant personnel safely isolated the carbon dioxide and verified that there was no impact to plant equipment. The alert was safely resolved later Saturday morning. Units 1 and 2 continued to operate safely at 100 percent power, and there was no release of radiation.

<http://news.alabamapower.com/2013/08/03/further-details-at-plant-farley/>

<http://news.alabamapower.com/2013/08/03/alert-lifted-at-farley/>

PGE's 585 MW Boardman Coal-fired Power Plant in Oregon Back Online July 31; 740 MW Colstrip Coal-fired Unit 4 in Montana Remains Shut

Portland General Electric Co. (PGE) said on Friday its 585 MW Boardman coal-fired power plant in Oregon returned to service on July 31, while its 740 MW Colstrip 4 coal-fired unit in Montana could remain shut for the remainder of 2013. Both plants shut on July 1 for unplanned repairs. Boardman experienced a "thermal hammer" event in the cold reheat line, causing structural damage, PGE said in a federal filing. Colstrip 4 experienced vibration and rotor issues.

Reuters, 13:52 August 2, 2013

La Paloma Generating Company's 260 MW La Paloma Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by August 4

The unit returned from a planned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201308041515.html>

Virginia SCC Approves Construction of Dominion Virginia Power's 1,358 MW Brunswick Natural Gas-fired Power Plant August 2

Dominion Virginia Power, received permission from the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) to construct a 1,358 MW, natural gas-fueled power station near Lawrenceville, Virginia. The combined cycle, natural gas-fired power station will replace electricity from aging coal-fired power stations that are being retired for economic and environmental reasons. Dominion plans to start construction immediately with commercial service expected to begin in the summer of 2016.

<http://dom.mediaroom.com/2013-08-02-Virginia-SCC-Approves-Construction-Of-Dominion-Virginia-Powers-Brunswick-Power-Station>

Bechtel Completes 240 kV and 144 kV Hanna Region Transmission Development Project in Alberta August 5

Bechtel Corp. announced it has completed the Hanna Region Transmission Development (HRTD) project on schedule and under budget. The project to expand and upgrade ATCO Electric's electrical transmission system and infrastructure in Alberta included stringing 219 miles of 240 kV and 144 kV transmission lines, constructing more than 1,200 new transmission towers, and building six new substations and upgrading 12 substations.

<http://www.bechtel.com/2013-08-05-ATCO.html>

Petroleum

PBF Energy Restarting 170,000 b/d Toledo, Ohio Refinery After Power Failure August 4

PBF Energy Inc. reported that at approximately 2:30 a.m. local time on Sunday, a service interruption by its electric supplier, Toledo Edison, caused PBF's Toledo Refinery in Oregon, Ohio to lose electric power. There was no reported impact on the community associated with the orderly shutdown. Appropriate government agencies and officials were notified and power was restored at 5:30 a.m. Sunday. The refinery is in the process of restarting.

<http://investors.pbfenergy.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=250880&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1844376&highlight>

Marathon Reports Process Upset at Its 102,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery August 3

Marathon Petroleum Corp. reported emissions of sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide due to a process upset at its Detroit refinery, according to a filing with pollution regulators.

Reuters, 11:58 August 5, 2013

Power Failure Cuts Rates at Total's 174,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 4

Total Petrochemicals reported that a power failure led to the reduction in charge rates at its Port Arthur refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. The power failure resulted in emissions from RPC, sulfur block, and heaters, and the cause of the power failure is under investigation, the filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said.

Reuters, 23:40 August 4, 2013

Update: FCCU Restarted at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 1

Valero Energy Corp. said a fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Port Arthur refinery was restarted late Thursday and was increasing to planned rates. The unit was taken out of production for work on July 4.

Reuters, 13:18 August 2, 2013

Tesoro Plans to Build 120,000 b/d Rail-to-Barge Oil Terminal in Vancouver, Washington to Supply U.S. and Canadian Crude to Refineries Along the West Coast

Tesoro Corp. plans to build a rail-to-barge oil terminal at the Port of Vancouver in Washington State that would help supply cheaper U.S. and Canadian crude oil to refineries all along the West Coast. The project would have an initial capacity of 120,000 b/d and could be expanded to 280,000 b/d.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/02/tesoro-rail-crude-idUSL1N0G313N20130802>

Natural Gas

Southern Union Reports Auxiliary Burner Down at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas August 2

Southern Union reported it got a false (A) bed high outlet temperature due to a bad thermo couple causing the auxiliary burner to go down. Mechanics replaced the thermo couple and the operator got the sulfur plant back on. The facility got back on which allowed the unit off the acid gas flare.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=186275>

Gas Wells Shut-in to Minimize Emissions During P-9 Unit Outage at ExxonMobil's 65 MMcf/d Dollarhide Gas Plant in Texas August 3

ExxonMobil reported the P-9 went down due to a blown fuse at its Dollarhide gas plant. An electrician was called to replace the fuses, the wells were shut-in to minimize emissions, and the unit was restarted.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=186310>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Update: Libya Working to End Oil Strikes; Oil Production Rises to 700,000 b/d

Libya's government is working to end protests that have cut exports at oil facilities, and its oil production has risen to nearly half its normal rate, its top oil official said on Monday. Protestors, demanding more oil jobs, had forced the closure of three terminals last week. According to Libya's oil minister, oil production has improved to around 700,000 b/d and will reach 800,000 b/d after the Eid holiday which begins later this week. Last week, the oil minister said that production had fallen to 330,000 b/d, down from a normal rate of 1.4 million b/d.

Reuters, 8:05 August 5, 2013

Yemen's Marib Oil Export Pipeline Attacked, Crude Oil Flow Stops Again August 3

Tribesmen blew up Yemen's main oil export pipeline late on Saturday, halting the flow of crude, the state news agency reported on Sunday. The pipeline started pumping crude oil again last week after repairs that took several days, following a similar attack by tribesmen. Earlier this year, the pipeline was pumping around 125,000 b/d.

Reuters, 2:07 August 4, 2013

Update: Crude Oil Flow Resumes Through Iraq-Turkey Pipeline – Iraq Official

Crude oil flow resumed through the pipeline linking the Iraqi oilfields of Kirkuk to the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan, Turkey, an official in the North Oil Company said on Friday. Crude oil was flowing at a rate between 250,000-300,000 b/d, according to the official. The flow was shut down on July 31 due to a leak.

Reuters, 16:13 August 2, 2013

Iraq Seeks Foreign Companies for New Iraq-Turkey Oil Pipeline

Iraq has asked for bids from international companies to build part of a new oil export pipeline from the Kirkuk fields to Turkey, an oil ministry spokesman said. The new pipeline will act as a back-up to the existing pipeline that has been attacked repeatedly and has had malfunctions, according to an oil ministry spokesman. Nine of the 15 international service companies have submitted bids, and the winning bid is expected to be chosen in September. The existing pipeline has a capacity of 1.6 million b/d but normally carries only around 500,000 b/d due to repeated attacks and maintenance.

Reuters, 10:02 August 5, 2013

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 5, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	106.87	104.70	91.23
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.39	3.59	3.16

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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