



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 19, 2012

Electricity

Boiler Feed Pump Failure Shuts NRG's 893 MW Limestone Coal-Fired Unit 1 in Texas October 18

NRG Texas LLC reported its Limestone Unit 1 experienced a boiler feed pump failure Thursday night, which led to a main fuel trip and took the unit off line, according to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=174971>

CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Reduced by October 18

The unit entered a curtailment of 591 MW that was due to planned and unplanned causes.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201210181515.html>

Petroleum

Update: Bad Weather Hampers TransCanada's Efforts to Inspect 590,000 b/d Keystone Crude Oil Pipeline; Restart Still Planned for Weekend

TransCanada Corp. on Friday said that bad weather was hampering efforts to move heavy equipment in to inspect its Keystone pipeline, which was shut Wednesday after operators detected a "small anomaly" on a section of the pipeline in Missouri during planned maintenance. The company has said the pipeline would likely remain shut for three days, and plans to restart the pipeline this weekend still stand, according to a spokesman. The 2,154-mile pipeline extends from Hardisty, Alberta to U.S. markets at Wood River and Patoka in Illinois, and from Steele City, Nebraska to Cushing, Oklahoma.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/19/transcanada-keystone-idUSL1E8LJ5PB20121019>

Shell Restarts Unspecified Unit at Its 100,000 b/d Scotford, Alberta Refinery October 19

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported it was restarting an unspecified unit at its Scotford refinery near Edmonton on Friday, according to a message posted on a community information line. Operators expected intermittent flaring to continue for about 6 hours during the startup. There has been no material impact to production associated with this activity.

Reuters, 01:28 October 19, 2012

Update: BP Identifies Cofferdam as Source of Gulf Oil Sheen, Not Sealed Macondo Well

BP Plc on Thursday announced it confirmed the integrity of the Macondo well and its associated relief wells following an extensive subsea survey this week to identify potential sources of a surface sheen near Mississippi Canyon block 252 in the Gulf of Mexico. The Macondo well was permanently sealed following a blowout and massive oil spill in September 2010. During its inspection this week, BP identified the cofferdam, a piece of containment equipment used during the Deepwater Horizon response, as the probable source of the surface sheen. The survey was conducted jointly by BP and Transocean with oversight from the U.S. Coast Guard.

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7079022>

Natural Gas

Valve Malfunction Shuts Acid Gas Compressor at Regency's 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas October 17

Regency Energy Partners reported emissions at its Waha plant Wednesday night after an acid gas compressor shut down on an alarm from the water injection supply valve, which had moved off of its pre-set limit while closed, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=174957>

Unit Shutdown Leads to Flaring at Southern Union's 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas October 18

Southern Union Gas Services reported it was flaring low-pressure gas at its Keystone plant Thursday after Unit 23 shut down for unspecified reasons, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=174991>

Other News

Solar Panel Control Systems Vulnerable to Cyber Attack – DHS Cyber Emergency Response Team

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Industrial Controls Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) on October 10 reported multiple vulnerabilities affecting the Sinapsi eSolar Light Photovoltaic System Monitor, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) monitoring product. According to the vendor's website, the company is based in Italy. The product has also been sold as the Enerpoint eSolar Light, Schneider Electric Ezylog Photovoltaic Management Server, Gavazzi Eos-Box, and Astrid Green Power Guardian. According to researchers, the vulnerabilities are exploitable remotely by authenticating to the service using hard-coded credentials. Exploiting these vulnerabilities would allow attackers to remotely connect to the server and execute remote code, possibly affecting the availability and integrity of the device.

http://www.us-cert.gov/control_systems/pdf/ICS-ALERT-12-284-01.pdf

<http://arstechnica.com/security/2012/10/solar-panel-control-systems-vulnerable-to-hacks/>

Energy Security Reshaping U.S. Diplomatic Policy – Secretary Clinton

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday said in a speech that the United States is shaping its diplomatic policy to achieve its objectives for U.S. energy security. In the coming weeks, policy guidance will be sent to U.S. embassies worldwide, asking them to elevate their reporting on energy issues and to seek out private sector energy partners. Clinton stressed that energy matters in foreign policy because of its key role in geopolitics, and because the wealth and power it brings presents a source of conflict and cooperation. The United States has an interest in helping resolve global disputes to keep energy supplies and markets stable, and to ensure the United States' access to energy remains secure, affordable, reliable, and sustainable.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/121453/Clinton_Energy_Reshaping_US_Diplomacy_Efforts

International News

Kurdish Rebels Blow Up Iranian Natural Gas Pipeline in Turkey October 19; Blast Halts Flow of Gas from Iran

Kurdish rebels have claimed responsibility for a bomb attack on a natural gas pipeline in eastern Turkey. The blast has halted the flow of gas from Iran. It is the second attack in a month on the pipeline. It was unclear Friday when gas flows will resume. Russian gas producer Gazprom said it would increase its supplies to Turkey during the supply disruption.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-20002779>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
October 19, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	91.58	91.66	88.03
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.31	3.28	3.63

Source: Reuters

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 and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time 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 PM Eastern Time. 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