



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

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 22, 2010

## ***Electricity***

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### **Truck Topples Transmission Lines, Cuts Power to 31,000 Tacoma Public Utilities Customers in Washington October 21**

A logging truck toppled two transmission lines near Potlatch, Washington on October 21, cutting power to eight substations and 31,000 Tacoma Public Utilities customers. The company restored power to the substations within hours.

<http://www.king5.com/news/local/Power-out-to-31000-in-Gig-Harbor-105492678.html>

### **PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Reduced to 45 Percent by October 22**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 21 the unit was operating at 56 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

### **Update: DOE Offers Conditional Commitment for Loan Guarantee for Great Basin Transmission's Proposed 500 kV Transmission Line in Nevada**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) offered a conditional commitment for a \$350 million loan guarantee for Great Basin Transmission to develop its proposed 500 kV One Nevada Transmission Line (ON Line) in Nevada, DOE said on October 19. The line would deliver approximately 600 MW of electricity. It would stretch 235 miles from Ely, Nevada to a new substation at the northern end of the line. The ON Line is the first phase of the Southwest Intertie Project (SWIP) which, when fully completed, will carry approximately 2,000 MW of electricity. It is expected to enable wind and solar resources in Wyoming, Idaho, and Nevada to power the southwest and California markets.

<http://www.energy.gov/news/9711.htm>

<http://www.swipos.com/about.htm>

### **Basin Electric Plans 151.5 MW Crow Lake Wind Project in South Dakota**

The company broke ground earlier in October. The project is expected to enter service by the middle of 2011.

<http://www.basinelectric.com/Projects/Wind/index.html>

[http://www.kdlt.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=5712&Itemid=57](http://www.kdlt.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5712&Itemid=57)

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Parts of North Dakota Running Short on Diesel Fuel: State Petroleum Marketers Association President**

Shortages are common during the Midwest's fall harvest season, but the situation is worse this year than in 2009, according to the President of the State Petroleum Marketers Association. Good weather, he said, has enabled farmers to harvest and move crops without disruption. He also blamed the shortages on seasonal refinery shutdowns.

<http://www.grandforksherald.com/event/article/id/180414/group/homepage/>

### **BP Restarting Unit at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery October 22-29**

BP planned to restart the residual hydrotreating unit (RHU) 400 train on October 22-29 “following maintenance activity,” the company said in a filing with state regulators. The filing did not say why the unit went offline or if the company expected the incident to have any impact on production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146439>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-22/bp-to-start-residual-hydrotreating-unit-at-texas-city-refinery.html>

### **Equipment Snag Leads to Flaring at ExxonMobil's 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery October 21**

The company repaired the equipment, it said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact on production.

<http://tier2.iema.state.il.us/FOIAHazmatSearch/HazmatDetails.aspx?RptNum=H-2010-1148>

### **Update: Police Take Over Major Refinery near Paris, but Strikes Continue to Cripple Refinery Operations in France October 22**

Striking workers continued to block access to oil refineries and the Fos Lavera and Marseilles ports on October 21, even after a local prefect ordered employees to return to work at Total's Grandpuits refinery near Paris, France, multiple sources reported. French police took over the Grandpuits facility early on October 22, and the prefect ordered the plant's employees to return to work “in the interests of nation defense.” Protestors, however, blockaded the site's access roads, and union officials vowed to fight the prefect's move in courts. Employees at Total's 230,000 b/d Donges refinery voted to continue striking until October 29, and the nation's main six unions were calling for another two days of strikes, as of latest reports. All of France's operating refineries were offline or blocked, and strikers were preventing 75 vessels – including 54 carrying crude oil or oil products – from accessing the Fos-Lavera port. Fuel shortages continued throughout the nation, and the chief of France's petroleum industry body said the nation was having trouble importing fuel to compensate for the outages. The Prime Minister said it would be “several more days” before the situation returned to normal. The strikes have created an arbitrage window, and the United States, as a consequence, has boosted fuel exports to Europe by 20 percent over recent weeks.

<http://www.connexionfrance.com/Refinery-defence-strike-airports-Paris-Grandpuits-fuel-oil-petrol-Petain-Toussaint-12177-view-article.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-11604092>

[http://www.taiwannews.com.tw/etn/news\\_content.php?id=1411381&lang=eng\\_news&cate\\_img=1037.jpg&cate\\_rss=General](http://www.taiwannews.com.tw/etn/news_content.php?id=1411381&lang=eng_news&cate_img=1037.jpg&cate_rss=General)

<http://www.futuresmag.com/News/2010/10/Pages/Chinese-crude-demand-drops.aspx>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2230556020101022>

Reuters, 08:48 October 22, 2010

Reuters, 08:37 October 22, 2010

### **Petroplus to Convert Reichstett Refinery in France into Terminal**

The news came as the facility remained offline due to nationwide strikes in France.

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a\\_id=24382](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=24382)

## **Natural Gas**

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Nothing to report.

## **Other News**

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### **Accelergy, Tyonek Plan Coal-to-Liquids Facility and Associated 300 MW Power Plant in Cook Inlet, Alaska**

Accelergy Corp. and Tyonek Native Corp. plan to develop an 8,000 b/d coal-to-liquids plant in the Cook Inlet, Alaska. The facility would produce jet fuel, and could eventually produce 60,000 b/d. The site would also convert waste heat into 300 MW of electricity.

[http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/102110/oil\\_tsd.shtml](http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/102110/oil_tsd.shtml)

## SSA Marine Plains Gateway Pacific Cargo Terminal in Cherry Point, Washington

The facility would receive cargoes of coal, among other minerals. SSA Marine plans to begin construction by the end of 2012 and open the facility within five years.

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/10/21/1391778/cherry-point-cargo-terminal-gathers.html>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 22, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	80.54	81.38	80.15
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.46	3.58	4.80

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Copper Theft Allegedly to Blame as 2,800 Duke Energy Customers Lose Power in South Carolina October 20-21 – Power Restored to Most by Early Morning October 21

<http://www2.wspa.com/news/2010/oct/21/2/vandals-knock-out-power-thousands-chesnee-thursday-ar-991416/>

### PSE&G Plans to Construct 80 MW of Solar Power Capacity in New Jersey by 2013

<http://www.pseg.com/info/media/newsreleases/2010/2010-10-21.jsp>

### Entergy Plugs Pinhole Leak in Steam Drainline at 563 MW Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vermont by October 21

[http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci\\_16392277](http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_16392277)

### Consultant Says None of TVA's Ash Ponds Face Immediate Threat of Failure, but Only 50 Percent of Company's 24 Earthen Dams at Top Safety Standard

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2010/oct/21/tva-stabilizes-dams-at-coal-ash-ponds/>

### FERC Remands Proposed Regional Reliability Standard to NERC, Citing Concerns that Plan Does Not Ensure Adequate Resources to Maintain System Integrity across Western United States

<http://www.ferc.gov/media/news-releases/2010/2010-4/10-21-10-E-5.asp>

### Update: Crews Continue to Search for Source of Crude Oil that Leaked into Water Pipeline at Port of Long Beach, California October 22

[http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_16405499?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_16405499?nclink_check=1)

### Federal Judge Dismisses Environmentalists' Lawsuit over Enbridge's Proposed Alberta-to-Wisconsin Alberta Clipper Oil Pipeline and Planned Illinois-to-Minnesota Southern Lights Oil Pipeline

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9J0AS000.htm>

### Niger to Begin Crude Oil Production in 2011 – Nation Has Estimated 295 Million Barrels in Oil Reserves

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE69K0FZ20101021?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

**Power Failure Leads to SRU Shutdown, Flaring at Sneed Booster Station in Texas  
October 21**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=146454>

**Break along 2-Inch Natural Gas Main Forces Shut Stretch of U.S. 78 in Snellville, Georgia  
October 20 – Leak Plugged, Highway Reopened**

<http://www.ajc.com/news/gwinnett/gas-leak-shuts-busy-687068.html>

## **Links**

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***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**

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

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