



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, November 24, 2015

Electricity

Update: Power Restoration Nearly Complete to DTE Customers in Michigan November 24 after Winter Storm Hits November 21

DTE Energy on Tuesday said restoration was nearly complete to the 50,000 customers in Michigan who had power knocked out on Saturday when a winter storm system swept across the upper Midwest. As of 1:30 p.m. EST Tuesday, 564 customers remained without power.

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>

<http://thenewsoracle.com/2015/11/near-record-november-snowfall-of-11-2-inches-in-chicago/>

Update: Over 19,000 Avista Customers Remain Without Power in Washington, Idaho November 24 after Major Windstorm Hits November 17

Avista Energy on Tuesday was continuing around-the-clock restoration efforts to the remainder of the 180,000 customers who were without power at the height of the windstorm that hit Washington and Idaho on November 17. As of 3:00 p.m. EST Tuesday, 19,534 customers remained without power. Avista said it will be late Wednesday evening before power can be restored to the majority of customers.

<http://outagemap.myavista.com/external/default.html>

<http://avistacorp.mwnewsroom.com/News/in/Restoration-work-continues-with-5-times-the-normal>

Duke Reports 15,000 Customers without Power Due to Mechanical Issue at Substation in North Carolina November 23

Duke Energy on Monday evening reported nearly 15,000 people were without power in Hickory, North Carolina. The cause of the power outage was a mechanic issue with a substation, according to a spokesperson. As of Tuesday morning, all customers had power restored.

http://www.hickoryrecord.com/news/nearly-without-power-in-hickory-area/article_41e95c4a-9232-11e5-9e98-f3e684f8f461.html

Update: TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Ramps Up to 87 Percent by November 24

On the morning of November 23 the unit was operating at 70 percent after restarting on November 21. The unit shut from full power on November 16.

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

TVA's 1,125 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Unit 1 in Tennessee Shut by November 23

The unit shut from full power after indications that a main steam isolation valve was drifting closed from its expected open position.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20151124en.html>

NMC's 578 MW Monticello Nuclear Unit in Minnesota Shut by November 23

The unit shut from full power due to a reactor recirculation pump lockout.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20151124en.html>

Duke Energy, Google to Construct 61 MW Solar Power Project in North Carolina

In one of the largest solar projects undertaken in North Carolina, Google will benefit from Duke Energy Carolinas' Green Source Rider program—meeting a portion of the power demand from the company's data center in Lenoir with solar energy. A 61 MW solar project will be constructed in Rutherford County in Duke Energy Carolinas' service territory. Under a power purchase agreement with the Rutherford Farms solar project, Duke Energy will secure power to meet new energy demand from Google's expanded data center. Enrollment in the Green Source Rider means Google will use renewable energy sources for a portion of the energy supplied to its expanded data center in the city of Lenoir. Under the program, Duke Energy and Google agreed on the specific project and additional costs associated with energy from the facility. Other Duke Energy customers will not pay for the project. <http://news.duke-energy.com/releases/duke-energy-google-team-up-on-solar-power-project-in-n-c>

Petroleum

ExxonMobil Says Operations Normal at Its 502,500 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery November 23

Exxon Mobil Corp said there was no impact to production and all operations were normal after a valve malfunction on November 20 at its Baton Rouge, Louisiana refinery.
Reuters, 10:51 November 24, 2015

Citgo Reports Crude Oil Leak at Its 427,800 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery November 21

Citgo Petroleum Corp reported the 'A' topper unit had a crude oil leak in the feed line, which released an unknown amount of crude oil onto the ground on November 21.
Reuters, 9:51 November 24, 2015

Motiva Reports Valve Leak Due to Equipment Failure at Its 238,000 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery November 21

Motiva Enterprises reported a valve leak due to an equipment failure on November 21.
Reuters, 9:48 November 24, 2015

Shell Reports Process Unit Upset at Its 316,600 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery November 23

Royal Dutch Shell reported unplanned flaring due to a process unit upset at its Deer Park, Texas refinery, according to a community information line.
Reuters, 11:27 November 23, 2015

Update: FCCU at Valero's 335,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Returns to Operation November 23 – Sources

Valero Energy Corp returned the 75,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) to normal production over the weekend, sources familiar with plant operations said on Monday. The FCCU was shut by a November 15 fire in the unit's fractionator.
Reuters, 6:53 November 23, 2015

Flint Hills Reports Flaring at Its 300,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery November 22

Flint Hills Resources reported a flaring event on November 22 at its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery.
Reuters, 10:03 November 24, 2015

Phillips 66 Reports Compressor Malfunction at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery November 22

Phillips 66 reported the regenerative thermal oxidizer released benzene to the air due to mechanical issues with a compressor on November 22.
Reuters, 9:58 November 24, 2015

Tesoro Shuts FCCU for Unplanned Work at its 257,300 b/d Carson, California Refinery November 23 – Bloomberg

Tesoro Corp shut a 102,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU) for unplanned maintenance after an operational upset at its Carson, California refinery, according to a Bloomberg report on Monday.
Reuters, 10:52 November 23, 2015

Natural Gas

Shale Drilling Boosted U.S. Oil, Gas Reserves in 2014 – EIA

Reserves of oil and natural gas in the U.S. shot higher last year, according to government data released Monday, setting records that reveal the extent to which a decade-long drilling boom has transformed the energy landscape, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) said. Proved reserves of natural gas rose by 34.8 trillion cubic feet (tcf), or 10 percent, to a record high of 388.8 tcf in 2014, while oil reserves rose 3.4 billion barrels, or nine percent, to 39.9 billion barrels, the highest since 1972, according to the EIA.
Reuters, 3:38 November 23, 2015

DEP Fines Chesapeake Appalachia \$1.4 Million for Stream Impacts Caused by Well Pad Landslide in Pennsylvania

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Monday announced that Chesapeake Appalachia, LLC (CALLC) has agreed to a Consent Order and Agreement (COA) and will pay a fine of \$1.4 million for violations of Pennsylvania's Oil and Gas Act, Clean Streams Law and Dam Safety and Encroachments Act. As a result of the settlement, the company will restore waterways affected by the slide. The violations stem from a landslide that occurred at the Stinger 8H gas well located in Aleppo Township Greene County at the well pad on September 15, 2011. The slide impacted seven unnamed tributaries of Harts Run. Sediment from the slide filled more than a quarter-mile of streams below the well pad. Although CALLC immediately began efforts to temporarily stabilize the site, the company was not able to complete permanent stabilization until July 26, 2014. DEP closely monitored the company's efforts. However, the agency and the company initially could not agree on actions needed to permanently restore the streams impacted by the slide. Through this agreement, DEP and CALLC have a permanent plan and schedule for the company to complete restoration work on the impacted waterways.
<http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=20880&typeid=1>

Other News

U.S. Government Agencies to Cut Greenhouse Gas Emissions 41.8 Percent

U.S. federal agencies will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their operations to 41.8 percent below 2008 levels by 2025, the White House announced on Monday. The cuts will come from across the government's 360,000 buildings, 650,000 vehicles and from its extensive supply chain. Among the steps the agencies will take, NASA said it will reduce its energy consumption at the Johnson Space Center in Houston by 17 percent and break ground on a 1.6 MW solar plant to power its White Sands test facility in New Mexico. The Department of Homeland Security will boost the energy efficiency of its operations, including installing solar power facilities at its facilities in California and Puerto Rico. The federal government is the largest energy consumer in the U.S.
Reuters, 3:26 November 23, 2015

International News

Pemex Reports Fires at Its 330,000 b/d Salina Cruz, Oaxaca Refinery in Mexico November 24

A fire broke out at Mexico's biggest oil refinery on Tuesday and some staff were evacuated, a spokesman for state-run oil company Pemex said. Three people suffered minor injuries as a result of the fire. The spokesman said the fire had been contained and that the refinery, which supplies fuel for the domestic market, was operating normally save for an alkylation unit.
Reuters, 12:21 November 24, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices November 24, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	40.61	40.68	73.99
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.14	2.14	4.06

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

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