



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, August 26, 2008

Electricity

Update: FPL's 839 MW Saint Lucie Nuke Unit 1 in Florida Ramped Up to 30 Percent by August 26

Operators shut the unit August 20 after Tropical Storm Fay flooded a sump pit. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 25 the unit was operating at 1 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:15 August 25, 2008

Bloomberg News, 06:52 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 07:41 August 26, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: Energy Northwest's 1,107 MW Columbia Generating Station Nuke Unit in Washington Ramped Up to 85 Percent by August 26

The unit shut August 21 due to low oil pressure in a hydraulic system. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 25 the unit was operating at 60 percent.

Bloomberg News, 07:21 August 25, 2008

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2522919320080825>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: NRG to Restart 836 MW Limestone Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas

The company expected to restart the unit by early this morning, according to a filing with state regulators. Workers shut the unit on Friday, August 22, to fix a boiler tube leak.

Bloomberg News, 07:30 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 17:15 August 25, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=113093>

Update: Ameren to Replace Fire-Damaged Transformer at 617 MW Newton Coal-fired Unit in Illinois

Ameren expected to replace the transformer today, August 26. The unit remains down after an August 19 fire, a local fire official said.

Bloomberg News, 13:00 August 26, 2008

Update: Luminant to Restart 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas after Fire

Luminant planned to restart the unit by this morning, according to a filing with state regulators. The unit remained down, however, as of a mid-afternoon report. Operators shut the unit yesterday morning when a breaker failure triggered a fire, a spokesman said. On-site workers extinguished the blaze without aid from the fire department, he added. The company is still working to determine the extent of the damage; the impact, however, was limited to a section of the facility used for breaker and fuse boxes.

Bloomberg News, 15:35 August 25, 2008

Reuters, 16:22 August 25, 2008

Reuters, 17:04 August 25, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=113062>

Luminant to Restart 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas August 26

The company planned to restart the unit “following a trip caused by a possible malfunction in the turbine controls,” according to a filing with state regulators. The filing said the restart would stretch until 10 AM this morning. Bloomberg News, 11:02 August 26, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=113104>

Update: Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by August 25

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit ramped up from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200808251515.html>

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 2 in Ontario Shut August 26

Reuters, 12:37 August 26, 2008

Exelon May Close 636 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Station in New Jersey if the State Compels Exelon to Build Cooling Towers

Exelon Corp. said it will “very likely” shut Oyster Creek if the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection compels the company to install cooling towers. The state has not officially ordered the company to install a closed-loop cooling system, but has said it wants the company to do so. Such an order would “negatively impact” a plan to keep the facility in service, Exelon said in a filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. At present, operators cool the reactor with water from Barnegat Bay.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080825/NEWS01/808250343/1006>

Petroleum

Update: Tankers Expected to Complete Crude Loadings in Ceyhan, Turkey August 26—First Loadings Since BTC Pipeline Shut in Early August

Two tankers were expected to finish loading oil at the Ceyhan, Turkey port August 26, the first such loadings since an explosion shut the associated Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (TBC) pipeline August 5. The tankers had a combined capacity of 1.7 million barrels.

Reuters, 06:57 August 26, 2008

Brief Fire at ExxonMobil's 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery—No Affect to Production, Company Says

The fire struck a hydroformer unit, but did not impact production, according to a filing with state regulators. At the time of the incident, the unit was undergoing maintenance when catalyst “material was released,” triggering the fire, the filing said. The blaze, lasting 10 minutes “was extinguished using fire monitors and fire extinguishers.”

Bloomberg News 01:05 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 16:40 August 25, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=113088>

Compressors Shutdown at Valero's 245,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery

Compressors shut in “Praxair's Pressure Swing Absorption (PSA) Unit,” according to a filing with state regulators.

Reuters, 16:52 August 25, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=113087>

Iraq to Restart 430,000 b/d Pipeline to Turkey after “Routine” Shutdown August 26

The pipeline shut Tuesday, August 26, according to a shipping agent. An oil official called the shutdown “a routine act,” and said the pipeline would “resume pumping in less than 10 hours,” according to a morning news source.

Reuters, 09:34 August 26, 2008

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/International_Business/Iraq_halts_crude_exports_to_Turkey/articleshow/3407979.cms

StatoilHydro Plans 150,000 boe/d Output Increase from Norwegian Oilfields by 2012

StatoilHydro hopes to steady production at 1.5 million barrels of oil equivalent per day (boed) for a 10-year span.

The company also plans to increase output by 150,000 boed by 2012.

Reuters, 04:27 August 26, 2008

Without Significant Reform, Mexico's Proven Reserves Account for Only 9 Years of Production

The Mexican oil industry needs significant reform to bolster the nation's lagging crude output, according to President Felipe Calderon and some officials of Pemex, the state oil company. Output from Mexico's biggest oilfield, Cantarell, dipped for the tenth consecutive month in July, falling to 974,000 b/d; it could slip to 600,000 b/d by 2012, according to a senior Pemex official. In April, President Calderon proposed granting greater autonomy to Pemex, and allowing some private participation in oil refining, storage and transportation. Critics charge that the plan goes too far, and Mexico's leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party (DRP) presented its own reform proposals yesterday. The opposition's plan does not support increased foreign investment. Instead, it would reduce Pemex's tax payments and allow the company to construct additional pipelines, refineries and chemical plants.

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601086&sid=a7z8z36Fpt4I&refer=latin_america

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=93957613#email>

Reuters, 12:19 August 26, 2008

Oil Daily, August 26, 2008

Natural Gas

DCP Midstream to Boost Production at Gas Processing Plants in Colorado by 80 MMcf/d

DCP Midstream, LLC plans to increase capacity at two existing plants, Mewbourne and Lucerne, by a combined 80 MMcf/d. The expansion would boost the company's gas processing capacity in the area to 400 MMcf/d.

<https://www.dcpmidstream.com/pdf/DCP%20Midstream%20Announces%20Expansion%20in%20Northeast%20Colorado.pdf>

Other News

O&G Companies Prepare as Hurricane Gustav Heads for U.S. Gulf

Hurricane Gustav struck Haiti this afternoon, carrying winds of around 90 mph and moving toward the Gulf of Mexico. Though only a Category 1 hurricane, forecasters expected Gustav to gain strength and cross into the Gulf of Mexico by Sunday. By then, they predicted, it could be a Category 3 hurricane, carrying winds of 120 miles per hour. The storm could affect oil and gas producers in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico by the middle of next week, according to an AccuWeather Inc. meteorologist. In anticipation, Shell plans to evacuate employees who are non-essential "to production or drilling operations." Those evacuations may start tomorrow, the company said.

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gVWjsPEiqe1tEu2mhBIRaxxGi8owD92Q4K501>

Bloomberg News, 10:39 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 08:39 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 10:04 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 10:26 August 26, 2008

Reuters, 11:13 August 26, 2008

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 26, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	115.79	113.93	71.40
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.63	7.74	5.73

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: North Carolina Utilities Commission Denies Advocacy Groups' Request to Reconsider Planning Approval for Duke Energy's Proposed 2,234 MW William S. Lee Nuclear Station

<http://triad.bizjournals.com/triad/stories/2008/08/25/daily15.html?ana=yfcpc>

Rupture along Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line's 2.8 Bcf/d, 6,500-mile Natural Gas Pipeline through Missouri—Mainline Capacity to Slip, but Customer Shipments Will not be Affected, Company Says

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2635506320080826>

PSEG Invests in Development of Commercial-Scale Energy Storage Devices for Wind and Solar Power—Technology Uses Compressed Air to Store Power Underground—Likened to Pump Storage for Hydro

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=axUXxkBAH_s&refer=us

Gasoline Tanker Truck Crashes, Catches Fire on I-440 in North Carolina August 26

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2662/story/1194018.html>

Venezuela's PdVSA Shipping About 360,000 b/d of Oil to China—Company Plans to Increase that Total to 1 Million b/d by 2012, Decrease Dependence on United States

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=65838

Bad Weather Pushes Back Start Date for OMV's Planned 35,000 b/d Maari Oilfield in New Zealand

Reuters, 07:07 August 26, 2008

Links

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

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>

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