



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, September 17, 2010

Electricity

Storms, Possible Tornado Knocks Out Power to Nearly 90,000 Customers in New York and New Jersey September 16

Storms and a possible tornado killed at least one person, disrupted commuter rail traffic, and knocked out power to nearly 90,000 customers in New York and New Jersey on September 16, multiple news and company sources reported. The storm halted some service along Long Island Railroad's (LIRR) system, led to the closure of at least one subway line in New York City, and affected movement along NJ Transit's system. LIRR restored service by this morning, but reported some delays on its Port Jefferson and Ronkonkoma Branches. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

New York/New Jersey Customer Power Outages September 16 – 17, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Con Edison	NY	37,000	28,211
LIPA	NY	12,000	768
Atlantic City Electric	NJ	19,479	810
JCP&L	NJ	10,000	700
PSE&G	NJ	10,000	400
TOTAL *		88,479	30,889

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

Con Edison: <http://www.coned.com/newsroom/news/pr20100917.asp> ,

<http://apps.coned.com/weboutageinfo/stormcenter/default.aspx> , http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpps/weather/new-york-storm-possible-tornado-hits-city-20100916-akd_9680183

LIPA: <http://www.longislandpress.com/2010/09/17/storm-related-lirr-disruptions-may-last-into-morning/> ,
<http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/outagemap.html>

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

JCP&L: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=NJ ,

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100917/UPDATES01/309170026/More-than-35-000-without-power-in-NJ-after-storms-> , http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/utility_crews_work_to_restore.html

PSE&G: <http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100917/UPDATES01/309170026/More-than-35-000-without-power-in-NJ-after-storms-> ,

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/breaking/20100917_Storms_spawn_possible_tornados_kills_Pa_woman.html

Railroads: <http://www.mta.info/lirr/> ,

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/18/nyregion/18weather.html?_r=1&hp=&pagewanted=print ,

<http://www.bulletinblips.com/2010/09/fast-moving-tornado-in-queens-with.html> ,

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100917/UPDATES01/309170026/More-than-35-000-without-power-in-NJ-after-storms->

Storm Cuts Electricity to More than 33,000 AEP Customers in Ohio September 16

Storms and several possible tornadoes cut electricity to more than 33,000 American Electric Power (AEP) customers in Ohio on September 16, the company said on its website. Some 18,361 customers remained without power, as of latest reports.

<https://www.aepohio.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=AEP Ohio Wind Storm September 16>

Luminant's 591 MW Sandow Coal-Fired Unit 4 in Texas Shuts September 17

Luminant's 591 MW Sandow coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas "tripped while at load due to a boiler tube leak" on September 17, the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear when the unit might return to service.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144933>

Update: Entergy's 979 MW Indian Point Nuclear Unit 3 in New York Ramped Up to 90 Percent by September 17

Operators shut the unit on September 9 due to a "service water leak in the main generator exciter housing," the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of September 16 the unit was operating at 53 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100910en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

Exelon's 619 MW Oyster Creek Nuclear Unit in New Jersey Reduced to 65 Percent by September 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 16 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/2010/>

Update: New York PSC Says Utilities Responded Adequately, for the Most Part, to Late-February and Mid-March Storms

The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) received a report yesterday from the Staff of the Department of Public Service (DPS) that assessed Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation's (Central Hudson), Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.'s (Con Edison), New York State Electric and Gas Corporation's (NYSEG), and Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.'s (O&R) restoration and customer service performance during storms in February and March of 2010. The DPS found that the utilities responded adequately, for the most part, to the storms. It did, however, note concerns associated with estimated restoration times. The DPS issued recommendations. To read more about the problems and recommendations, click on the link below.

[http://www3.dps.state.ny.us/pscweb/WebFileRoom.nsf/ArticlesByCategory/A15FBC1CFD35CF0B852577A0005880D9/\\$File/pr10087.pdf?OpenElement](http://www3.dps.state.ny.us/pscweb/WebFileRoom.nsf/ArticlesByCategory/A15FBC1CFD35CF0B852577A0005880D9/$File/pr10087.pdf?OpenElement)

Petroleum

Update: Enbridge Restarts 670,000 b/d, 34-Inch, Wisconsin-to-Indiana Line 6A September 17

Enbridge restarted its 670,000 b/d, 34-inch, 467-mile, Wisconsin-to-Indiana Line 6A this morning, it said in a release. The company shut the line after it ruptured and spilled an estimated 6,100 barrels of crude oil in Romeoville, Illinois by September 9. The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) authorized the line's restart, saying the rupture "was not the result of a pipeline integrity issue." Instead, PHMSA suspected that water leaked from a nearby pipeline and pushed rocks into the Enbridge line. The rocks, according to the PHMSA, probably caused the rupture. Enbridge completed repairs by September 15. Line 6A's shutdown – along with the extended shutdown of the company's 190,000 b/d, 30-inch, Indiana-to-Ontario Lakehead System Line 6B – had affected or threatened to disrupt operations at numerous U.S. Midwest refineries, and caused gasoline prices to rise throughout the region. At least one company, Whiting Petroleum Corporation, said the shutdowns had impacted production for the third quarter of 2010.

<http://romeoville.enbridgeus.com/line6a/main.aspx?id=13275>

<http://romeoville.enbridgeus.com/line6a/main.aspx?id=13286>

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20100916/NEWS01/309160011/1002/Enbridge+pipeline+cleared+for+restart>

<http://cbs2chicago.com/local/romeoville.oil.pipeline.2.1917941.html>

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=24046

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aaa-september-gas-prices-on-the-rise-across-illinois-northern-indiana-103121744.html>

Update: BP Intercepts Blown-Out Well via Relief Well in Gulf of Mexico by September 16 – Company Expects to Permanently Kill Well on September 18

BP intercepted the Macondo 252 annulus via a relief well by late-afternoon on September 16, and said it expected to completely seal the blown-out well on September 18. The company recovered and tested drilling mud from the well, and determined that no hydrocarbons or cement were present at the intersect point. As a result, BP said it did not need to conduct an annulus kill. The company planned to proceed with the annulus cementing.

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7065070>

<http://app.restorethegulf.gov/go/doc/2931/899695/>

Update: EPA Launches Investigation into May-April Benzene Release at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched an investigation into an April 6-May 16 benzene release from BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery, the agency said on September 16. EPA ordered BP to disclose specific information regarding its operations during the incident; the agency said it would use the information to determine whether the refinery complied with the federal Clean Air Act.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/e77fdd4f5afd88a3852576b3005a604f/a82c50047d011bda852577a0006fa72d!OpenDocument>

Update: Valero Returns Hydrocracker to Planned Rates at 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery by September 17

Valero returned a 36,000 b/d hydrocracker to planned rates at the west plant of its 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery by September 17, three days after operators shut the unit to fix a leak, the company said.

<http://english.capital.gr/News.asp?id=1048405>

Reuters, 09:54 September 17, 2010

Reuters, 09:59 September 15, 2010

Citgo Shuts Crude Unit after Brief Fire at 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery September 16

Citgo shut the unit after "a tube leak" in its heater "resulted in liquid hydrocarbons entering the heater combustion chamber," the company said in a filing with state regulators. The incident resulted in a brief fire, Citgo said separately. It was not clear if there was any impact on production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144917>

Reuters, 19:51 September 16, 2010

Hurricane Karl Forces Pemex to Halt Production at 14 Oil-and-Gas Platforms in Gulf of Mexico

Citing Hurricane Karl, Mexico's state-owned Pemex evacuated all workers from its drilling rigs in the Gulf of Mexico and halted production at 14 platforms, the company said by September 17. The storm had not damaged any of the company's infrastructure, as of latest reports.

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/mexico-evacuates-gulf-oil-rigs-20100917-15fu2.html>

Citgo Opens 42,500 b/d ULSD Unit at 167,000 Lemont, Illinois Refinery by September 16

Citgo Petroleum Corporation started up a 42,500 b/d Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) production unit at its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois refinery, the company said on September 16.

http://vocuspr.vocus.com/VocusPR30/Newsroom/Query.aspx?SiteName=Citgo&Entity=PRAsset&SF_PRAsset_PRAssetID_EQ=115678&XSL=PressRelease&Cache=True&SubMenu=Releases

Devon Energy Corporation Eyes 2015 Start-Date for 35,000 b/d Jackfish 3 Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

Pending regulatory approval, Devon Energy Corporation plans to break ground near year-end 2011 on a third 35,000 b/d phase at the Jackfish oil sands project in Alberta, Canada, the company said on September 16. The project is slated to begin production in 2015. Devon opened the project's initial 35,000 b/d phase in December 2007, and broke ground on its second 35,000 b/d phase in September 2008. Together, the three phases represent about 900 million barrels of gross estimated recoverable reserves.

<http://www.devonenergy.com/newsroom/Pages/NewsRelease.aspx?id=1472253>

http://www.devonenergy.com/Operations/canada/Pages/jackfish_project.aspx

Petrobras to Produce 100,000 b/d by End of 2011, Beginning of 2012, at Tupi Oil Field Offshore Brazil

Petrobras plans to produce about 14,000 b/d of oil in October 2010 via a pilot program at its Tupi oilfield offshore Brazil, and expects to increase output to 100,000 b/d the end of 2011 or the beginning of 2012, a company engineer said on September 16.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100916-711015.html>

Natural Gas

Update: PG&E Tells Regulators That Compressor Oil May Have Caused Corrosion, Led to Fatal Explosion along Company's Natural Gas Pipeline in San Bruno, California

"Significant amounts" of compressor oil may have caused corrosion and led to the fatal September 9 explosion along Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) 30-inch natural gas transmission line in San Bruno, California, the company told the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The explosion killed at least four people.

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2010/09/17/PGE-eyes-corrosion-in-San-Bruno/UPI-80811284721710/

Eureka Hunter Pipeline, DCP Midstream to Construct at Least 200 MMcf/d of Natural Gas Gathering Facilities in West Virginia and Ohio

Eureka Hunter Pipeline, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Magnum Hunter Resources Corporation, and DCP Midstream Partners, LP and its sponsor, DCP Midstream, LLC, plan to jointly gather natural gas in West Virginia and Ohio, the companies said on September 16. The partners plan to construct, own, and operate at least 200 MMcf/d of natural gas gathering facilities. The initial facilities are expected to begin gathering 20-30 MMcf/d of natural gas in the fourth quarter of 2010.

<http://www.snl.com/irweblinkx/file.aspx?IID=4105307&FID=10098793>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices September 17, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	73.36	76.18	72.36
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.09	3.79	3.28

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Thieves Have Taken More than 100 Miles of Copper from Utility Lines in West Virginia So Far in 2010: AEP

<http://www.wowktv.com/story.cfm?storyid=86129&func=viewstory>

**TVA Releases Draft Integrated Resource Plan and Environmental Impact Statement
September 16 – Study Analyzes Potential Combinations of Economic and Regulatory
Trends, Provides Recommendations for Addressing Them**

<http://www.tva.com/news/releases/julsep10/irp.html>

**Instrumentation Snag Leads to Brief Flaring at ExxonMobil's 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas
Refinery September 15**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144890>

Reuters, 15:00 September 16, 2010

**Update: Marathon Expects to Complete 40 Percent of 14,000 b/d Expansion Project at
Existing 106,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery by End of 2010**

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20100917/BIZ/9170345/1001/biz>

**Update: Valero to Weigh Economics, Determine in Late 2010 or Early 2011 Whether to
Resume Operations at 235,000 b/d Refinery in Aruba: Chief Executive**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1610806920100916>

**Colombian Oil Output Increases to 788,000 b/d August 2010, or 18 Percent More than in
August 2009: National Hydrocarbons Agency**

Reuters, 18:04 September 16, 2010

**Update: Quebec Superior Court Dismisses Injunction against Shell's Plans to Convert
Montreal Refinery into Fuel Terminal**

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=24060

**Transocean to Redirect Discoverer Americas Drillship from Gulf of Mexico to Egypt –
Company Has Already Moved One Rig to Nigeria**

<http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/4866003353/articles/oil-gas-journal/drilling-production-2/2010/09/transocean-moves-deepwater.html>

**Update: FERC Approves Kern River Gas Transmission Company's Proposal to Expand
Capacity by 266 MMcf/d along Wyoming-to-Nevada Natural Gas Pipeline System**

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

<http://www.kernrivergas.com/InternetPortal/BackDesktop.aspx?TabID=143&TabParentID=142>

**Storm Causes Power Failure, Forces Shut Anton CO2 Re-Injection Facility in Texas
September 16 – Power Restored, Compression Returned by End of Day**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144924>

Engines Shut, Restarts at West Credo Booster Station in Texas September 16

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144923>

**Massey Energy's Planned 1.3 Million Ton/Year Revolution Coal Mine in West Virginia
Remains Shut as Company Negotiates Ventilation Plan with Federal Regulators**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/massey-energy-provides-2010-guidance-update-and-affirms-2011-outlook-103080414.html>

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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