



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 15, 2010

Electricity

Storm Knocks Out Power to More than 28,000 Customers in Maine October 15

A storm knocked out power to at least 20,261 Central Maine Power customers and 7,951 Bangor Hydro Electric customers in Maine on October 15, the companies said.

<http://wbztv.com/wireapnewsme/Maine.utilities.report.2.1963795.html>

Update: Exelon's 850 MW Dresden Nuclear Unit 3 in Illinois Ramped Up to 91 Percent by October 15

The unit shut automatically (full scram) on October 11 as operators transferred the 'A' reactor protection system bus from normal to reserve power, in preparation for maintenance, the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Normally a half scram is expected. The NRC reported that on the morning of October 14 the unit was operating at 16 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20101012en.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 855 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 43 Percent by October 15

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 14 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: Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts at Full Power by October 15

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 14 the unit was operating at 81 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: AES's 336 MW Alamos Gas-Fired Unit 4 in California Shut by October 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a curtailment of 126 MW by October 13.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201010141515.html>

Update: Cabrillo Power's 106 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by October 14

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201010141515.html>

Update: NIST Identifies Five "Foundational" Smart Grid Standards by October 13

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) informed the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) by October 13 that it had identified five "foundational" sets of standards for Smart Grid interoperability and cyber security, according to a NIST release. The standards focus on the information models and protocols important for efficient and reliable grid operations as well as cyber security. They are, according to NIST, ready for consideration by federal and state energy regulators.

http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/releases/grid_20101013.cfm

AMP to Shutter 213 MW Gorsuch Coal-Fired Power Plant in Ohio December 15, 2010

American Municipal Power (AMP) plans to permanently close its 213 MW Richard H. Gorsuch Station coal-fired power plant near Marietta, Ohio on December 14, as part of a settlement with the federal government to resolve violations of the Clean Air Act, according to a local news source and an earlier news release from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

<http://news-herald.com/articles/2010/10/15/news/doc4cb86a412fe56684355014.txt>

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/b3bd495020489ed7852577270072aa6e!OpenDocument>

Petroleum

ExxonMobil Fixes Fire-Downed Hydrotreater, Resumes Normal Operations at 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery by October 14

A fire forced shut the unit last week.

Reuters, 15:23 October 14, 2010

Compressor Failure Triggers Flaring at ConocoPhillips' 238,000 b/d Bayway, New Jersey Refinery by October 15

A compressor failure led to flaring at ConocoPhillips' 238,000 b/d Bayway refinery in Linden, New Jersey by October 15, according to a regulatory filing. The company "curtailed the refinery" by an unspecified amount, according to Reuters.

Reuters, 00:36 October 15, 2010

Coffeyville Resources Reports Equipment Malfunction, Hydrogen Sulfide Release at 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery

It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

Reuters, 01:23 October 15, 2010

Update: Tesoro Restarting 72,000 b/d FCC at 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery by October 14

The company shut the gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) and a related alkylation unit for unplanned work on September 28, sources familiar with the facility's operations said previously. It was not clear if the alkylation unit remained offline, as of latest reports.

Reuters, 15:21 October 14, 2010

Delek Reports FCC Snag at 58,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery October 14

"An equipment malfunction" at a gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) led to flaring at Delek's 58,000 b/d Tyler, Texas refinery on October 14, the company said in a filing with state regulators. "Operators made adjustments... to stabilize the unit as quickly as possible," and the incident lasted only twenty minutes, according to the filing. 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=146117>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFWEN122220101014>

"Minor Accident" Injures Two Workers at Shell's Shuttered 130,000 b/d Montreal, Quebec Refinery October 15

A machine malfunction led to a steam release that injured two workers at Shell's shuttered 130,000 b/d Montreal, Quebec refinery on October 15, the Montreal Gazette said. A Shell spokesperson confirmed a "minor accident," but denied initial reports that an explosion had occurred. The incident did not cause any evacuations, the spokesperson said. The refinery stopped operations last week and is in the process of being converted into a fuel terminal.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Accident+Shell+refinery/3677614/story.html>

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2010/10/15/steam-accident-shell-montreal-refinery-injures-workers/>

Update: Production Impacts at all French Refineries by October 14

Striking workers continued to block deliveries to the Fos Lavera port and multiple French refineries on October 14-15, forcing offline at least one oil product pipeline and impacting production at all of the nation's operating refineries by October 15, multiple sources reported. Strikers were also preventing trucks from delivering fuel to depots throughout France, but police intervened in at least three locations to allow suppliers through. Companies had shut or begun to shut all of France's eleven operating refineries by October 15, a Total official said. The affected facilities, owned by ExxonMobil, Total, LyondellBasell, Petroplus, and Ineos, represent nearly 2 million b/d of capacity. Two additional refineries in Germany and Switzerland, with almost 400,000 b/d of capacity, had also been impacted, according to Reuters. The strikes, separately, led to the closure of a pipeline that delivers oil products to Paris and multiple airports. The line's operator, Trapil, said that Roissy-Charles de Gaulle, Paris's main airport, could use up its fuel supplies as soon as next week. Workers were preventing 90 vessels, including 28 crude oil tankers and 18 petroleum product tankers, from docking at the Fos Lavera port or entering the Mediterranean port of Marseille, port authorities said on October 15. If the strike ended today, it would take at least 10 days for the crude oil ships, and 2-7 days for the oil product ships, to offload their supplies, a ship broker said. Sources continued to conflict as to when the strikes, absent of panic buying, might begin to trigger fuel shortages. The government said the nation had enough stocks to satisfy demand for at least one month, but unions said fuel shortages could begin as soon as next week. The government, however, planned to release company-owned fuel stockpiles to supply service stations, according to the National Road Haulage Federation and a refiners' group. Shell, separately, pushed back plans to perform work on a hydrocracker at its 412,000 b/d Pernis, Netherlands refinery. Work at this refinery, the largest in Europe, had threatened to compound the disruptions in France. It was not clear if Shell's decision was a result of the strikes in France.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101015-707658.html>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-15/french-police-move-in-to-break-through-strikers-blockades-at-fuel-depots.html>

<http://in.reuters.com/article/idINIndia-52223620101015>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101015-703504.html>

DJN, 08:19 October 15, 2010

Reuters, 13:06 October 15, 2010

Reuters, 10:48 October 15, 2010

Reuters, 10:48 October 15, 2010

Shell Launches Phase II of Proposed 100,000 Boe/d Parque das Conchas Oil-and-Gas Project Offshore Brazil

Shell plans to develop the second phase – and fourth field – of its Parque das Conchas (BC-10) oil-and-gas project offshore Brazil, the company said on October 14. The company opened the first three fields, Abalona, Ostra, and Argonauta B-West, in 2009. It expects the project, combined, to produce some 100,000 boe/d.

http://www.shell.com/home/content/investor/news_and_library/2010_media_releases/phase2_parque_das_conchas_14102010.html

Natural Gas

Update: PG&E Might Have to Reduce Natural Gas Deliveries to Interruptible Customers during Winter, Should Regulators Refuse to Allow Line to Run at Normal Pressure

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) might have to cut natural gas supplies to certain businesses and non-residential customers this winter, the company said, should it not be allowed to run its recently-exploded pipeline through San Bruno – along with two other associated lines – at normal pressures, a company spokesman said. After the fatal blast in San Bruno, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ordered the company to reduce the exploded line's pressure by 20 percent. That also forced the company to reduce pressure along two other associated lines. The reductions could seriously impede PG&E's ability to supply all of its natural gas customers through the winter months. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) also just announced the creation of an independent review panel to investigate the September 9 Explosion at Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) Line 132 natural gas pipeline in San Bruno, California. PG&E may not be able to meet demand for gas this winter if the new panel agrees with the CPUC and requires PG&E to keep pressure lower than normal.

http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_16346092

Other News

DOE-Sponsored "Energy Storage Supply Chain Project Portal" Goes Live by October 7

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) sponsored Energy Storage Supply Chain Project Portal (EESCP) went live by October 7, providing the nation's first marketplace exclusively for intellectual property and R&D related to advanced energy storage for hybrid/electric automobiles and light trucks, according to Foresight Science & Technology Incorporated, the project's developer. The free marketplace, located at <http://batteries.foresightst.com>, allows universities, laboratories, and companies to enter technology available for licensing or cooperative R&D programs. Once entered, the site sends out email alerts to nearly 100 U.S. batter and ultracapacitor manufacturers and suppliers of components for batteries and ultracapacitors. After a delay to allow U.S. firms registered on the site time to contact the licensors, the information can be searched by anyone.

<http://www.foresightst.com/news/pr-20101007-01.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 15, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	81.38	82.72	77.04
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.58	3.62	3.82

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Squirrel Contacts Substation Equipment, Knocks Out Power Briefly to about 19,000 Xcel Energy Customers in Minnesota October 15

<http://www.startribune.com/local/105037779.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUvckD8EQDUX>

Update: Constellation Energy Offers to Sell its Share of Proposed Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Power Unit in Maryland to Project Partner Electricite de France SA (EDF)

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-10-15/constellation-offers-to-sell-nuclear-project-to-edf.html>

Study Shows Electric Grid Resilient to Terror Attacks, Rejects Concerns that Attacks on Small Parts of Grid Could Cause Widespread Failures

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/10/101012121443.htm>

Court Overturns Verdict that Had Found Cinergy Group Guilty of Violating Clean Air Act – Company Did not Receive Permit Before it Carried Out Maintenance at Wabash Coal-Fired Power Plant

<http://www.powergenworldwide.com/index/display/articledisplay/4563895621/articles/powergenworldwide/emissions-and-environment/regulation/2010/10/EPA-ruling-overturned.html>

Exercise Tests Multiple Agencies' Response to Mock Propane Tank Explosion in Hubbard County, Minnesota

<http://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/event/article/id/25599/>

U.S. Coast Guard Awards New Jersey DEP \$20.3 Million to Pay for Delaware Watershed Projects as Compensation for 2004 Oil Tanker Spill by October 14

http://www.state.nj.us/dep/newsrel/2010/10_0109.htm

AGI Units Shut Briefly at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas October 14

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146119>

United States' System of Aging Gas, Oil, and Water Pipelines Need about \$40-50 Billion in Repairs and Rebuilds: Director of Center for Underground Infrastructure Research and Education

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-15/pg-e-atmos-energy-benefit-from-push-for-50-billion-pipeline-investments.html>

Five Minnesota Ethanol Plants Have Paid \$3 Million in Fines, Combined, to Settle Violations of Air and Water Quality Regulations over Past Year

http://www.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews_story.asp?z=7&a=473675

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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