



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, August 12, 2009

## ***Electricity***

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### **NV Energy Seeks Help to Stop Power Line Vandalism**

NV Energy issued a plea last month to residents of western Churchill and northern Lyon counties in Nevada to be on the lookout for vandals who are shooting at the company's power lines and damaging insulators that attach the lines to the poles. Company officials discovered vandalism on a 60-kV line in a remote area in July and company crews repaired the damage. An area manager for NV Energy notes that when criminal acts are committed against critical infrastructure like power lines and equipment, the company works with local and federal law enforcement agencies to track down and prosecute the culprits.

[http://www.nvenergy.com/company/news/ShowPR.cfm?pr\\_id=4982](http://www.nvenergy.com/company/news/ShowPR.cfm?pr_id=4982)

### **Cabrillo's 110 MW Encina Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by August 11**

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200908111515.html>

### **Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Shut by August 11**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage on August 11.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200908111515.html>

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Think Tank Report Ranks States' Vulnerability to Oil Price Increases**

A recently released report by the Natural Resources Defense Council, "Fighting Oil Addiction: Ranking States' Oil Vulnerability and Solutions for Change," provides a detailed look at how oil prices impact consumers and ways in which policies can help reduced states' dependence on oil. According to the report, the top 10 states most vulnerable to oil price increases are: #1 Mississippi; #2 Montana; #3 South Carolina; #4 Oklahoma; #5 Louisiana; #6 Kentucky; #7 Texas; #8 New Mexico; #9 Georgia; and #10 Arkansas. The top 10 states that are doing the most to promote clean energy technologies and reduce their dependence on oil are: #1 California; #2 Massachusetts; #3 Washington; #4 New Mexico; #5 Connecticut; #6 New York; #7 New Jersey; #8 Pennsylvania; #9 Oregon; and #10 Florida.

<http://www.nrdc.org/media/2009/090811a.asp>

### **Condensate Unit to Restart at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 12**

According to a filing with Texas regulators, Total planned to restart "Unit 837" from August 12-16. Bloomberg News identifies the unit as a gas condensate splitter.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127989>

Bloomberg News, 05:53 GMT August 12, 2009

### **Power Outage Reported at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 12**

A power outage was reported at the refinery. There was no fire or explosion but some employees were evacuated as a precaution. It is unclear if the outage affected operations at the plant.

Bloomberg News, 17:03 GMT August 12, 2009

### **Unit Upset Reported at Citgo's 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery August 12**

Bloomberg News, 15:30 GMT August 12, 2009

## **No Impact from FCC Power Outage at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery August 11**

The company said that there was no impact to production from a brief power outage at the 25,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking (FCC) unit on August 11.

Bloomberg News, 11:22 GMT August 12, 2009

Reuters, 19:20 August 11, 2009

## **Kuwait Foils Al Qaeda Plot to Attack Oil Refinery**

According to a Kuwaiti security official, detained members of an Al Qaeda-linked group planned to attack Kuwait's 200,000 b/d Shuaiba oil refinery among other targets during the holy month of Ramadan, which is due to begin around August 22. The group used Google Earth to acquire images of the refinery and other targets.

Reuters, 09:11 August 12, 2009

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Weather-Related Power Outage Shuts 96.4 MMscf/d of Natural Gas Production at Yates Gathering System in Texas August 11**

According to a filing with Texas regulators, a third party power outage from inclement weather caused the shutdown of the raw gas field compressors at the Yates Gas Plant. The resulting lack of compression due to the power outage caused an over pressurizing of the Yates Field gas gathering system. The Yates Gas plant operators shut in 87 million standard cubic feet per day (MMscf/d) of gas production via SCADA control while the Yates Field production operators manually shut in an additional 9.4 MMscf/d of gas. Production was restored several hours later when the compressors were restarted. An estimated 48.1 lbs of natural gas was flared during the event.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=128016>

### **Compressor Shut at Salt Creek Gas Plant in Texas August 11**

According to a filing with Texas regulators, operators shut the K3501D re-injection compressor after finding that the unit's 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage unloader was broken during normal operation inspections. The compressor will be placed back online once repairs are complete.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=127965>

### **CenterPoint Holds Open Season for Proposed Gas Transmission Expansion in Arkansas**

CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Co. (CEGT) announced August 11 the start of a non-binding open season to gauge market interest in an additional expansion of its core pipeline system in eastern Arkansas to accommodate growing production from the Fayetteville Shale gas play. CEGT anticipates that such incremental capacity would be provided with additional compression and line looping of Lines J and JM-1.

<http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/ArticlePrint.aspx?aid=17647>

## **Other News**

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Nothing to report.

## **Energy Prices**

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<b>U.S. Oil and Gas Prices</b>			
August 12, 2009			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Week Ago</b>	<b>Year Ago</b>
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	70.64	71.10	113.73
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.54	3.53	8.18

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Progress Energy Seeks \$200 Million Federal Grant to Advance Electric ‘Smart Grid’ in Carolinas and Florida

<http://www.progress-energy.com/aboutus/news/article.asp?id=22322>

### NV Energy Seeks \$138 Million Federal Grant for ‘Smart Grid’ Infrastructure in Nevada

Reuters, 17:57 August 11, 2009

## 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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<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)