



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, October 26, 2011

Electricity

Wet, Heavy Snow Knocks Out Power to over 108,000 Xcel Energy and Poudre Valley REA Customers in Northeastern Colorado October 25–26

Wet, heavy snow fell overnight and continued to fall in Colorado this morning, causing tree limbs to fall on power lines and cutting power to over 108,000 customers in northeastern Colorado. Xcel Energy reported that as of 9:45 AM Mountain Time (MT) today, about 100,000 of its customers had no electricity, including customers in the Denver metro area, Greeley, Ft. Collins, and Boulder. The company has dispatched 149 crews to work on restoring power, including 12 crews it called up from Texas to help. The Poudre Valley REA reported that, at peak, the snow affected approximately 8,000 customers, and by 1:00 PM MT, approximately 4,800 customers were still without power. Poudre Valley REA reports that in addition to downed power lines there have been failures in transformers and other equipment.

http://www.xcelenergy.com/About_Us/Energy_News/Emergency_Notices/Colorado_Snowstorm_Causes_Outages
<http://www.pvrea.com/>

Update: TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Reduced to 40 Percent by October 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 25 the unit was operating at 50 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Indiana-Michigan Power's 1,000 MW D.C. Cook Nuclear Unit 1 in Michigan Restarts, Ramps Up to 19 Percent by October 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 25 the unit was not operating.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

FPL's 839 MW Saint Lucie Nuclear Unit 1 in Florida Shut by October 26

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 25 the unit was operating at 46 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Dynegy's 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Shut by October 25

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage on October 25.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201110251515.html>

PG&E's 407 MW Unit 1 and 404 MW Unit 3 Reduced at Helms Hydro Power Plant in California by October 25

According to the California Independent System Operator, Unit 1 reported an unplanned curtailment of 205 MW on October 25, and Unit 3 reported an unplanned curtailment of 202 MW on October 25.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201110251515.html>

Update: Inland Empire Energy Center's 376 MW Gas-Fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by October 25

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage that began October 21.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201110251515.html>

Petroleum

NCRA to Build New Delayed Coking Unit at Its 85,500 b/d McPherson, Kansas Refinery

The National Cooperative Refinery Association (NCRA) announced October 21 that it will build a new delayed coking unit (coker) at its McPherson, Kansas refinery. The new coker will replace the refinery's current coker, which has been in operation since 1952. The new coker is not expected to increase production; rather, its purpose is to squeeze more liquid products (gasoline and diesel) out of the heaviest portion of the crude oil barrel. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2013 and complete in 2015.

<http://www.ncra.coop/MediaCenter/PressReleases/Press%20Release%20-%20Coker.pdf>

Feed Cut to Olefins Plant 2 at Shell's 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery October 25

Shell cut the feed after a leak was discovered in a cold box associated with the unit, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=160989>

Valero Reports Equipment Failure at Its 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery October 26

According to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center on Wednesday, a rupture in a discharge line caused the emission of benzene and toluene.

Reuters, 01:15 October 26, 2011

U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement Approves BP's First Offshore Drilling Permit since Gulf Oil Spill

Reuters, 11:10 October 26, 2011

Update: CNOOC Says Recent Oil Spill Shutdown of Penglai 19-3 Oil Field in Bohai Bay, China Has Resulted in Production Losses Up to 40,000 b/d

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2011/10/26/cnooc-penglai-1-3-shutdown-led-to-40000-bd-crude-output-loss/>

Natural Gas

Cheniere Energy and BG Group Sign Agreement to Export 0.5 Bcf/d from Sabine Pass LNG Terminal in Louisiana

Under the 20-year sale and purchase agreement, Cheniere will sell 3.5 million tons per year (roughly 0.5 Bcf/d) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to BG Group from Cheniere's proposed LNG export facility at the Sabine Pass Terminal in Louisiana. A Cheniere executive told Reuters that it hopes to begin construction of the liquefaction facilities at Sabine Pass in 2012, which will make it possible to begin exporting as early as 2015. Sabine Pass will initially have an export capacity of 9 million tons per year.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/cheniere-rallies-on-lng-export-deal-with-bg-2011-10-26?siteid=yhoof2>

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Cheniere-and-BG-ink-8-billion-rb-1607897025.html?x=0&.v=4>

Martin Midstream Announces Completion of 35 MMcf/d Expansion at Its 320 MMcf/d Gas Processing and NGL Fractionation Facility in Waskom, Texas October 26

Martin Midstream Partners L.P. (MMLP) announced today that Waskom Gas Processing Company (WGPC) has completed the previously announced expansion of the gas processing capacity at its Waskom gas processing and natural gas liquids (NGL) fractionation facility in Waskom, Texas. The new nameplate gas processing capacity at the Waskom complex is 320 MMcf/d, an increase of 35 MMcf/d. In addition, MMLP reported progress on the NGL rail car loading facility also being constructed by WGPC for the transportation of NGL produced at the Waskom gas processing facility to end users. This project is anticipated to be placed into service in late December 2011.

<http://ir.martinmidstream.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=618077>

DCP Midstream Shuts Out 80 MMcf/d at Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas for Turbine Wash October 25; Unable to Accept Produced Gas from Several Area Gas Fields

According to a filing with state regulators Tuesday, DCP Midstream will shut its two natural-gas fired turbines in phases, one at a time, to conduct required maintenance and inspection activities, and specifically, to wash and inspect its turbine engine rotors. Operators notified local gas producers that it will shut out approximately 80 MMcf/d of natural gas during this maintenance period. Several gas plants in the area reported flaring as a result of DCP's shut-in. Chevron reported it shut-in wells at its McElroy Field to minimize overall volume of gas going to the centrally located flare. Similar reports were filed by XTO Energy for its Goldsmith CAG facility, WE Connell Comingling facility, and IDA McDonald Tank Battery facility; and by Occidental for its Goldsmith Landreth Deep Unit facility and Midland Farms facility.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=160550>

Other News

Nothing to report

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 26, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	91.45	88.03	82.47
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.62	3.63	3.18

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Transformer Line Glitch Cuts Power to 14,000 Duke Energy Customers in Northern Kentucky October 25

http://www.kypost.com/dpps/news/local_news/9k-face-power-outages-in-florence_6858139

Tanker Truck Spills Approximately 7,000 Gallons of Oil after Crashing in Western Colorado October 24

<http://www.kgwn.tv/story/15864944/crews-clean-up-oil-after-tanker-crash-near-gateway>

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Approves Idaho Power-Interconnect Solar Electricity Sales Agreement for 20 MW Solar Project in Idaho

<http://www.ktvb.com/news/Idaho-utility-regulator-OKs-disputed-solar-deal-132546393.html>

In Separate Incidents, Construction Crews Strike Two Small PG&E Gas Lines in San Jose, California October 25

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/nationalbreaking/ci_19192970

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

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 p.m. EDT. 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