



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 09, 2009

Major Developments

Storms Cut Power to More than 386,000 Customers across U.S. Midwest December 8-9

Snow and winds blasted the U.S. Midwest December 8-9, cutting power to more than 386,000 customers across a multi-state region, multiple sources reported. Outages fluctuated throughout the day as stormy conditions persisted. The following table lists peak and current outage figures, based on latest available data.

U.S. Midwest Customer Power Outages			
December 8-9, 2009			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Appalachian Power	WV	52,124	52,124
Allegheny Power	WV	18,087	18,087
AEP	WV	6,253	6,253
Appalachian Power	VA	35,995	35,995
Duke Energy	OH/KY	31,006	13,400
AEP	OH	27,728	27,728
South-Central Power	OH	5,627	1,030
We Energies	WI	28,000	11,000
Alliant Energy	WI	22,817	11,468
Wisconsin Public Service	WI	12,385	6,547
Madison Gas & Electric	WI	7,000	2,000
Allegheny Power	PA	25,920	25,920
Consumers Energy	MI	23,000	23,000
DTE Energy	MI	20,000	20,000
Ameren	IL	11,153	6,062
ComEd	IL	7,300	7,300
Knoxville Utilities Board	TN	10,200	8,259
Kentucky Power	KY	9,324	9,324
Duke Energy	IN	8,211	3,157
Indiana-Michigan Power	IN	3,347	3,347
Ameren	MO	8,831	2,492
MidAmerican	IA	6,688	3,124
Alliant Energy	IA	5,139	523
TOTAL*		386,135	298,140

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

Appalachian Power: <http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=apco>

Allegheny Power: http://app.alleghenyenergy.com/outagestatus/OMS_Customer_State.aspx?Option=State&User=

AEP: <http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=aepohio>

Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky: <http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/outages/current.asp>

We Energies: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/78852682.html>

<http://www.piercecountyherald.com/event/article/id/22727/>

Alliant: <http://www.alliantenergy.com/UtilityServices/StormOutageCenter/ElectricalOutageSummary/index.htm>

Wisconsin Public Service: <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx>

MG&E: <http://www.channel3000.com/news/21905038/detail.html>

Consumers Energy: [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2009/12/snow_knocks_out_power_for_4600.html)

[city/index.ssf/2009/12/snow_knocks_out_power_for_4600.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2009/12/snow_knocks_out_power_for_4600.html)

DTE Energy: <http://www.wwj.com/Winter-Storm-Knocks-Power-Out-To-Thousands/5856706>

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>
Ameren Illinois: <https://www2.ameren.com/outagemap/default.aspx?state=IL>
ComEd: <http://www.kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=11649191>
Knoxville Utilities Board: http://www.kgis.org/website/kub_outage/mainpage.htm
Kentucky Power: <http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=kentucky>
Duke Energy Indiana: <http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana/outages/current.asp>
Indiana-Michigan Power: <http://www.aepcustomer.com/outagemap/main.aspx?region=im>
Ameren Missouri: <https://www2.ameren.com/outagemap/default.aspx?state=MO>
MidAmerican: <http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx>
South-Central Power: http://www.southcentralpower.com/ow/ow_map.aspx
<http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/78869467.html>
<http://www.wfrv.com/news/local/story/Northeast-Wisconsin-shuts-down-amidst-blizzard/1NvSqDHXKUWUwsIF6WOC6A.csp>
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/78852682.html>
http://www.wuwm.com/programs/news/view_news.php?articleid=5479
<http://www.htrnews.com/article/20091209/MAN0101/91209059/1984/88-of-Mishicot-area-without-power>
<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20091209/NEWS01/312090038/Winds+knocking+out+power>

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to about 53,000 Alabama Power Customers in Alabama December 9

At least 1,600 customers remained in the dark, as of latest reports.

http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2009/12/trees_toppled_power_lines_down.html

Storms Cut Electricity to about 49,000 Customers in New York by December 9

Storms cut electricity to 49,000 customers of National Grid, Rochester Gas & Electric (RG&E) and New York State Electric and Gas (NYSE&G) by December 9, news sources said. It was not clear which utilities bore the brunt of the outages. National Grid's website reported 17,853 customers without power this morning; by afternoon, that number had shrunk to about 8,000.

<http://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagamohawk/stormcenter/>

<http://www.buffalonews.com/home/story/887861.html?imw=Y>

<http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=11647910>

<http://www.13wham.com/news/local/story/Thousands-Without-Power-Throughout-the-Area/MPJberkEV0aLLB8IT1qVvw.csp>

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j0teDK8y49D3rVbKGiW_TCyoXWogD9CFU6302

Entergy's 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 in Arkansas Shut by December 9

The company shut the unit after a pump shutdown caused a low steam generator level, it said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 8 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0915570620091209?type=marketsNews>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Update: Southern Restarts 1,152 MW Vogtle Nuke Unit 1 in Georgia by December 9

The unit shut automatically after "low condenser vacuum" triggered a turbine trip, the company said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of December 8 the unit was not operating

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0819085120091208?type=marketsNews>

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

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Update: Entergy's 1,075 MW Waterford Nuke Unit 3 in Louisiana at Full Power by December 9

Operators reduced the unit for adjustments over the weekend, a spokesman said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 8 the unit was operating at 77 percent.

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2009/12/entergys_waterford_3_reactor_i.html

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Luminant to Shut 593 MW Monticello Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas December 8-9

The company expected to shut the unit "to repair a boiler tube leak" from December 8-9, it said in a filing with state regulators.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=132990>

New Hampshire PUC Recommends Improvements after Investigation of Utility Response to 2008 Ice Storm

New Hampshire's electric utilities were not prepared to cope with widespread outages after a December 2008 ice storm, and should take measures to improve emergency planning procedures, outage-reporting methods, tree-and-limb management, and other factors, the state's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) said in a report. The storm left 400,000 customers without power, and utilities failed to restore service to 35,000 customers for more than one week.

<http://www.puc.nh.gov/Home/Press%20Releases/Ice%20Storm%20Press%20Release%2012-08-09.pdf>

<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/news/statenewengland/472320-227/investigation-slams-utilities-over-ice-storm.html>

Update: Citing Carbon-Capture Success, AEP Aims to Shutter 25 Percent of Coal-fired Power Generation by 2025

American Electric Power (AEP) expects to permanently close 25 percent of its coal-fired power generation and install carbon-capture technology on the remainder by 2025, the company's chief executive said on December 8. The company has already launched a carbon-capture system at its 1,300 MW Mountaineer power plant in West Virginia, and has operated the system at a far more economical rate than initially projected. Citing that success, AEP plans to expand the Mountaineer system to capture about 18 percent of the facility's carbon emissions—up from less than 2 percent, at present—and install similar equipment at most of its remaining plants.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB126032092489782773.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_sections_news

GE Completes Transformers to Convert, Deliver up to 315 MW of Power from New Jersey to New York City Electric Grid

GE installed three "variable frequency transformers" to convert and deliver up to 315 MW of electricity from the New Jersey power system to New York City, the company said in a December 8 release. The transformers "help control the intersection" of the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland (PJM) transmission system and the New York City section of the NYISO grid, according to GE.

<http://www.genewscenter.com/Press-Releases/New-Jersey-s-and-New-York-City-s-Electricity-Systems-Now-Talking-to-Each-Other-Thanks-to-GE-s-Smart-Grid-Technology-Smart-Capital-2405.aspx>

Greengate Power Corporation Plans 150 MW Halkirk I Wind Power Project in Alberta, Canada

The company expects to break ground in 2010 and open the project in the first quarter of 2011, according to a press release.

<http://www.greengatepower.com/pdf/ecoENERGY-PR-Dec-9-2009.pdf>

Petroleum

Power Failure Forces Offline all Major Processing Units at Sinclair Oil's 66,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming Refinery December 6

Sinclair Oil continued to operate its 66,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming refinery at significantly-reduced rates, three days after an external power disruption forced offline most of the facility's units, a refinery official said on December 9. Cold temperatures were hampering operators' recovery efforts, he said. The initial shutdown triggered flaring, and caused damage to at least two boilers.

http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_5ef99eb2-e47d-11de-a2de-001cc4c03286.html

Reuters, 09:53 December 9, 2009

Valero Shuts Complex, HDS at 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 8

Valero shut Complex 1 and a hydrodesulfurization unit (HDS) for unscheduled reasons at its 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery on December 8, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The event triggered flaring. It was not clear if the incident had any impact to production.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091208-716421.html>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=132988>

BP Restarts Unit at 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery December 7

BP resumed normal rates by December 8 after a power failure forced offline an unspecified unit at its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington refinery on December 7, a source familiar with the facility's operations said. The incident triggered flaring.

Bloomberg News, 17:59 December 8, 2009

Scrubber Shutdown at Tesoro's 58,000 b/d Salt Lake City, Utah Refinery December 8

A sulfur dioxide scrubber tripped offline after "internal system trouble alarms" at Tesoro's 58,000 b/d Salt Lake City, Utah refinery on December 8, the company said in a filing with local regulators. Operators were working to restart the unit later in the day, according to separate filing. It was not clear if the incident had any impact to production.

Bloomberg News, 13:11 December 9, 2009

ATP Oil & Gas Plans 25,000 b/d Oil, 50 MMcf/d Natural Gas Floating Platform at Telemark Hub in Gulf of Mexico

ATP Oil & Gas plans to install the 25,000 b/d oil-producing, 50 MMcf/d natural gas-producing "ATP Titan" floating drilling and production platform at its Telemark Hub project in the Gulf of Mexico, according to a release. The company expects to begin production by 2010.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=123846&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1350100&highlight=>

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=83450

PdVSA Restarting 145,000 b/d Petrocedeno Heavy Oil Upgrader in Venezuela December 8

Petroleos de Venezuela (PdVSA) shut the facility for boiler repairs. The company did not say when the site went offline.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091208-713773.html>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Good Energy, Inc. Opens 16.5 MMGal/Yr. G2 Diesel Plant in Magnolia, Ohio

The company expects to process up to 99 percent natural and renewable materials, according to a press release.

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20091208005217&newsLang=en

EPA to Review Oil-and-Gas Air Pollution Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects to launch a nationwide review of air pollution standards for the oil and gas industry in January 2011, a news source said. Two environmental groups—WildEarth Guardians and the San Juan Citizens Alliance—petitioned for the review. The groups sought to update the rules to account for increased energy production, new technologies, and non-regulated pollutants, like greenhouse gases. The EPA last amended the standards in 1999, according to an attorney for the environmentalists.

<http://cbs4denver.com/wireapbusinessco/EPA.agrees.to.2.1358024.html>

Blizzard Causes Transportation Delays across U.S Plains and Midwest December 9

Reuters, 10:49 December 9, 2009

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 9, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	70.57	76.83	42.90
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.10	4.30	5.73

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Pat Hoffman Nominated as DOE Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability December 9

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/8375.htm>

Update: 12,000 PG&E Customers in California Remain Without Power after Early-Week Storms December 9

<http://www.sacbee.com/latest/story/2383072.html>

Update: NRG Receives TCEQ Approval for Planned 744 MW Coal-fired Unit at Limestone Power Facility in Texas December 9

DJN, 11:03 December 9, 2009

US Wind Force LLC Plans 55 MW Wind Farm in West Virginia

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Md-to-buy-wind-and-solar-apf-853550679.html?x=0&.v=2>

Synergics Group Plans 50 MW Wind Farm in Garrett County, Maryland

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Md-to-buy-wind-and-solar-apf-853550679.html?x=0&.v=2>

NACEL Energy Files Interconnection Plan for Proposed 19.5 MW Leila Lake Phase I Wind Power Project in Texas

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/NACEL-Energy-Submits-iw-2966203218.html?x=0&.v=1>

Constellation Energy Plans 15.9 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Facility in Maryland—Company Expects to Open Project by December 2012

<http://ir.constellation.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=428941>

Puget Sound Energy Customers Set Record Natural Gas Consumption on Cold Temperatures in Washington December 7

http://newsroom.pse.com/article_display.cfm?article_id=389

DTE Energy to Break Ground on Scrubber-Installation Project in Early 2010 at 3,280 MW Monroe Coal-fired Power Plant in Michigan

<http://dteenergy.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=467>

Thieves Steal Copper Wire and Other Equipment from Alabama Power Substation in Alabama by December 6

http://www2.dothanagle.com/dea/news/crime_courts/article/property_stolen_from_power_substation_in_geneva/14158/

TVA's 2008 Coal Ash Spill from Kingston Coal-fired Power Plant in Tennessee Contained More Toxic Metals than Entire U.S. Power Industry Released in 2007, EPA Data Shows

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20091209/NEWS0201/912090397/1009/NEWS01>

ConocoPhillips Plans 5,500 b/d Expansion at 44,500 b/d Nipomo Mesa Refinery in California

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/story/949762.html>

Update: Ice Plugs, Subsequent Overpressure Likely to Blame for Pipeline Rupture and 46,000-Gallon Oil, Natural Gas and Water Spill along BP's 18-inch Lisburne Pipeline in North Slope, Alaska November 29

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5joPOnveT-2mrcYZdtYOImstXgWTQD9CFS0VO0>

<http://www.adn.com/money/story/1046914.html>

Update: Opti Canada, Nexen Seek to Postpone Regulatory Approval to Late 2011 for Planned Phase 2 at Long Lake Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091209-708428.html>

Plateau Mineral Development, EnSol, LLC Aim to Produce More than 30 Million Barrels of Oil at Trinity Sands and Paluxy Sites in Texas

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/plateau-mineral-development-inc-announces-loi-with-hansen-consulting-to-facilitate-the-production-of-up-to-30--million-barrels-of-previously-unproductive-and-uneconomical--heavy-crude-oil-78861697.html>

U.S. Chemical Safety Board Issues Safety Recommendations after Investigation into July Fire at Citgo's 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 9

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/energy/6760829.html>

Bloomberg News, 12:46 December 9, 2009

Start-up Problems Trigger Pressure Spike, Flaring at Credo Booster Station in Texas December 9

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=132993>

Utilities Boost Natural Gas Demand through Conversions of Coal-Fired Units to Burn Natural Gas during 2009

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Unconventional Sources to Account for More than 50 Percent of Global Natural Gas Demand by 2030—ExxonMobil

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/exxon-sees-trillions-needed-for-energy-growth-2009-12-08>

Colorado State University Predicts Above-Average 2010 Atlantic Hurricane Season

DJN, 10:32 December 9, 2009

Petrobras Eyes Early Start-Date for 120,000 b/d Pilot Production Facility at Tupi Field Offshore Brazil—Company Expects to Launch Project at Least Two Months Prior to Previously-Announced December 2010 Target

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=83482

Iara Area Contains Between 3-to-4 Billion Barrels of Recoverable Oil Offshore Brazil—Petrobras

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=83677

PdVSA Expects to Boost Production to 3 Million b/d within Ten Years at Existing 1 Million b/d Orinoco Oil Region in Venezuela

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=83616

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.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://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

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

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