



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, September 23, 2010

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to More than 180,000 Customers in U.S. Northeast September 22-23

Storms knocked out power to an estimated 183,183 customers in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, and Connecticut on September 22-23, news and company sources said. Some 35,743 customers remained without power, as of latest reports. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Northeast Customer Power Outages			
September 22 – 23, 2010			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Allegheny Power	PA	60,000	10,619
Duquesne Light	PA	52,000	13,000
PPL	PA	8,183	2,799
Met-Ed	PA	4,500	4,500
PSE&G	NJ	20,000	900
JCP&L	NJ	16,000	675
AEP	OH	11,000	2,845
DP&L	OH	4,000	400
United Illuminating	CT	7,500	5
TOTAL*		183,183	35,743

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

Sources:

Duquesne Light:

<http://www.duquesnelight.com/codeincludes/ImportantOutageInfo.cfm?CFID=18124537&CFTOKEN=69376603>

Allegheny Power: <http://app.alleghenyenergy.com/outagestatus/customeroutagestatus/>,

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/westmoreland/s_700918.html,

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/valleyindependent/news/s_700970.html

PPL: <https://selfserv.pplelectric.com/EUSelfServ/Outage/OutageMap.aspx>, <http://www.standard-journal.com/articles/2010/09/23/news/doc4c9b682907bb2419358470.txt>

Met-Ed: http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=PA,

http://www.ydr.com/ci_16144886?source=most_viewed

PSE&G: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2010/09/23/violent-storms-wreck-havoc-in-westchester-n-j/>

, http://www.pseg.com/home/customer_service/outage_info/outagemap.jsp

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

<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2010/09/22/fast-powerful-storm-moves-through-tri-state-area/>

AEP: <https://www.aepohio.com/outages/Default.aspx>,

<http://www.10tv.com/live/content/local/stories/2010/09/22/story-columbus-severe-weather-blog.html?sid=102>

DP&L: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/25118355/detail.html>

United Illuminating: http://www.uinet.com/wps/PA_TownOutages/faces/jsp/TownOutageGraphPrint.jsp,

<http://www.ctpost.com/local/article/T-storm-leaves-thousands-in-the-dark-670666.php>

SCE&G's 966 MW Summer Nuclear Unit in South Carolina Shut by September 23

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 22 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/>

Electric Fire Leads to Shutdown of Luminant's 593 MW Monticello Coal-Fired Unit 1 in Texas September 22-23

"An electric fire damaged the economizer feed water inlet thermocouple," leading to the shutdown of Luminant's 593 MW Monticello coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas September 22-23, 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=145191>

Update: Xcel to Restart 347 MW Harrington Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas September 23-25

Xcel had planned to shut the unit on September 21 "to repair tube leaks" and for "other minor maintenance items," it said in a previous filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=145018>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=145017>

Luminant Reduces 800 MW Oak Grove Coal-Fired Unit 2 in Texas September 22

The company slowed the unit due to "malfunctioning gates," it said in a filing with state regulators. The filing did not specify the quantity of the reduction, or say when the unit might resume normal service.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=145173>

Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Reduced by September 22

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 230 MW by September 22.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201009221515.html>

Reliant's 215 MW Mandalay Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Shut by September 22

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by September 22.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201009221515.html>

Update: Exelon's 1,161 MW Braidwood Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Ramped Up to 64 Percent by September 23

The unit shut automatically on September 20 "due to a faulty electrical circuit card on a plant system," Exelon said in a release. "Plant personnel replaced the circuit card," according to the company. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 22 the unit was operating at 17 percent.

http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/Pages/pr_20100922_Nuclear_.aspx

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 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 55 Percent by September 23

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 22 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/>

TVA Declares Unusual Event after Transformer Fire at 2,300 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Power Plant in Tennessee September 22

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) declared an Unusual Event yesterday evening at its 2,300 MW Sequoyah nuclear power plant after a fire involving a 500,000 volt transformer in a switchyard at the facility, the company said in a news release and in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The fire was extinguished in about 20 minutes, and TVA terminated the Unusual Event shortly thereafter. The blaze did not impact output at either of the facility's units. The company said it was investigating the incident.

http://www.tva.com/news/releases/julsep10/unusual_event.htm

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100923en.html>

New York ISO Expects State's Resources to Meet Electric Demand through 2020, but Warns of Reliability Issues if Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant Shuts in 2016

New York State's electric power resources should meet the state's electricity reliability needs through 2020, but multiple scenarios – including the potential shutdown of the Indian Point nuclear power plant – could negatively affect reliability, the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) said in its 2010 Reliability Needs Assessment (RNA). NYISO looked at several risk scenarios. It found that:

- A stronger than expected economic recovery could pose reliability risks in 2019, absent the projected impact of energy efficiency programs.
- Retiring both units at the Indian Point nuclear power plant could cause reliability issues in 2016. Impacts would include loss of power supply and transmission voltage support affecting the metropolitan New York region.
- The combined impact of proposed environmental regulations, as well as a proposed policy requiring power plants to utilize closed cycle cooling and other regulatory initiatives could result in unplanned plant retirements that may impact reliability.
- The retirement of more than 1,000 MW of generating capacity from the Long Island, New York City, or Lower Hudson Valley regions would pose reliability risks.

http://www.nyiso.com/public/webdocs/newsroom/press_releases/2010/NYISO_Issues_2010_Reliability_Needs_Assessment_092210_-_FINAL_.pdf

Petroleum

Update: PHMSA Authorizes Enbridge to Restart 190,000 b/d, 30-Inch, Indiana-to-Ontario Lakehead System Line 6B – Enbridge Could Resume Service on September 27

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) authorized Enbridge to gradually restart its 190,000 b/d, 30-inch, Indiana-to-Ontario Lakehead System Line 6B, the PHMSA said on September 22. Enbridge shut the line in late-July after it ruptured and spilled about 19,000 barrels of oil into a creek near the company's Marshall, Michigan pump station. The extended shutdown disrupted production at some regional refineries, and forced numerous facilities to look elsewhere for oil supplies. PHMSA would have to give a second, final approval before Enbridge could restart the line, according to the company. Pending that approval, Enbridge said the line could resume service on the morning of September 27. Both PHMSA investigators and an independent third-party expert will monitor the restart. PHMSA staff could stop the process at any time. Under the new restart plan, Enbridge will be required to perform numerous pipeline assessments and repair any risky anomalies.

<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/Files/Press%20Release%20Files/dot17710.pdf>
http://www.enbridgepartners.com/Reports/reportif_partners.aspx?pl=0&rptSite=5&rpt=/phoenix.zhtml%3fc%3d63707%26p%3dirol-newsArticle%26ID%3d1474089%26nyo%3d0&tmi=2094&tmt=5

Reuters, 20:01 September 22, 2010

Natural Gas

Spectra's Texas Eastern Transmission Restricts Natural Gas Deliveries along 36-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline in Pennsylvania through September 25

Spectra Energy Corp's Texas Eastern Transmission, LP restricted deliveries for interruptible customers and sealed nominations along a section of its 36-inch natural gas pipeline in Pennsylvania, it said in an online posting. The company cited an outage between Chambersburg and Lambertville, Pennsylvania. The outage was expected to last through September 25.

Reuters, 12:52 September 22, 2010

Other News

MSHA Issues 2,660 Violations during Five Months of Inspections at U.S. Mines

The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) issued 2,660 violations during five months of "impact inspections" at 111 coal and metal/nonmetal mines across the United States, the MSHA said on September 20. MSHA launched the inspections in the wake of a fatal explosion at the Upper Big Branch coal mine in West Virginia. The agency targeted mines with poor compliance history, among other factors. Some 45 percent of the violations were classified as significant and substantial.

<http://www.msha.gov/MEDIA/PRESS/2010/NR100920.asp>

Secretary Chu Announces Investment of More than \$30 Million in Projects to Address Cybersecurity September 23

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced the investment of more than \$30 million for ten projects that will address cybersecurity issues facing the nation's electric grid. The selections address cybersecurity concerns from two approaches: 1) research and development on innovative cybersecurity solutions and 2) the establishment of the National Electric Sector Cybersecurity Organization.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/9539.htm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
September 23, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	73.36	74.42	68.74
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.02	4.06	3.43

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Update: Utilities Restore Power to Most Customers across U.S. Midwest and Ontario by September 23 – Storms Knocked Out Power to about 228,000 Customers September 21-22

<http://www.hydroone.com/stormcenter/>

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/News.aspx?id=3445&year=2010>

<https://www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/OutageMap.aspx>

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>

Update: After Hurricane Igor, about 10,000 Newfoundland Power Customers Remain without Power in Canada September 23 - Storm Cut Electricity to about 50,000

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/news/canada/Harper+tour+hurricane+damage+Newfoundland/3568862/story.html>

Underground Cable Failure Knocks out Power to about 10,000 Fortis Alberta Customers in Alberta, Canada September 23 - Company Restores Power to Most in Less than One Hour

http://calgary.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100923/CGY_power_outage_100923/20100923/?hub=CalgaryHome

Construction Crew Makes Contact with Underground Electrical Line, Triggering Multiple Small Explosions and Leading to Local Road Closures in Pennsylvania September 23

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewStockNews/articleid/4526133#>

California Energy Commission Okays BrightSource Energy's Plans for 370 MW Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System Project in Mojave Desert, California September 22

http://www.energy.ca.gov/releases/2010_releases/2010-09-22_ivanpah_approved_nr.html

White Oak Solar Energy, LLC to Launch 10 MW Dover SUN Park in Delaware during summer of 2011

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ls-power-completes-financing-for-dover-sun-park-awards-construction-contract-103557594.html>

State Division of Air Quality Postpones Bid for Federal Authorization of Golden Valley Electric Association's Plan to Restart 50 MW Healy Coal-Fired Power Plant in Alaska

http://www.newsminer.com/view/full_story/9616016/article-Alaska-agency-pulls-clean-coal-permit-for-Healy

Wausaukee Composites to Restart, Expand Wind Turbine Components Manufacturing Facility in Wisconsin

<http://www.thonline.com/article.cfm?id=296580>

Update: State PSC Approves Bridger Pipeline, LLC's Proposed 60,000-110,000 b/d Four Bears Pipeline in North Dakota – Company to Break Ground in October 2010

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/39956/>

Update: Enbridge Asks State PSC to Overturn County Rejection of Company's Request for Zoning Change Related to Proposed Oil Pipeline Expansion in North Dakota – Company Aims to Boost Oil Deliveries from Western Part of State by 145,000 b/d

http://www.canadianbusiness.com/markets/market_news/article.jsp?content=D9IDKAA80

Hess Sees No Impact to Production after Pipe Hole, Small Spill near 65,000 Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery by September 18

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2010/09/19/bloomberg1376-L91M8O6JIJUQ01-5NQ63KNTLHCS2FOTP6GPA0IJE.DTL#ixzz10Ba2P8X0>

Paramount Petroleum Reports Equipment Snag, Flaring at 54,000 b/d Paramount, California Refinery September 22

<http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/MALHaz.nsf/f1841a103c102734882563e200760c4a/8042458a0965ddc8882577a60061a5d2?OpenDocument>

ConocoPhillips Shuts Crude Processing to Install New Vacuum Furnace at 238,000 b/d Linden, New Jersey Refinery by September 23 – Company Expects to Resume Processing in Early November

DJN, 11:45 September 23, 2010

After Hurricane Karl, Pemex Unable to Access Some Oil Installations, but Company Sees No Impact on Production

Reuters, 20:56 September 22, 2010

Unidentified Assailants Attack Addax Petroleum Oilfield Offshore Nigeria, Kidnapping Three French Workers September 21

http://www.pennenergy.com/index/petroleum/display/1897347446/articles/pennenergy/petroleum/offshore/2010/09/3-french_workers_kidnapped.html

Strikes Force Total to Reduce Output to Minimum Levels at Six French Refineries by September 23: CGT Union

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE68M1H720100923>

Turbine Shuts, Restarts at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas September 22-23

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=145177>

Compressor Shutdown at Waha Gas Plant in Texas September 22-23

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=144959>

Construction Crew Ruptures 2.5-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline, Triggering Local Evacuation in Palatine, Illinois September 20

http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/Wire_News_Display.1267546263.html

Fire Still Burning at Chesapeake Energy-Owned Natural Gas Well in Marshall County, West Virginia September 22 - Company Sees no Risk to Area

<http://www.wtov9.com/news/25120490/detail.html>

Citing Better Market Conditions in Asia and Europe, Freeport LNG Terminal in Texas to Re-Export LNG Cargo at End of September or Start of October

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN2221699920100922>

DOE's NREL, California Energy Commission, and South Coast Air Quality Management District to Invest up to \$13.5 Million to Support Development of Natural Gas Engines and Vehicles – Companies Selected for Awards to Invest nearly \$8 Million in Additional Funds

<http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2010/887.html>

TransCanada Workers Respond to Mock Pipeline Spill during Drill in South Dakota September 22

<http://www.yankton.net/articles/2010/09/23/community/doc4c9ad55315eb3083894462.txt>

Update: Iran Has up to 20 Million Barrels of Oil in Floating Storage, or About Half of June 2010 Peak: Shipping, Industry Sources

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2010/09/23/iran-storing-millions-bbbls-crude-sea-trade/>

Update: Iran Planning to Export Gasoline: Vice President

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-09/23/c_13526589.htm

Worldwide Biofuels Demand to Jump by 133 Percent by 2020, Outpace Supply by More than 8.5 Billion Gallons: Hart's Global Biofuels Outlook, 2010-2020

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/harts-global-biofuels-outlook-offers-new-projections-for-2020-demand-projected-to-grow-by-133-production-required-to-grow-by-32-billion-liters-103613359.html>

Citing Mine Explosions, MSHA to Publish Emergency Temporary Standard on Maintenance of Incombustible Content of Rock Dust

<http://www.msha.gov/MEDIA/PRESS/2010/NR100921.asp>

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.

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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