



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, December 06, 2013

## *Major Developments*

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### **OE/ISER Situation Report: Winter Storm**

A severe winter storm moved across central U.S. bringing heavy snowfall and ice on Friday. Up to one-inch of ice was expected from Texas to Tennessee and could bring down power lines and cause major power outages. Nearly 232,000 customers were without power in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area as of Friday morning and nearly 30,000 were without power in Arkansas, according to reports from energy companies. The governors of Tennessee and Arkansas declared states of emergency ahead of the storm. For details on electricity customer outages, energy infrastructure issues, and restoration efforts, see: Winter Storm 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=74](http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/named_event.aspx?ID=74)

## *Electricity*

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### **Exelon's 802 MW Three Mile Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Reduced to 27 Percent by December 6**

On the morning of December 5 the unit was operating at 73 percent from 100 percent on December 4, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2013/>

## *Petroleum*

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### **Update: Citgo to Restart of Vacuum Unit at Its 174,500 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery After October Fire**

Citgo Petroleum said today it will try to restart the vacuum section of a crude unit at its Lemont refinery in mid-January after it was shut October 23 due to a fire. The company is repairing areas around the vacuum unit, including pipe racks that were damaged in the fire, according to a source with Citgo Petroleum.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3287038/Latest-News/Citgo-nears-restart-of-Illinois-refinery-vacuum-unit-following-October-fire.html>

### **Marathon Petroleum Plans Cornerstone Pipeline from Utica Shale to Its 80,000 b/d Canton Refinery in Ohio**

Marathon Petroleum Corp. announced yesterday it is proceeding with the 49-mile, 8-inch Cornerstone pipeline from the Utica shale in eastern Ohio to its Canton, Ohio refinery. The new pipeline will connect natural gas-processing plants and liquids fractionation plants in several Ohio counties to its Canton refinery. Marathon is currently evaluating its right-of-way options and would like to begin construction in early 2016 and be operational by late 2016, according to a spokesperson.

<http://www.ohio.com/blogs/drilling/ohio-utica-shale-1.291290/marathon-petroleum-plans-pipeline-from-utica-shale-to-refinery-1.450006>

## **Husky Says Crude Processing Rates Normal at Its 146,200 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery December 6**

Husky Energy Inc. said crude processing rates remained normal at its Lima, Ohio refinery. The company had earlier reported that it restarted a compressor after repairs to the refinery, according to a filing with regulators.  
Reuters, 10:59 December 6, 2013

## **Motiva Reports CCU Emissions, Five Barrel Oil Spill at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery December 5**

Motiva Enterprises reported hydrogen sulfide emissions from a catalytic cracking unit (CCU) at its Norco, Louisiana refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The company also reported a mechanical failure that led to a discharge of five barrels of oil from a pipe inside the Norco refinery, according to a separate filing with regulators.

Reuters, 00:37 December 6, 2013

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1067703](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067703)

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1067679](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067679)

## **Valero Reports Compressor Trip, Flaring at Its 290,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 5**

Valero Energy Corp. reported a recycled gas compressor tripped offline due to unknown causes at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The company was trying to restart the compressor and had reduced the charge to the unit. The incident caused flaring of hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide at the refinery, the filing said.

Reuters, 00:44 December 6, 2013

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1067701](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067701)

## **ExxonMobil Reports Flaring at Its 503,000 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery December 5**

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported a release of hydrogen sulfide from a flare at its Baton Rouge, Louisiana refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The filing did not specify the cause of the flaring.

Reuters, 00:51 December 6, 2013

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1067664](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067664)

## **Shell Reports SRU Outage at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery November 28**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) outage at its Puget Sound refinery in Anacortes, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency that was made public on Thursday.

Reuters, 19:47 December 5, 2013

## **BP Reports Hydrocracker Malfunction at Its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery November 30**

BP Plc reported the malfunction of a hydrocracker unit at its Cherry Point refinery in Blaine, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency.

Reuters, 19:40 December 5, 2013

## **Phillips 66 Reports Sulfur Plant Upset at its 100,000 b/d Ferndale, Washington Refinery December 2**

Phillips 66 reported a sulfur plant upset at its Ferndale, Washington refinery, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. The incident resulted in emissions from the no. 2 tail gas unit, the filing said.

Reuters, 19:34 December 5, 2013

## **Tesoro Says Unplanned Flaring Due to Power Blip at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 4**

Tesoro Corp. said its refinery in Martinez, California experienced a power interruption on Wednesday, which resulted in unplanned flaring. The company said power was restored and the refinery was operating at planned but unspecified rates.

Reuters, 15:49 December 5, 2013

## **Texas Crude Oil Production Hits Monthly Record in September – EIA**

Texas produced an average of 2.7 million b/d of oil in September, a record rate, according to data by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). That is the highest figure since the EIA began tracking monthly figures in 1981. [http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil\\_gas/a/130491/EIA\\_Texas\\_Crude\\_Oil\\_Production\\_Hits\\_Monthly\\_Record\\_in\\_September#sthash.EaewXYpE.dpuf](http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/130491/EIA_Texas_Crude_Oil_Production_Hits_Monthly_Record_in_September#sthash.EaewXYpE.dpuf)

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Enterprises' 125,000 b/d Marcellus Shale to Gulf Coast Ethane Pipeline to Start Operation in January**

Enterprise Product Partners' announced on Thursday its proposed 125,000 b/d pipeline transporting ethane from the Marcellus shale play to processing plants on the Gulf Coast will commence operations in January. Enterprise said line-fill began in late November and will continue throughout December. Once complete, the pipeline can be expanded to 265,000 b/d.

Reuters, 18:03 December 5, 2013

### **Southern Union Reports Units Shut at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas December 4, 5**

Southern Union reported unit no. 23 and field units shut down on December 4 and 5 at its Keystone gas plant, causing the plant to flare low gas pressure. In addition, the auxiliary burner went down and was unable to relight. Mechanics were working on repairs.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=191690>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=191623>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=191652>

### **Shell Cancels Proposed 140,000 b/d GTL Plant in Louisiana Due to Rising Costs**

Royal Dutch Shell announced on Thursday that it would not move forward with its Gulf Coast gas-to-liquids (GTL) project in Louisiana and will suspend any further work on the project. The company canceled the plant due to rising costs. The project, which would have converted natural gas to diesel, jet fuel, and other refined products, was expected to cost more than \$20 billion, a Shell spokesperson said, up from the minimum \$12.5 billion price tag estimated in September.

<http://www.shell.com/global/aboutshell/media/news-and-media-releases/2013/shell-will-not-pursue-us-gulf-coast-gtl-project.html>

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil\\_gas/a/130487/Shell\\_Cancels\\_US\\_GasToLiquids\\_Plant\\_As\\_Costs\\_Rise](http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/130487/Shell_Cancels_US_GasToLiquids_Plant_As_Costs_Rise)

## ***Other News***

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Nothing to report.

## ***International News***

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### **South Sudan's Oil Output Reaches 245,000 b/d – Petroleum Minister**

South Sudan's Petroleum Minister today announced that daily oil production for the country increased to 245,000 b/d from 190,000 b/d in late October. South Sudan has been raising its crude output since April when it resumed production after halting exports in mid-2011 due to disagreements with Sudan over export pipeline transit fees, border security, and territory.

<http://news.yahoo.com/south-sudan-oil-output-reaches-245-000-bpd-090937033.html>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 6, 2013			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	97.59	92.11	86.37
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	3.97	3.87	3.41

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***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](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](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)