



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, August 15, 2013

Electricity

Update: Entergy Wins Key Appeals Court Ruling to Keep 620 MW Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant Open August 14

A federal appeals court primarily sided with Entergy Corp. in its fight to prevent shutting down its 620 MW Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. The ruling by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the majority of a decision last year finding two laws the state enacted related to the Vermont Yankee plant were surpassed by the federal Atomic Energy Act. The New York-based appeals court did, however, vacate an injunction preventing Vermont from requiring Entergy to execute an agreement requiring it to offer power at favorable rates in order to get a new certificate for the plant to continue operating.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/14/vermont-nuclear-idUSL2N0GF0PG20130814>

Low Level Tritium Spill Reported at Progress Energy's 900 MW Harris Nuclear Unit in North Carolina August 13

Progress Energy reported that during a routine plant inspection on Tuesday, plant personnel discovered a leak from a pipe. An isolation valve leaked causing approximately 9,900 gallons of water containing low levels of tritium to leak onto the surrounding soil. The valve was secured and the leak stopped. Based upon the leak location and low tritium levels, there is no health or safety risk to the public or to employees on the site.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2013/20130815en.html>

Entergy's 836 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 1 in Arkansas Shut by August 15

On the morning of August 14 the unit was operating at 87 percent, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The unit had recently reconnected to the grid on August 7 after exiting an outage.

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

TVA's 1,118 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 2 in Alabama Reduced to 45 Percent by August 15

On the morning of August 14 the unit was operating at full power, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Update: Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Ramped Up to 67 Percent by August 15

On the morning of August 14 the unit ramped up to 2 percent after being shut on Friday. The unit had shut after experiencing the loss of a non-vital 480v bus resulting in a feedwater transient that caused the steam generator water level to lower below the automatic reactor trip setpoint.

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

FPL's 512 MW Point Beach Nuclear Unit 2 in Wisconsin Reduced to 60 Percent by August 15

On the morning of August 14 the unit was operating at 82 percent, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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

Update: AES's 336 MW Alamitos Gas-fired Unit in California Returns to Service by August 14

The unit was shut on August 12, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201308141515.html>

Petroleum

Storm Threat Causes Evacuations at Some Gulf of Mexico Oil & Gas Platforms August 15

A low-pressure system in the Gulf of Mexico, which may strengthen into a cyclone, caused some oil and gas operators to evacuate workers from offshore facilities. However, no companies have announced plans to shut-in production. The U.S. National Hurricane Center said that a weather disturbance in the northwestern Caribbean Sea had a 50 percent chance of becoming a tropical cyclone in the next 48 hours, and a 60 percent chance of becoming a tropical cyclone over the next 5 days. BP Plc said it was evacuating nonessential workers from its four oil and gas platforms in the central Gulf but that production would remain online. The company said it had temporarily halted contracted drilling rigs, but platforms were still working. Marathon Oil Corp. said on Thursday that it was evacuating workers not essential to production from its Ewing Bank platform, which can produce up to 9,700 b/d of oil and 8.2 MMcf/d of natural gas. Other companies said they were monitoring the storm.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/15/storm-gulfofmexico-energy-idUSL2N0GG17Q20130815>

<http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/about-bp/bp-worldwide/bp-in-america/our-us-operations/storm-update.html>

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/gtwo_atl.shtml

Crude Oil Released, But Contained from 100,000 b/d Longhorn Pipeline in Austin, Texas August 13

Magellan Midstream Partners, L.P. was doing maintenance on a valve on the Longhorn pipeline in a Southwest Austin neighborhood Tuesday afternoon when about 300 gallons of oil spilled out and were captured by a concrete containment area, according to a spokesperson. The spill occurred over the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone, which filters rainwater into Barton Springs.

<http://www.statesman.com/news/news/local/officials-oil-released-but-contained-from-longhorn/nZP39/>

Magellan Acquires 150,000 b/d West Columbia Crude Oil Pipeline in Houston Area from Shell August 15

Magellan Midstream Partners LP acquired a bi-directional crude oil pipeline from Shell Pipeline Co. LP that runs from the Genoa Junction, in the Houston area, to Magellan's East Houston terminal. Magellan said the 16-inch diameter, 15-mile-long pipeline, known as the West Columbia line, will provide an additional route for crude oil to reach the company's East Houston terminal. The crude can be put into storage at the terminal or delivered into Royal Dutch Shell Plc's Houston-to-Houma, Louisiana, pipeline (the Ho-Ho system) which is in the process of completing a reversal in direction.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/15/magellan-pipeline-crude-idUSL2N0GG0Y220130815>

TORQ to Build 168,000 b/d Kerrobert Crude-by-Rail Terminal in Saskatchewan

TORQ Transloading Inc. announced Wednesday its planned development of a crude-by-rail terminal in the Kerrobert, Saskatchewan area (the Kerrobert Rail Terminal). TORQ is negotiating multiple pipeline connections to accommodate delivery of both light and heavy crudes to the 168,000 b/d Kerrobert Rail Terminal which will be served by Canadian Pacific Railway.

http://www.torqtransloading.com/news_releases.cfm?id=5

Natural Gas

Acid Gas Booster Compressor Shut, Acid Gas Flared at Cedar Hill Gas Plant in Texas August 14

The Cedar Hill Gas Plant located in Midland, Texas reported that during heavy rainstorms the plant's acid gas booster compressor shut down. This resulted in acid gas being flared and the amine treating equipment malfunctioning causing the plant's residue gas to go off spec. Operations worked to repair equipment and instrumentation then returned the site to stable operations. The plant flared acid gas and residue gas until all equipment was returned to service.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=186789>

Enbridge Reports AGI Units Trip at Its Tilden Gas Plant in Texas August 14

Enbridge reported that due to a fourth stage high discharge temperature, the acid gas injector (AGI) no. 2 tripped, causing an electrical spike which resulted in a compressor motor fault trip on AGI no. 1. AGI no. 2 was blown down and the discharge temperature abated. AGI no. 1 had a motor protection timer reset and the system was blown down. AGI no. 2 was restarted and stabilized and after the five minute timer cleared, AGI no. 1 was restarted and stabilized.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=186793>

Southern Union Flares Inlet Gas at Keystone Gas Plant in Texas August 14

Southern Union reported its Keystone gas plant flared inlet gas due to several field units being shut down to repair pipeline.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=186791>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Gunmen Release Fuel Tanker Hijacked Off Nigerian Coast August 14

Gunmen have released a fuel tanker that was hijacked off the coast of Nigeria, security sources and the vessel's manager said on Wednesday. Indian-based managers Medallion Marine lost contact with the Marshall Islands-flagged SP Atlanta on Sunday evening but resumed communication late on Tuesday, a spokesman told Reuters. Two security sources said gunmen boarded the vessel while it was anchored near Lagos port. The SP Atlanta was attacked by gunmen last year off the coast of Nigeria's Port Harcourt but guards on board were able to prevent the pirates boarding, security sources say.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=40378

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 15, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	107.43	102.68	94.03
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.41	3.32	2.79

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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