



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, September 23, 2011

Electricity

PSE&G's 1,096 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 77 Percent by September 23

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of September 22 the unit was operating at 88 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

PG&E's 407 MW Helms Hydro Unit 2 in California Shut by September 22

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

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201109221515.html>

International Atomic Energy Agency Endorses Post-Fukushima Nuclear Safety Plan

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) endorsed Thursday an action plan of voluntary measures meant to strengthen nuclear safety worldwide in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear accident in March. The plan urges countries to promptly assess their nuclear power plants to determine how well those installations would withstand extreme natural hazards, and to strengthen emergency preparation and information. Some countries expressed disappointment that the plan didn't enforce stricter measures. Other countries, including the United States, opposed mandatory outside safety inspections, stressing instead the importance of national regulators and plant operators in achieving safety objectives.

Reuters, 13:10 September 22, 2011

Petroleum

Substation Fire Cuts Power to Three Texas City, Texas Refineries, Causing Flaring September 22

A fire at Texas-New Mexico Power's (TNMP) Cherokee substation Thursday night caused a city-wide power outage that disrupted power supply and impacted units at three area refineries. Reports from the refineries Friday indicate the power outage had no impact on production:

- BP said some equipment at its 437,000 b/d refinery flickered on and off, but processing units continued to operate normally using power from a co-generation plant. There was no impact on operations, and the refinery was operating normally Friday.
- Valero Energy Corp. reported a loss of power at its 225,000 b/d refinery, but all production units were resuming normal operations Friday.
- Marathon Petroleum Corp. reports that production was not affected by a loss of power at its 76,000 b/d refinery, and all impacted units were back on line Friday.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/marathon-refinery-output-not-hurt-by-power-outage-2011-09-23>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFS1E78M0C220110923>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFWEN872420110923>

Crude Release Shuts Operational Unit, Reduces Rates at ConocoPhillips's 185,000 b/d Trainer, Pennsylvania Refinery by September 22

ConocoPhillips said Thursday that its refinery in Trainer, Pennsylvania was running at reduced rates after a release of crude oil shut an unidentified operational unit. The release was contained and cleaned up.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/conoco-trainer-refinery-at-reduced-run-rates-2011-09-22>

Defective Pump Leads to Fire, Brief Shutdown at Alon's 53,000 b/d Paramount, California Refinery September 22

A fire caused by a defective pump led to a brief shutdown at Alon's 53,000 b/d refinery in Paramount, California Thursday evening. The filing with state regulators did not specify which units were affected. The company reported Friday that the fire was put out and the refinery was back on line.

Reuters, 11:09 September 23, 2011

http://www.xe.com/news/2011/09/23/2174537.htm?utm_source=RSS&utm_medium=TL&utm_content=NOGEO&utm_campaign=News_RSS_Art1

Update: Buckeye's Repaired 10-Inch Auburn-Rochester Product Pipeline Scheduled to Restart in New York September 23

Buckeye Partners shut down the pipeline located in Aurelius, New York on September 20 after a farmer installing a drainage pipe hit it with a piece of farm equipment. Officials estimate that approximately 3,300 gallons of gasoline spilled before the pipeline was shut.

Reuters, 10:31 September 23, 2011

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2011/09/ruptured_gasoline_pipeline_fix.html

Aux Sable's 20 MMcf/d Fractioning Plant Begins Processing Off Gas from Scotford Oil Sands Upgrader in Alberta, Canada

The plant, which is in the Fort Saskatchewan area, will process 20 million cubic feet of gases from Shell's Scotford oil sands upgrader each day. The plant will break the gases into seven million cubic feet of hydrogen for use in the Scotford plant's upgrading process, 4,000 barrels of ethane, and a mixture of propane and butane for use as fuel for the upgrader's furnaces. The Scotford upgrader processes bitumen produced in Alberta's oil sands into synthetic crude oil.

<http://www.fortsaskatchewanrecord.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3308600>

Plains All American Pipeline Plans to Expand St. James, Louisiana Terminal

The planned Phase IV expansion at the facility includes adding 1.2 million barrels of crude oil storage capacity, bringing total storage capacity at the St. James terminal to 8.3 million barrels. Construction is scheduled for completion in the third quarter of 2012.

Reuters, 16:13 September 22, 2011

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/plains-all-american-pipeline-announces-st-james-terminal-expansion-comments-on-third-quarter-results-2011-09-22>

Natural Gas

Jordan Cove Files Application with DOE to Export Natural Gas from Coos Bay, Oregon LNG Terminal

Jordan Cove Energy Project filed an application Thursday with the U.S. Department of Energy for approval to export domestic gas to U.S. free trade partners. The project will also require subsequent approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Jordan Cove project to build a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal in Coos Bay, Oregon was originally planned, in 2003, as an import terminal connected to a 234-mile pipeline to a gas hub at Malin, Oregon. The need to import LNG has changed dramatically since then, as producers using hydraulic fracturing have tapped domestic gas in deep shale deposits. Jordan Cove would connect to domestic supplies via the Malin hub, to which El Paso Corp.'s 680-mile, 42-inch Ruby Pipeline will carry Rockies natural gas from the Opal hub in Wyoming.

http://www.oregonlive.com/business/index.ssf/2011/09/coos_bay_lng_backers_to_apply.html

Chief Gathering LLC Countersues Pennsylvania Homeowners Who Oppose Construction of 24-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline

On September 14, residents filed a lawsuit to block construction of a natural gas pipeline that Chief Gathering plans to construct. On September 23, Chief Gathering countersued, claiming defamation and seeking punitive damages. The company said it plans to push ahead with construction of a 24-inch natural gas pipeline that includes an exclusive Dallas Township development. It will link natural gas wells in Susquehanna County with the Transco interstate transmission pipeline, which will send the gas to market.

<http://www.chron.com/news/article/Gas-pipeline-company-countersues-Pa-homeowners-2185110.php>

Flow Restriction Shuts Lehman Compressor Station in Texas September 22

A line integrity tool became lodged in the discharge line, causing the Lehman compressor to shut down due to a flow restriction on the line. Operators blocked in the gas and raised the flare setting to minimize flaring. Operators planned to locate and remove the lodged tool from the line by September 22.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=159515>

PG&E Repairs Ruptured 10-Inch Gas Main in San Francisco; Results in Some Evacuations, Street Closures September 21

Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) is repairing a 10-inch gas main in downtown San Francisco that started leaking when construction workers hit it on Wednesday. Streets in the immediate area were shut down, and at least one building was evacuated. Operators shut down the gas flow and are venting the escaped gas. Emergency officials continue to monitor the leak as a precaution.

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/09/21/3386405/construction-crew-ruptures-san.html>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
September 23, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	80.12	89.40	74.55
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.72	4.04	4.08

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

EU Lifts Sanctions on Libyan National Oil Corporation, Clears Way for More Libyan Oil Imports

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=111127

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EDT every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EDT every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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