



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 23, 2015

Electricity

Storm Knocks Out Power to Over 40,000 Oncor Customers in Texas October 23

Strong thunderstorms with heavy rain and lightning on Friday knocked out power to 40,023 Oncor customers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Weather forecasters said Texas could see another round of heavy rain after Hurricane Patricia makes landfall in Mexico and moves northeast towards the border. As of 3:30 p.m. EDT, 23,930 customers remained without power.

<http://stormcenter.oncor.com/external/default.html>

<http://www.fox4news.com/news/37575460-story>

<http://keranews.org/post/its-raining-its-pouring-flash-flood-warning-dallas-tarrant-counties>

PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuclear Unit 2 in New Jersey Shut by October 23

On the morning of October 22 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 72 Percent by October 23

On the morning of October 22 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 72 Percent by October 23

On the morning of October 22 the unit was operating at 93 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2015/>

Solar Partners' 133 MW Ivanpah Unit 2 in California Returns to Service by October 22

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on October 21.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201510221515.html>

PUC Approves PECO Electric System, Microgrid Pilot Plan in Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) on Thursday approved PECO's System 2020 plan to invest an additional \$274 million over five years to extend existing circuits from more modernized substations, retrofit equipment with advanced restoration and microgrid technology, and retire older equipment across its service territory. The investment will make PECO's system more weather resistant and less vulnerable to storm damage.

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20151022006420/en/>

Petroleum

North Atlantic Refining Says Situation 'Clear' After Bomb Threat at Its 115,000 b/d Come By Chance Refinery in Newfoundland October 22

North Atlantic Refining on Thursday issued an "all clear" after a bomb threat at its refinery in Come By Chance, Newfoundland, in Eastern Canada. The situation led to the evacuation of non-essential personnel, but operations were not affected, according to a spokesperson.

Reuters, 16:09 October 22, 2015

ExxonMobil Says Production Unhurt by Emissions Event at Its 560,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery October 23

ExxonMobil said there was no impact to production due to emissions from the “golfiner” unit at its Baytown, Texas refinery.

Reuters, 9:55 October 23, 2015

Petrobras Reports Propane Leak at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery October 22

Petrobras reported a propane leak occurred on heat exchanger 102 at its Pasadena, Texas refinery. The company also reported emissions from an alkylation cooling tower. The exchanger was isolated from the cooling tower until repairs could be made.

Reuters, 19:25 October 22, 2015

North Dakota Industrial Commission Approves Extension for Uncompleted Wells

The North Dakota Industrial Commission unanimously approved a plan on Thursday to give oil producers in the state an extra year to bring drilled-but-uncompleted wells (DUCs) online, a change designed to give the energy industry breathing room during the crude price downturn. Companies who have delayed well completion will now have up to two years to hydraulically fracture DUCs. Roughly half of the 1,000 DUCs are expected to be granted delays, which likely will affect statewide oil output by roughly 100,000 to 150,000 b/d next year, according to the director of the state’s Department of Mineral Resources.

Reuters, 16:34 October 22, 2015

Natural Gas

Thunderstorm Causes Power Failure at Southern Union’s 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas October 22

Southern Union on Thursday reported a thunderstorm caused a power failure to the entire plant. The high pressure amine pump did not restart correctly preventing amine circulation. Electricians wired a new pump to the soft starter and restored the circulation.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=222028>

Regency Reports AGI Compressor Shut at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas October 22

Regency reported acid gas flaring from the amine treater due to the acid gas compressor being shut on high tubing pressure. Upon attempting to restart, the water injection pump was found to have a bad bladder. The bladder was replaced and the compressor was restarted.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=222037>

Mountain Valley Pipeline Files FERC Application to Construct 2 Bcf/d Natural Gas Pipeline from West Virginia to Virginia

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) submitted its application on Friday to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for authorization to build a 301-mile interstate natural gas transmission pipeline designed to provide natural gas for use by local distribution MVP is a joint venture between EQT Midstream Partners, LP and affiliates of NextEra Energy, Inc.; WGL Holdings, Inc.; Vega Energy Partners, Ltd; and RGC Resources, Inc. The Mountain Valley Pipeline would transport the abundant supply of Marcellus and Utica natural gas—commencing in Wetzel County, West Virginia and traversing south through 11 counties in West Virginia; and southeast through six counties in Virginia before ending in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. The MVP is expected to provide at least 2 Bcf per day of firm transmission capacity; and pending regulatory approval, construction is anticipated to begin in late 2016, with a full in-service targeted for the fourth quarter 2018.

<http://mountainvalleypipeline.info/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/FF-News-Release-FINAL.pdf>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Mexico Closes Cargo Ports as Hurricane Patricia Nears, Major Energy Assets Not in Projected Path October 23

Mexico shut its key cargo ports of Puerto Vallarta and Manzanillo on Friday as Hurricane Patricia approached, port officials said on Friday. Manzanillo is Mexico's busiest port for cargo. None of Pemex's major energy installations lie in the projected path of the storm.

Reuters, 9:46 October 23, 2015

Crude, Product Tankers among 130 Vessels Delayed in Panama Canal Backlog

The Panama Canal, facing a backlog of more than 130 vessels, is taking temporary measures to ease delays caused by increased traffic and maintenance work, the authority that runs the crucial waterway said on Friday. Bookings for priority passage are being reduced for the second time this month and additional crews have been assigned to increase capacity at the canal's locks. The Panama Canal Authority also said it is postponing non-critical maintenance. About half of the vessels waiting are carrying crude or refined products, according to Reuters ship tracking data. Delays started in late September when the canal was under a dry-chamber overhaul as part of preventive maintenance. Critical phases of the repairs were completed, but remaining work had to be postponed as the number of ships waiting to pass increased considerably. A normal waiting period is 24 –36 hours, depending on the traffic and whether vessels arrive with reservations for priority passage.

Reuters, 12:43 October 23, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 23, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	43.78	47.25	82.27
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.43	2.49	3.68

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 & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

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

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov