



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, November 17, 2011

Electricity

DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Reduced to 20 Percent by November 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of November 16 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

Update: Dominion's 925 MW North Anna Nuclear Unit 1 in Virginia Ramped Up to 98 Percent by November 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of November 16 the unit was operating at 72 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

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

FirstEnergy Reports Small, Brief Fire at 882 MW Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio November 16

FirstEnergy Corp. told news media that a fire quickly burned itself out at the company's Davis-Besse plant in Toledo on Wednesday. The fire started when water dripped from a valve onto an electrical panel in an auxiliary building housing a noncritical pump for the plant. The plant is currently shut down for installation of a new reactor head.

<http://www.ohio.com/business/small-fire-put-out-quickly-at-firstenergy-nuclear-plant-1.245824>

Update: EPA Issues Permit to 570 MW Palmdale Hybrid Power Project in Palmdale, California

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently issued a permit to the City of Palmdale, California for the construction and operation of the Palmdale Hybrid Power Project. The 570 MW natural gas-fired power plant, with 50 MW of solar energy generation, is planned to begin commercial operation in the summer of 2013. The Palmdale project, located in the desert of Antelope Valley, combines the use of natural gas-fired technology with that of solar, using mirrors to capture sunlight for conversion into electricity. The solar input will provide around 10 percent of the peak power generated by the plant during periods of highest energy demand.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/cc22eb37b16f31d08525794a0068f026?OpenDocument>

Update: ArcLight's 118 MW Ace Cogeneration Coal-Fired Unit in California Returns to Service by November 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage that began November 11.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201111161515.html>

Northland Power Inc. to Develop 130 MW Ontario Solar Portfolio in Ontario, Canada

Northland Power Inc. announced yesterday that it has signed a Master Module Supply Agreement with MEMC Singapore Pte. Ltd, an affiliate of MEMC Electronic Materials, Inc., to purchase solar photovoltaic modules that will be manufactured in Newmarket, Ontario for its 130 MW Ontario solar portfolio. The modules will be used to build ground-mounted solar projects in Ontario.

<http://www.northlandpower.ca/InvestorCenter/News/PressReleases/PressRelease.aspx?prid=2066#m=3>

<http://www.northlandpower.ca/WhatWeDo/PrerevenueProjects/AdvancedDevelopment.aspx?projectStageID=2#m=2&s=3>

Petroleum

Update: Valero Reports Ongoing Release Due to Leaking Valves at Its 287,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery November 16

Valero filed an update with the U.S. National Response Center on an ongoing release of hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide that was first reported November 10. The original report indicated that a process unit upset at the refinery was causing the release of 101 pounds of hydrogen sulfide and 501 pounds of sulfur dioxide from a flare. The updated filing indicates that a valve is leaking, and operators are still attempting to locate the exact valve that is leaking.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=995164

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=995707

Unit Over-Pressuring Leads to Flaring at Wynnewood Refining Company's 70,000 b/d Wynnewood, Oklahoma Refinery November 16

Wynnewood Refining Co. reported Wednesday that an over-pressured unit was causing a release of sulfur dioxide to the flare, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators brought the unit back online and the flaring stopped.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=995739

Natural Gas

Update: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. to Investigate the Cause of Gas Pipeline Explosion in Ohio on November 16, to Submit Findings to PUC of Ohio and PHMSA

The 25-inch, high-pressure pipeline that ruptured and exploded Wednesday morning in Athens County, Ohio is operated by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., which immediately sent workers to the area of the explosion and shut off the gas within a 15-mile radius by the early afternoon. Operators also took precautionary measures by reducing the pressure of a nearby segment on the line by 20 percent. To preserve the flow of gas to customers, the company rerouted gas destined for the damaged area of the pipeline to its other pipelines in the area. A Tennessee Gas spokesman told reporters that the line was last given a hydrostatic strength test in May 1971; the last in-line inspection was in June; and aerial inspections of the line to check for leaks were performed in March. A spokesman from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) has said that the commission will monitor Tennessee Gas's investigation of the cause of the explosion and then submit its findings to the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

<http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20111117/NEWS01/111170304/Pipeline-explosion-causes-wall-fire?odyssey=mod%7Cmostcom>

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2011/11/16/gas-pipeline-explodes-in-athens-county.html>

High Level in Inlet Scrubber Shuts Inlet Compressors at Occidental Permian's 175 MMcf/d Mallet CO2 Recovery Plant in Texas November 16-17

Occidental reported that a high level in the inlet scrubber caused a loss of all inlet compressors at Mallet 1. Operators were investigating the problem.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161840>

Piston No. 2 Compressor Cylinder Failure Shuts Compressor B-13 at 130 MMcf/d Midkiff Gas Plant in Texas November 15

Operators reported that on November 15 Compressor B-13 went down on high vibration alarm. An investigation indicated that the piston No. 2 compressor cylinder failed. Operators replaced the No. 2 piston and restarted the compressor.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161794>

Emergency Maintenance at DCP Midstream's 70 MMcf/d Fullerton Gas Plant in Texas Forces Energen to Flare Gases from Its WFMU Satellites 3-5 November 15

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161818>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161819>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161820>

Enbridge Reports Plant Upset Due to High-Pressure Shutdown at 100 MMcf/d Aker Gas Processing Plant in Texas November 15–16

Enbridge reported that the plant experienced an upset due to unit C-550 high-pressure shutdown, which was most likely the result of hydrate formation in the unit's suction line, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This resulted in an emissions event. Operators curtailed gas flow to A, B, C, and D plants. Enbridge operators added methanol in the line to mitigate the hydrate. C-550 was brought back online as quickly and safely as possible.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161836>

Other News

U.S. State Department Launches Bureau of Energy Resources to Ensure U.S. Diplomatic Relationships Advance U.S. Energy Security and Interests November 16

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in October announced that the Department of State is establishing, for the first time, a Bureau of Energy Resources, to ensure that all our diplomatic relationships advance U.S. interests in having access to secure, reliable, and ever-cleaner sources of energy. The new Bureau, which was announced as operational on November 16, will work across U.S. Government agencies to engage traditional exporters and emerging economies alike in a coordinated effort to boost international energy security, steer the world's energy mix toward a more sustainable path, and emphasize the United States' continuing commitment to transparency and good governance, in order to ensure that each nation's natural wealth translates into increased prosperity for its citizens.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2011/11/177262.htm>

Energy Prices

| U.S. Oil and Gas Prices | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| November 17, 2011 | | | |
| | Today | Week Ago | Year Ago |
| CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel | 100.35 | 98.02 | 80.69 |
| NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu | 3.12 | 3.55 | 3.66 |

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Tornadoes, Severe Storms Cut Power to 23,000 Alabama Power Company Customers in Alabama November 17; Unspecified Power Outages Reported across the U.S. Southeast

<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2011/11/17/severe-storm-sweep-southern-states>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/17/us-weather-tornadoes-idUSTRE7AG0CU20111117?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews&rpc=71>

Tanker Truck Carrying over 13,000 Gallons of Propane Catches Fire in New York November 14

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Propane-truck-fire-snarled-Route-7-traffic-2267959.php>

U.S. Natural Gas Storage Levels Reach 3.85 Tcf, an All-Time High for Third Straight Year – Energy Information Administration

Reuters, 11:09 November 17

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 EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.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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