



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, November 02, 2012

Major Developments

OE/ISER Situation Report: Hurricane Sandy

At 8:00 p.m. EDT October 29, the National Hurricane Center reported Hurricane Sandy made landfall near Atlantic City, New Jersey as a post-tropical cyclone. The storm has brought heavy rain, winds, and snow in higher elevations to the U.S. Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, and to portions of U.S. Midwest. For details on the impact of this storm on customer outages, energy infrastructure issues, and restoration efforts, see: Hurricane Sandy Situation Reports issued by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability (OE/ISER) at the following URL:

http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/named_event.aspx?ID=67

Electricity

Luminant's 1,150 MW Comanche Peak Nuclear Unit 1 in Texas Shuts November 2 Due to Manual Trip on High Reactor Coolant Pump Motor Bearing Temperature

Luminant reported its Comanche Peak nuclear Unit 1 was manually tripped from full power very early Friday morning due to high temperature indications on the 1-04 reactor coolant pump motor radial bearing, concurrent with a high/low oil reservoir level alarm, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. All safety systems functioned as designed.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20121102en.html>

Update: Bruce Power's 750 MW Bruce A Nuclear Unit 2 Resumes Commercial Service in Ontario November 2

TransCanada Corporation today announced the return of Bruce Power's Unit 2 to commercial operations, marking the end of its program to refurbish Units 1 and 2 at the Bruce A nuclear generating station. Unit 1 achieved its commercial operations date on October 22, 2012. Bruce Power consists of two generating stations (Bruce A and B), with each station housing four nuclear reactors. The eight operating units are now capable of producing more than 6,200 MW of electricity.

<http://www.transcanada.com/6133.html>

Update: Calpine to Develop 309 MW Garrison Combined-Cycle, Natural Gas-Fired Power Plant Project in Delaware

Calpine Corporation on Thursday announced it will proceed with full-scale development efforts for the proposed 309 MW Garrison Energy Center, a combined-cycle, natural gas-fired generating facility to be located in Dover, Delaware. Subject to continued successful development milestones and regulatory approvals, Calpine expects to commence construction in early 2013 and to achieve commercial operation by June 1, 2015. The Garrison plant will be designed to accommodate an additional 309-MW expansion should future market conditions warrant.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=103361&p=RssLanding&cat=news&id=1753038>

Update: APS's 1,247 MW Palo Verde Nuclear Unit 3 in Arizona Restarts November 1, Ramps Up to 40 Percent by November 2

Palo Verde 3 is returning from an outage that began October 25, when operators shut the reactor to make unplanned repairs to a steam leak on a valve in the containment building.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Xcel Declares ‘Unusual Event’ at Its 1,040 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in Minnesota after Security Equipment Temporarily Fails October 31

Xcel Energy Inc. declared an “Unusual Event” at its Prairie Island nuclear power plant Wednesday afternoon due to an unspecified “security condition” at the site, according to a filing with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The utility later said some security equipment temporarily failed. Operators restored the equipment and terminated the unusual event declaration nearly 4 hours later. Plant officials were investigating the cause of the failure.

<http://www.kare11.com/news/article/996654/396/Prairie-Island-plant-declares-unusual-event>
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20121101en.html>

NRC Raises Concerns about Flood Plans at Exelon’s 1,734 MW Dresden Nuclear Power Plant in Illinois

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has asked Exelon Generation Co. to address the NRC’s concerns with Dresden Nuclear Station’s response plan for external flooding events. NRC inspectors identified multiple areas of concern during recent inspections conducted in response to the 2011 Fukushima Dai’ichi accident. The issues pertain to the plant’s plan to respond to a Probable Maximum Flood—a hypothetical flooding level which postulates the largest conceivable flood from the combination of the most severe meteorological and hydrologic conditions. Such conditions have never been known to occur in this area and are highly improbable. The issues with Dresden’s flood response plan do not represent an immediate safety issue but are an area the NRC would like additional information on to ensure it meets post-Fukushima standards.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2012/12-040.iii.pdf>

Update: Calpine’s 593 MW Metcalf Natural Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by November 1

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 308 MW that began by October 31.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201211011515.html>

Petroleum

Update: Marathon to Restart Its Newly Expanded 120,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery ‘Later This Month’ after Completing Heavy Oil Upgrade Project

Marathon Petroleum Corp. on Friday reported it was gradually ramping up operations at its Detroit refinery after turnaround activities related to a heavy oil upgrade project and expects to bring the refinery online “later this month,” according to a spokesman. Launched in June 2008, the Detroit Heavy Oil Upgrade Project has increased the refinery’s capacity from 106,000 b/d to 120,000 b/d; this includes capacity to process 100,000 b/d of heavy crude oil from Canada and the Gulf Coast—five times the amount of heavy crude the refinery previously could process.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/marathon-petroleum-detroit-refinery-to-be-online-later-this-month-20121102-00589>

Sinclair Reports Suspected Sabotage at Its 80,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming Refinery after Multiple Valves Close Unexpectedly October 18

Sinclair Oil and law enforcement officials are investigating a suspected sabotage attempt at the Sinclair refinery in Wyoming after multiple valves closed unexpectedly on the same day last month. Instruments on the hydrocracker unit showed that a valve had failed or closed at about 9:30 a.m. local time on October 18; another valve closed shortly afterwards, and additional valves were found closed the same day. The closure of multiple valves was unusual and presented a strong indication the valves were shut intentionally.

<http://www.wyomingbusinessreport.com/article.asp?id=64092>

Natural Gas

Power Outage Leads to Flaring at Enbridge’s 65 MMcf/d Henderson Gas Plant in Texas November 1

Enbridge reported its Henderson plant experienced several instances of power loss Thursday afternoon when its third-party utility power provider experienced an outage, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Related emissions continued for 7 hours, the filing said.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175570>

Update: Enterprise Reports Emissions During Start-up of New Fractionator at Its Mont Belvieu NGL Facility in Texas November 2

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. reported emissions Friday morning as it commissioned the partnership's sixth natural gas liquids (NGL) fractionator at its Mont Belvieu, Texas complex, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Emissions related to start-up activities were expected to continue for approximately 3 weeks.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=175026>

Other News

Nothing to report

International News

TransCanada to Build 670 MMcf/d Natural Gas Pipeline in Mexico for Service in 2016

TransCanada Corporation on Thursday announced that its Mexican subsidiary, Transportadora de Gas Natural del Noroeste, has been awarded a contract to build, own, and operate the El Encino-to-Topolobampo Pipeline in Mexico by the Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE), Mexico's federal power company. The 30-inch, 670 MMcf/d pipeline will extend approximately 530 kilometers (329 miles) from El Encino, in the state of Chihuahua, to Topolobampo, in the state of Sinaloa, interconnecting with other pipelines that are expected to be built as a result of separate bid processes by the CFE. It is anticipated the project will be in-service in the third quarter of 2016.

<http://www.transcanada.com/6132.html>

Chevron Declares Force Majeure at Kuito Offshore Oil Terminal in Angola

Chevron on Friday reported its Angolan subsidiary Cabinda Gulf Oil Company on October 29 declared force majeure at the Kuito offshore oil terminal, without giving a reason. Chevron typically loads two 920,000-barrel tankers a month from its Kuito platform. Trade sources said that the force majeure was declared because of technical problems with mooring equipment at the Kuito site. The facility is currently undergoing a planned turnaround, and Chevron does not anticipate any resulting production impacts from the force majeure declaration.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/news/2012/11/02/chevron-declares-force-majeure-at-angola-kuito/>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
November 2, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL			
West Texas Intermediate U.S.	84.76	85.99	93.01
\$/Barrel			
NATURAL GAS			
Henry Hub	3.54	3.38	3.49
\$/Million Btu			

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

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

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