



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

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, September 22, 2010

## Major Developments

### Storms Knock Out Power to nearly 230,000 Customers in U.S. Midwest and Ontario September 21-22

Storms cut power to about 228,000 customers in Michigan, Illinois, and Ontario on September 21-22, news and company sources reported. Just over 100,000 customers remained without power, as of this afternoon. The following table lists peak and current outages, based on latest available data.

U.S. Midwest/Ontario Customer Power Outages September 21 – 22, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Consumers Energy	MI	112,000	73,000
DTE Energy	MI	24,000	7,000
ComEd	IL	47,000	1,519
Hydro One	ON	45,000	19,069
<b>TOTAL *</b>		<b>228,000</b>	<b>100,588</b>

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

Sources:

Consumers Energy: <http://www.consumersenergy.com/News.aspx?id=3431&year=2010>

DTE Energy: <http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html> , <http://www.mlive.com/newsflash/index.ssf/story/mich-storms-leave-more-than-100000-without-power/30922146a13a4d8eb0b6292aef1b42f4>

ComEd: <https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/OutageMap.aspx> ,  
<http://www.wbez.org/Content.aspx?audioID=44572>

Hydro One:

[http://www.hydroone.com/OurCompany/MediaCentre/Documents/NewsReleases2010/09\\_22\\_10\\_Outages\\_noon.pdf](http://www.hydroone.com/OurCompany/MediaCentre/Documents/NewsReleases2010/09_22_10_Outages_noon.pdf)  
, <http://www.hydroone.com/stormcenter/>

## Electricity

### Hurricane Igor Cuts Power to 50,000 Customers in Newfoundland, Canada September 21-22

Hurricane Igor blasted Newfoundland and Labrador on September 21-22, flooding homes, damaging roads, and cutting power to 50,000 Newfoundland Power customers, company and news sources said. About 30,000 customers were still in the dark, as of latest reports.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2010/09/22/igor-aftermath.html>

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39286755/ns/weather/>

<http://www.newfoundlandpower.com/Outages/ViewPowerOutages/Default.aspx>

### Update: Exelon's 802 MW Three Mile Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania at Full Power by September 22

The unit "shut down on September 19 due to a faulty electrical card on a plant system," the company said in a previous release. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 21 the unit was operating at 68 percent.

[http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/Pages/pr\\_20100921\\_Nuclear\\_TMIReturnstoService.aspx](http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/Pages/pr_20100921_Nuclear_TMIReturnstoService.aspx)

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **FPL's 693 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Unit 4 in Florida Shut September 21**

The unit “spuriously tripped” on September 21, FPL said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). “The cause of the reactor trip is currently under investigation,” according to the filing. The NRC reported that on the morning of September 21 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100922en.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 1,161 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Ramped Up to 17 Percent by September 22**

The unit shut automatically for unknown reasons on September 20, the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Workers were “performing a calibration of Power Range Channel N-43 and a calibration of the 1C S/G Narrow Range Level Channel 1L-0538” at the time of the incident, according to the filing. The NRC reported that on the morning of September 21 the unit was not operating.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100921en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **Explosion Leads Xcel Energy to Shut 538 MW Black Dog Coal-and-Gas-Fired Power Plant in Minnesota September 21**

A “small explosion” and fire injured three firefighters and led Xcel Energy to shut its 538 MW Black Dog coal-and-gas-fired power plant in Minnesota, the company said. Xcel contacted the fire department after workers noticed a smoldering coal bin. The explosion occurred when the responders were on-site. For precautionary reasons, Xcel shut the plant’s coal-fired Units 3 and 4. The gas-fired Unit 5-2 was already down for maintenance; it remained offline, as of September 21.

[http://www.twincities.com/business/ci\\_16132620](http://www.twincities.com/business/ci_16132620)

## ***Petroleum***

---

### **BP Restarts Compressor after Storm-Induced Shutdown at 420,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery September 22**

Storms knocked offline a wet gas compressor at BP's 420,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana refinery on September 22, but the company restarted the unit later in the day, sources familiar with the facility's operations said. The storm did not cause any other problems, according to the sources.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-09-22/bp-said-to-start-whiting-indiana-compressor-after-storm.html>

### **Update: Despite Reports of Underwater Oil Plume from Deepwater Horizon Spill, U.S. Government Says Oil Concentrations Continue to Decline in Gulf of Mexico**

The U.S. government is “continuing to find lower and lower concentrations” of oil in the Gulf of Mexico, despite reports that a massive plume of oil remains from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, a scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said on September 21. Scientists from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts said recently that they had discovered a 22-mile-long oil plume near the blown-out Macondo well. The NOAA scientist, said the Woods Hole researchers collected their data in June, when the situation had probably been very different.

Reuters, 17:16 September 21, 2010

### **Hurricane Igor Leaves Energy Installations Largely Unscathed, Initial Reports Suggest**

Hurricane Igor pummeled Newfoundland and Labrador on September 21, but the storm did not appear to have significantly damaged or disrupted production at three offshore oilfields: ExxonMobil's 170,000 b/d Hibernia field, Suncor's 80,000 b/d Terra Nova field, and Husky's 60,000 b/d White Rose field. Igor also did not seem to have caused major damage at Korea National Oil Corp's (KNOC) 115,000 b/d Come-by-Chance refinery; it was not clear, however, if the storm had any impact on production.

Reuters, 16:16 September 21, 2010

Reuters, 18:37 September 21, 2010

Reuters, 16:55 September 21, 2010

## **Update: After Hurricane Karl, Pemex Resumes Production at 14 Oil Wells in Gulf of Mexico by September 21**

Mexico's Pemex resumed production at 14 offshore oil wells that it shut ahead of Hurricane Karl, the company said on September 21. The company evacuated workers from its Gulf of Mexico drilling rigs and halted production at the 14 platforms by September 17, it said previously.

Reuters, 13:55 September 21, 2010

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

## **As Demand Grows Overseas, United States Becomes Net Oil Product Exporter For First Time Ever: Goldman Sachs**

U.S. crude oil inventories declined last week for the first time in 14 weeks, Goldman Sachs analysts said, as increased overseas demand caused the United States to become a net petroleum product exporter for the first time ever. The analysts said it was "yet too early to conclude if last week's draw has heralded the start of a more constructive trend."

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/us-becoming-oil-products-net-exporter-gs-2010-09-21>

## **Natural Gas**

---

### **Enterprise Products to Construct 20-Inch, 17-Mile Natural Gas Pipeline in Eagle Ford Shale, Texas**

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. plans to construct a 20-inch, 17-mile natural gas gathering pipeline from Anadarko Petroleum Corporation's central production facilities in the Eagle Ford Shale, South Texas to Enterprise's existing South Texas pipeline system. The pipeline – part of a broader agreement under which Enterprise plans to provide Anadarko with numerous gas-related services – is expected to enter service in late-October 2010.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=1473613&highlight=>

### **Magnum Hunter Resources Breaks Ground on Planned 200 MMcf/d Eureka Natural Gas Pipeline System in West Virginia by September 17**

Magnum Hunter Resources Corporation planned to celebrate on September 17 the groundbreaking of its proposed 200 MMcf/d Eureka natural gas gathering pipeline system in West Virginia. The company expects to complete the system's first phase in November 2010.

<http://www.magnumhunterresources.com/pressreleases.html>

### **Equitrans LP Plans 110-Mile, Pennsylvania-to-West Virginia Sunrise Natural Gas Pipeline System**

The project would also include two new compressor stations. Equitrans plans to break ground in July-August 2011 and open the line in the summer of 2012.

<http://www.observer-reporter.com/or/localnews/09-21-2010-Meeting-on-pipeline>

<http://www.sunrise.eqt.com/FactSheet.aspx>

## **Other News**

---

Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

---

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices September 22, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	72.64	75.68	71.44
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.95	3.98	3.35

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

---

### **Lightning Cuts Power to about 17,332 Hydro One Customers in Petersborough, Ontario September 21**

<http://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2766878>

### **Substation Snag Knocks Out Power to More than 15,000 AEP Customers in Ohio September 21 – Company Restores Power by End of Day**

[http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local\\_news/stories/2010/09/22/thousands-without-power-amid-aep-glitch.html?sid=101](http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/09/22/thousands-without-power-amid-aep-glitch.html?sid=101)

### **Citing Fatal February Explosion at Power Plant Construction Site, Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell Bans "Gas Blows" at In-State Power Plants September 22**

<http://www.ct.gov/governorrell/cwp/view.asp?A=1719&Q=466186>

### **Brownsville PUD Reports Compressor Snag, Pump Failure at 61 MW Silas Ray Gas-Fired Unit 10 in Texas September 20**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=145074>

### **General Motors and ABB Group to Examine Whether Electric Used Vehicle Batteries Can be Reused as Stationary Electric Grid Storage Systems**

[http://media.gm.com/content/media/us/en/news/news\\_detail.brand\\_gm.html/content/Pages/news/us/en/2010/Sept/09\\_21\\_volt](http://media.gm.com/content/media/us/en/news/news_detail.brand_gm.html/content/Pages/news/us/en/2010/Sept/09_21_volt)

### **Update: NRC Okays Exelon's Plans to Boost Output by 26 MW at Existing 2,358 MW LaSalle Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois – Company Plans to Increase 1,179 Unit 1 by 13 MW in September 2010, and 1,179 MW Unit 2 by 13 MW after Spring 2011 Refueling**

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-165.pdf>

### **Suncor to Complete 88 MW Wintering Hills Wind Power Project in near Drumheller, Alberta by End of 2011**

<http://www.suncor.com/en/newsroom/2418.aspx?id=1323353>

### **FPL Investigating "Inadvertent" Siren Sounding on September 9 at Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant in Wisconsin**

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20100918/GPG1008/9180435/Point-Beach-investigates-siren-malfunction>

**North American Electric Vehicle Charging Market to Deliver 2.8 Charging Units by 2017: Verify Markets**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/the-north-american-electric-vehicle-charging-industry-to-reach-309-billion-by-2017-103437339.html>

**Steam Burns Two Workers at BP's 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery September 21 – Incident Has Minimal Impact on Facility Operations**

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/tx/7211755.html>  
<http://www.stockbriefings.com/bp-plc-nysebp-minor-injury-in-texas/3173426>

**U.S. Retail Gasoline Demand Jumps 1.9 Percent during Week Ended September 17, Compared to Previous Week: MasterCard**

Reuters, 14:00 September 21, 2010

**Canada's National Energy Board Announces Details of Arctic Offshore Drilling Review September 20 - NEB to Examine Potential Hazards and Risks, Numerous Other Topics**

<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/nwsrls/2010/nwsrls19-eng.html>

**Frontera Says Multiple Georgian Fields Contain Best Estimate of 626.2 Million Barrels of Original Oil-in-Place**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=99156](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=99156)

**Construction Crew Ruptures Natural Gas Pipeline, Causing Evacuation at Yuma International Airport in Arizona by September 20 – No Flights Impacted**

<http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=13186448>

**Chesapeake-Owned Natural Gas Well Catches Fire in West Virginia by September 20**

<http://www.wvpubcast.org/newsarticle.aspx?id=16726>

**Update: U.S. Coast Guard Says Waterways Associated with Calais LNG, LLC's Proposed LNG Facility in Maine are Suitable for LNG Vessel Transits, Provided Certain Safety and Security Actions are Taken**

<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/778/902091/>

**State Regulators Okay Eastern USA's Hydraulic Fracturing Plans in Marcellus Shale, New York**

[http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/3036416820/articles/oil-gas-journal/drilling-production-2/production-technology/2010/09/new-york\\_okays\\_marcellus.html](http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/3036416820/articles/oil-gas-journal/drilling-production-2/production-technology/2010/09/new-york_okays_marcellus.html)

**Greenpeace Protestors Board Chevron Oil Drilling Rig Offshore Scotland – Group Says it Plans to Stay in Place for Up to One Month**

DJN, 08:07 September 22, 2010

**Two Explosions Force Shut Natural Gas Deliveries along Inter Gas Central Asia Pipeline in Kazakhstan September 21-22**

Reuters, 00:33 September 22, 2010

**WSI Forecasts One Additional Major Hurricane to Strike Atlantic Region in fall 2010**

Reuters, 17:03 September 21, 2010

---

## **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](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**

*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>

Please direct comments and questions to: [ead@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)