



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

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, September 11, 2009

## *Electricity*

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### **Storms Cuts Electricity to about 30,000 Customers in New Jersey September 11**

Storms knocked out power to 17,103 Atlantic City Electric customers and 13,000 Jersey Central Power & Light customers in New Jersey on September 11, multiple sources reported. An estimated 8,000 Jersey Central Power & Light customers and 6,750 Atlantic City Electric customers remained in the dark, as of latest reports.

<http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com/home/emergency/maps/stormcenter/>

[http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/article\\_b575f178-9ec3-11de-bafe-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/article_b575f178-9ec3-11de-bafe-001cc4c002e0.html)

[http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article\\_afd7fd7e-9ec3-11de-a7f3-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_afd7fd7e-9ec3-11de-a7f3-001cc4c03286.html)

[http://www.nj.com/business/index.ssf/2009/09/jcpl\\_reports\\_power\\_outages.html](http://www.nj.com/business/index.ssf/2009/09/jcpl_reports_power_outages.html)

### **Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuke Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Reduced to 80 Percent by September 11**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 10 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009>

### **AES's 227 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by September 10**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by September 10.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200909101515.html>

### **Update: California PUC Rejects SDG&E Fire-Prevention Plan September 10**

The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) rejected San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E) proposal to shut power to rural customers, in certain conditions, to prevent the spread of fires. SDG&E had sought PUC approval to cut electricity to as many as 60,000 customers, in certain cases of dry, windy weather. The PUC denied that the specified conditions warranted such drastic measures. Despite the rejection, the PUC said SDG&E could—if inaction posed a risk to public safety—cut power to customers in some situations.

<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/sep/10/bn10shutoff112853/>

<http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/sep/11/sdgame-didnt-prove-case-cut-fire-risk-puc-says/?metro&zIndex=163996>

### **NRG Energy Plans to Convert 120 MW Coal-fired Somerset Power Generating Station in Massachusetts to Plasma Gasification Facility**

NRG Energy plans to retrofit its 120 MW coal-fired Somerset power plant in Massachusetts to gasify coal and biomass, according to multiple sources. The facility would combust the resultant gas, and therefore significantly reduce its emissions, the sources said.

[http://www.alternrg.com/project\\_development/current\\_projects/under\\_development](http://www.alternrg.com/project_development/current_projects/under_development)

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090911/NEWS/909110326/-1/NEWSMAP#STS=fzguowp.1lt3>

### **Update: Luminant to Restart 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas September 11**

Luminant expected to restart the unit today, September 11, after fixing a boiler tube, it said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129118>

### **Power Failure Forces Shut Units at Flint Hills' 286,126 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery September 10—Operators Restore Power, but Impact to Production Unclear**

Harsh weather triggered an "electrical switch gear" failure, cutting power to flare gas recovery unit compressors at Flint Hills Resources' 288,126 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery on September 10, according to a filing with state regulators. The incident forced shut a crude unit, a cumene unit and a saturated gas unit, and disrupted a sulfur recovery unit. A second power failure might have caused flaring from a separate sulfur recovery unit, the filing said. Operators restored power to the compressors, but sources did not indicate the extent of any impact  
Bloomberg News, 12:42 September 11, 2009  
Reuters, 12:39 September 11, 2009

### **BP Fixing Leaky Valve at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery September 10-11**

BP began repairing a leaking depropanizer tower valve, but a source familiar with operations said the work would not impact an associated gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking unit. Operators discovered the leak on September 10, according to a filing with state regulators. Also at Texas City, BP said it shut an aromatics recovery unit and a distillate desulphurisation unit by September 11. Those shutdowns triggered flaring, according to a regulatory filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129271>

DJN, 11:21 September 11, 2009

Reuters, 11:20 September 11, 2009

Reuters, 23:27 September 10, 2009

### **Chevron Halts Unspecified Unit at 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi Refinery September 10**

Chevron shut an unspecified unit for repairs at its 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi refinery on September 10, the company told state regulators. The shutdown caused "a mechanical failure on a compressor," the filing said.  
Bloomberg News, 10:30 September 11, 2009

### **Venezuela, Russia to Jointly Produce 400,000 b/d of Oil from Venezuela's Orinoco Belt, Chavez Says**

Venezuela and Russia signed a deal to jointly develop the Junin-6 field in Venezuela's Orinoco Belt, and to construct other infrastructure in the Orinoco region, multiple sources reported. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said the venture would produce 400,000 b/d of oil. Under the deal, Russia's Transneft expects to construct two oil pipelines: a 435-mile line from the Junin-6 field, and an 808-mile oil pipeline from an unspecified location.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=80240](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=80240)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090911-704186.html>

### **Irving Oil to Improve Yield at 300,000 b/d Saint John, New Brunswick Refinery**

Irving Oil plans to upgrade its 300,000 b/d Saint John, New Brunswick refinery to better convert crude into higher-grade fuels, a spokesman said. The \$220 million project began last week, and should take 60 days, he said. When complete, the facility will be better-equipped to produce such fuels as ultra-low sulphur gasoline. That, in turn, will boost its capacity to serve customers in Atlantic Canada and the U.S. Northeast, according to the spokesman.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/new-brunswick/story/2009/09/11/nb-refinery-refit.html>

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## **Natural Gas**

### **Natural Gas Futures Record Largest Single-Day Jump in Five Years, as EIA Report Suggests Improved Demand September 10**

Natural gas for October delivery rose 42.7 cents, or 15 percent, reaching \$3.256 per million Btus, as the Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported a smaller-than-expected build in U.S. natural gas inventories, a news source said. An analyst cited improved economic conditions, and increased industrial fuels' demand, as reasons for the jump.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aD0V8Dm0ZdlQ>

## Other News

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### Coal Train Derails in West Virginia September 9

Fifteen to 20 coal-carrying cars derailed in Boone County, West Virginia, spilling an unspecified quantity of coal on September 9, sources said. CSX officials were investigating the incident, but hoped to return the cars to the tracks later on September, according to dispatchers.

[http://www.58wchs.com/includes/news\\_items/7/news\\_items\\_more.php?id=1442&section\\_id=7](http://www.58wchs.com/includes/news_items/7/news_items_more.php?id=1442&section_id=7)

<http://www.dailymail.com/News/breakingnews/200909090325>

### Highwater Ethanol Plans Grand Opening at 55 MMGal/Yr. Lamberton, Minnesota Ethanol Plant September 11

Highwater Ethanol began grinding corn in August, but expected to host a grand opening on September 11 at its 55 MMGal/Yr. Lamberton, Minnesota ethanol plant, a news source said.

<http://domesticfuel.com/2009/09/10/minnesota-ethanol-plant-grand-opening/>

### USEC Inks Deals to Sell Enriched Uranium from New Centrifuge Plant in Ohio

USEC plans to produce enriched uranium at the American Centrifuge Plant near Cincinnati, Ohio, a news source said. The company signed a \$1.2 billion deal with Exelon to supply the utility's nuclear reactors, according to the source. USEC is the nation's only enriched uranium provider.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/sns-ap-us-usec-exelon-contract,0,3110561.story>

### Companies to Convert Shuttered, Ford-Owned Michigan Car Factory into Renewable Energy Manufacturing Park

Xtreme Power and Clairvoyant Energy plan to convert a former Ford car factory into a renewable energy manufacturing park, Ford's Executive Chairman said on September 10. The facility would produce storage batteries, solar panels, and potentially wind turbines.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-mi-energy-park-michigan,0,1329544.story>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
September 11, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	69.56	68.10	100.95
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	2.68	2.06	7.83

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Transmission Line Snag Knocks Out Power to 20,000 BC Hydro Customers in British Columbia, Canada September 9

<http://www2.canada.com/westerly/story.html?id=eal601e1-1912-4603-a92e-884f911d20a0>

### AmerenUE, Fred Weber, Inc. Plans 15 MW Methane Gas-fired Power Facility at Missouri Landfill—Project to Come Online in 2011

[http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind\\_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/09-10-2009/0005091917&EDATE=](http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/09-10-2009/0005091917&EDATE=)

**Propane Truck Overturms in Wisconsin September 8—Crews Remove 10,000 Gallons of Propane, with no Leaks Reported**

<http://www.fdlreporter.com/article/20090909/FON0101/909090387/1985/FONent/Propane-tanker-tips-near-Mount-Calvary>

**Officials to Extract Grounded, 230,000-Liter Diesel Tanker Offshore Philippines over Weekend**

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/breakingnews/regions/view/20090911-224711/Oil-spill-feared-over-stuck-tanker-off-Leyte>

**ConocoPhillips Reports Underground Oil Leak along Storage Line in Louisiana by September 10—About 50-to-100 Barrels of Crude Spills**

<http://www.kplctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11111715>

**Jet Fuel Tanker Truck Overturms, Forcing Shut I-290 North Segment in New York September 10**

<http://www.lohud.com/article/20090910/NEWS05/909100429/-1/SPORTS/%3Cb%3E Crash%20closes%20busy%20section%20of%20Thruway%20upstate%3C/b%3E>

**Leak Triggers Flaring at 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery September 10**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129274>

**SRU Flaring at Flint Hills 288,126 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery September 10**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129232>

**Update: ConocoPhillips More than Halfway Through Expansion Project at 306,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery by September 11**

DJN, 11:27 September 11, 2009

**Technip, StatoilHydro Inaugurate World's First Full-Scale Floating Wind Turbine Offshore Norway**

BSW, 01:30 September 11, 2009

**Pipeline Shutdown Causes Flaring at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas September 10**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129274>

**Power Disruption Triggers Shutdown of Tilden Gas Plant in Texas September 10 Operators Restart Site Later September 10**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129217>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=129221>

**Update: Massey Energy to Replace Fire-Damaged Coal Preparation Plant in West Virginia**

<http://www.dailypress.com/news/virginia/dp-wv--prepplantfire0910sep10.0.3788747.story>

## **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.

## **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:  
<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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