



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, August 12, 2011

Electricity

NextEra Energy's 565 MW Duane Arnold Nuclear Unit in Iowa Shut Due to Intake Structure Problem August 11

According to a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the company initiated a shutdown after finding that both River Water Supply subsystems were inoperable due to "high differential pressure across the intake travelling screens." According to a company representative, operators identified debris (probably sand) in the river water intake structure. The NRC reported that on the morning of August 11 the unit was operating at full power.

Reuters, 10:38 August 12, 2011

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110812en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Calpine's 561 MW Los Medanos Gas-fired Unit in California Reduced by August 11

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 321 MW on August 11.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201108111515.html>

Constellation Begins to Restart 1,120 MW Nine Mile Point Nuclear Unit 2 in New York August 12

The unit ramped up to 1 percent power by August 12. According to previous reports, the unit was shut August 11 due to a leak associated with a feedwater pump.

Reuters, 08:27 August 12, 2011

Loss of Intake Cooling Water for 20 Minutes Reported at FPL's 693 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Unit 3 in Florida August 11

The incident occurred due to a valve problem. Unit 3 is currently at 100 percent power with all systems stable.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20110812en.html>

California Energy Commission Approves Proposed 570 MW Palmdale Hybrid Power Project in Palmdale, California

The city-owned hybrid power plant will have both natural gas-fired combined cycle generating equipment and solar thermal generating equipment. The city, which still must secure a developer and a power purchase agreement, said commercial operations could begin in 2013.

<http://www.pennenergy.com/index/power/display/0928058732/articles/pennenergy/power/gas/2011/august/california-energy.html>

<http://www.power-eng.com/articles/2011/08/combined-cycle-and-solar-thermal-power-plant-approved.html>

BPA Completes \$63 Million California-Oregon Intertie Transmission System Upgrade

The project, which included equipment upgrades and the construction of a new substation, will allow operators of the California-Oregon Intertie to use the line's full capacity of 4,800 MW. Prior to the upgrades, the line frequently carried hundreds of megawatts less electricity due to operational constraints. The upgrades will also allow the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to operate the Pacific Direct Current Intertie to southern California at its capacity of 3,100 MW more frequently. The California-Oregon Intertie is jointly owned by BPA, Portland General Electric (PGE), and PacifiCorp.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/6368163>

http://tdworld.com/overhead_transmission/bpa-energy-connection-0811/

BrightSource Energy Applies for State Approval to Build 500 MW Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System in Inyo County, California August 12

The company plans to create steam by focusing sunlight on two, 750-foot tall central towers. If approved by the California Energy Commission, the plant could come online by the end of 2015. Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) has agreed to purchase the plant's power.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/08/09/BU791KKTDD.DTL&type=tech>

Petroleum

Oil Production in North Dakota Hits Record 385,000 b/d in June

According to the state's oil and gas regulator, oil production in the state rose by 22.2 percent year-over-year to just under 385,000 b/d in June, a record high. North Dakota's oil output has tripled since September 2007 due to production from the Bakken shale.

Reuters, 09:45 August 12, 2011

Update: Facing Potential Gasoline Shortages, EPA Grants Emergency Fuel Waiver for Shelby County, Tennessee August 11

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in coordination with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), waived certain clean gasoline requirements for parts of Tennessee on Thursday. The waiver of federal low volatility gasoline requirements was issued due to potential shortages caused by the shutdown of Valero's 180,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee refinery.

Reuters, 17:25 August 12, 2011

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27567

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/civil/caa/mobile/memphis-tenn-fuelwaiver081111.pdf>

Update: ExxonMobil Repairs Unidentified Unit at 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery by August 11

Though it is not clear which unit was repaired, the company had previously reported a unit breakdown on August 9. According to Reuters, spot gasoline prices fell 8 cents August 11 due to the repair.

Reuters, 15:18 August 11, 2011

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 12, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	86.55	87.00	76.55
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.06	4.20	4.38

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Storms Knock Out Power to 24,000 Duke Energy Customers near Charlotte in the Carolinas August 11 – 3,625 Still without Power

<http://twitter.com/#!/DukeEnergyStorm/status/101818303772758016>

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

NRC Approves New Cybersecurity Plan at Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey August 10

http://www.nj.com/business/index.ssf/2011/08/oyster_creek_gets_thumbs_up_fo.html

Georgia Power Worker Dies after Being Electrocuted While Working on Power Line near Brookfield, Georgia August 9

<http://www.cbsatlanta.com/story/15251104/georgia-power-worker-electrocuted>

Alon USA Reports Crude Unit Upset at 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery August 11

Reuters, 18:01 August 11, 2011

Hess Reports Emissions at 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery Related to Undisclosed Issues with 'BOP 17996'

Reuters, 15:57 August 11, 2011

Operations Normal after Irving Oil Reports Brief, Minor Upset at 300,000 b/d St. John, New Brunswick Refinery August 11

DJN, 11:05 August 12, 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110812-710872.html>

Pipeline Shut after Leak Leads to Spill of Estimated 8,000-10,000 Gallons of Helicopter Fuel at Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina August 9

<http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/NC-Marines-say-6-400-gallons-of-fuel-recovered-1828229.php>

CNOOC and ConocoPhillips Revise Amount of Fluids Released from Penglai 19-3 Oil Field into Bohai Sea in China Up from 1,500 Barrels to 3,217 Barrels

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=110107

Lightning Storm Causes Power Failures, Temporary Plant Shutdowns at Slaughter Gasoline Plant and Mallet CO2 Recovery Plant in Texas August 11-12

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=157937>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=157939>

Engines #2, #3, #5, and #6 Briefly Go Down on Water in the Plugs in Engine #3 at Andrews Booster Station in Texas August 11

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=157935>

Valve Problem Leads to Hours-Long Shutdown of #3 Inlet Compressor at Wasson CO2 Removal Plant in Texas August 11

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=157933>

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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