



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 09, 2015

Electricity

Storms, High Winds Knock Out Power to Over 106,000 Customers in Oregon, Washington December 8–9

Storms producing heavy rain and high winds knocked out power to 106,900 customers in Oregon and Washington Tuesday into Wednesday morning. Puget Sound Energy (PSE), the hardest hit utility with 71,000 customer outages, said flooding and downed trees were impacting access by PSE crews and slowing restoration efforts. The utility said it was using helicopters to patrol damaged areas such as transmission lines that are not easily accessible. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Wednesday, 42,648 customers remained without power.

Oregon, Washington Customer Power Outages			
December 8–9, 2015			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Portland General Electric	OR	26,000	3,785
Puget Sound Energy	WA	71,000	38,092
Snohomish PUD	WA	5,000	500
Seattle City Light	WA	4,900	271
TOTAL*		106,900	42,648

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

Sources:

https://www.portlandgeneral.com/safety_outages/outages/outage_updates/outage_list.aspx

<https://twitter.com/portlandgeneral>

<https://pse.com/accountsandservices/ServiceAlert/Pages/Outage-Map.aspx>

<https://twitter.com/PSETalk>

<https://twitter.com/snopud>

<http://www.seattle.gov/light/sysstat/>

<https://twitter.com/SEACityLight>

<http://www.king5.com/story/weather/2015/12/09/thousands-without-power-flooding-remains-rain-subsides/77030070/>

Update: Entergy’s 951 MW Indian Point Nuclear Unit 2 in New York Restarts December 8, Ramps Up to 46 Percent by December 9

Entergy Corp said on Tuesday unit 2 at its Indian Point nuclear power plant in New York returned to service. The plant was shut on December 5 when several control rods experienced an unplanned power loss.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20151207en.html>

Agua Caliente’s 290 MW Solar Unit in California Reduced by December 8

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 116 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512081515.html>

Dynegy’s 510 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Reduced by December 8

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 260 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512081515.html>

Russell City Energy Company, LLC's 620 MW Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by December 8

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512081515.html>

Deepwater Wind Completes Work for the Season on First U.S. Offshore Rhode Island Wind Farm December 8

Deepwater Wind on Tuesday said construction activities on the nation's first offshore wind farm have wrapped up for the winter season after commencing in July. Work at the site will resume in the spring, where the company will install undersea cables and a five-turbine wind farm off the coast of Block Island, Rhode Island. Deepwater wind expects the wind farm to be operational in the third quarter of 2016.

<http://dwwind.com/press/block-island-wind-farm-caps-off-successful-first-offshore-construction-season/>

Petroleum

Crimson Pipelines' Ventura Pipeline Segment Ruptures, Spills 190 Barrels of Oil near Somis, California December 8 – Local Media

A Crimson Pipeline-owned oil pipeline was shut after a spill near Somis in Ventura County, California, on Tuesday according to local news. A Southern California Edison contractor accidentally drilled into the oil pipeline, which caused the spill. Authorities were still trying to determine exactly how much oil spilled, saying the best estimate on Tuesday was 190 barrels. So far, however, environmental damage had been minimal, officials said. The oil was heading from a holding station in Ventura to a Wilmington refinery near Long Beach, the report said. There were no reported injuries or damage, said the report, adding that the cleanup would take about three or four days.

Reuters, 20:26 December 8, 2015

<http://www.vcstar.com/topstories/Oil-spill-reported-in-Somis-360929811.html>

<http://www.crimsonpl.com/pipeline/maps/map-1.htm>

Citgo Reports Flange Fire at Its 427,800 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery December 6

Citgo Petroleum on Sunday reported a fire on a flange of a flare stack at its Lake Charles, Louisiana refinery.

Reuters 11:35 December 9, 2015

Placid Refining Reports Boiler Shut at Its 75,000 b/d Port Allen, Louisiana Refinery December 5

Placid Refining on Saturday reported a boiler shutdown at its Port Allen, Louisiana refinery.

Reuters, 11:49 December 9, 2015

Flint Hills Reports Emissions at Its 290,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 5

Flint Hills Resources on Saturday reported emissions at its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery.

Reuters, 11:41 December 9, 2015

Total Reports Unit Problems, Flaring at Its 225,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 8

Total SA reported that a malfunction on the amine unit at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery was corrected about an hour after startup on Tuesday morning. The malfunction caused refinery operations to activate a safety flare system for about an hour, which was reported by energy industry intelligence service Genscape. The company on Tuesday also reported problems on unit 885 which led to flaring.

Reuters, 18:12 December 8, 2015

Reuters, 16:29 December 8, 2015

Valero Reports Process Unit Upset, Flaring at Its 100,000 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery December 9

Valero Energy Corp reported a process unit upset resulted in flaring at its Houston, Texas refinery. The company reported the unit was safely depressurized.

Reuters, 12:01 December 9, 2015

Tesoro Reports Operational Upset after Power Outage at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery December 8

Tesoro Corp said its Anacortes, Washington refinery experienced an interruption in normal operations due to a weather related power outage. The company said it did not anticipate any impact on its ability to fulfill product supply commitments.

Reuters, 17:51 December 8, 2015

Tesoro Delays California Refinery Integration to Mid-2017

Tesoro Corp has pushed the completion of integrating its 257,300 b/d Carson and 104,500 b/d Wilmington refineries in California to mid-2017 from earlier that year, according to a company presentation. The expected cost of the project to combine the Los Angeles-area refineries was \$460 million, up from a range of \$400 million to \$425 million. The company also said it expects a \$200 million rail facility project in Washington State to be finished in late 2017. The project would enable up to 360,000 b/d on inbound rail shipments to the Port of Vancouver, and the largest oil-by-rail facility in the country.

Reuters, 9:14 December 9, 2015

Update: Canadian Oil Sands Moves Up Timing of Coker Turnaround at its 326,000 b/d Syncrude Facility in Alberta

Canadian Oil Sands Ltd pushed the timing of its 8-2 coker turnaround from mid-2016 to improve throughput, it said on Tuesday, just days after reports of an unexpected outage. A build-up of coke deposit within the unit led to reduced circulation, it said in a statement, adding that its production estimate for 2015 is about 90 million barrels of synthetic crude. Year-to-date production through November 2015 is 83.2 million barrels, according to the company. That means December production is expected to be around 6.8 million barrels, or about 219,000 b/d. The turnaround comes after Canadian light synthetic crude prices jumped last week as traders familiar with operations said a coker unit was shut unexpectedly due to unknown reasons last week. Syncrude is a mining and upgrading project, where mined oil sands bitumen is upgraded into refinery-ready synthetic crude.

The operations are a joint venture of Canadian Oil Sands Ltd, Suncor Energy Inc, Imperial Oil Ltd, Nippon Oil subsidiary Mocal Energy Ltd, Murphy Oil Corp, China's Sinopec, and CNOOC subsidiary 0883.HK Nexen.

Reuters, 17:54 December 8, 2015

Judge Rejects Bid to Block 230,000 b/d Upgrade to Enbridge's Alberta Clipper Pipeline in Minnesota

A federal judge rejected the key claims in a lawsuit that sought to block a capacity expansion on the Alberta Clipper oil pipeline across northern Minnesota. In his ruling Wednesday, the judge said that the State Department's actions that gave Enbridge Energy a green light to move forward weren't the kinds of final decisions that courts can overturn. A coalition of tribal, environmental and climate change groups had argued that the State Department should not have allowed a temporary workaround that lets Canadian-based Enbridge Energy move more tar sands crude across the border without triggering an environmental review.

Reuters, 12:16 December 9, 2015

North Dakota Oil Production Up 5,000 b/d in October versus September – State Regulator

North Dakota's daily oil production rose slightly in October to 1,168,950 b/d, compared with 1,162,159 b/d in September, the Department of Mineral Resources said. Natural gas output rose 3 percent to 1,654,594 MMcf/d. The number of producing wells hit an all-time high in October of 13,173. The count of drilled-but-uncompleted wells fell 11 percent to 975, bucking a months-long trend where the number gradually grew.

Reuters, 11:59 December 9, 2015

U.S. Oil Stocks Fall after 10-Week Build; Gulf Coast Oil Stocks Fall by Most in 3 Years – EIA

U.S. crude oil stocks fell last week, breaking a 10-week streak of builds beginning in September, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. U.S. Crude inventories fell by 3.6 million barrels in the last week, compared with analysts' expectations for an increase of 252,000 barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 423,000 barrels, EIA said. Data also revealed that U.S. Gulf Coast crude oil inventories dropped 7.3 million barrels last week, the most since December 2012.

Reuters, 10:35 December 9, 2015

Saddlehorn Pipeline Company Seeks Additional Binding Shipper Commitments on Its 190,000 b/d Pipeline from Colorado to Oklahoma

Magellan Midstream Partners, L.P., Plains All American Pipeline, L.P., and Anadarko Petroleum Corporation announced today that the Saddlehorn Pipeline Company, LLC has launched a supplemental open season to seek additional binding transportation commitments by January 7, 2016. The Saddlehorn pipeline, which is currently under construction, will deliver at least 190,000 b/d of crude oil from the DJ Basin, and potentially the broader Rocky Mountain area resource plays, to storage facilities in Cushing, Oklahoma owned by Magellan and Plains. The pipeline's Platteville, Colorado origin and Cushing destination will each include one million barrels of storage. The pipeline is also being extended from Platteville to Carr, Colorado. The Platteville-to-Cushing segment of the pipeline is expected to be operational during mid-2016, and the Carr-to-Platteville segment is expected to be operational in the fourth quarter of 2016.

<http://www.magellanlp.com/magellannewsbl.aspx?id=2147484111>

Natural Gas

Enable Gas Declares Force Majeure Due to Unplanned Maintenance at Its Amber Compressor Station in Oklahoma December 9

Enable Gas (EGT) on Wednesday declared force majeure due to unplanned maintenance at its Amber compressor station in Oklahoma. During maintenance activities, flow capacity will be limited to approximately 440,000 Dth/d and point operators will experience higher pressure. Based on current nominations, EGT does not anticipate any impact to its services. During the unplanned maintenance, shippers whose receipts are in the West 1 pooling area should nominate point to point in order to maintain the highest priority level of service.

<http://pipelines.enablemidstream.com/viewReport.aspx?Pipeline=EGT&ReportType=NOTICES:CriticalNotices&URL=http://pipelines.centerpointenergy.com/stellent/groups/public/documents/ebb/cnp289077.htm>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Iran Cuts Natural Gas Flow to Turkey – Turkish Media

Iran has halved the volume of natural gas flows to Turkey, citing an increase in domestic consumption due to severe winter weather, Turkish newspaper Haberturk reported on Wednesday. It said the daily gas flow of some 28–30 million cubic meters had fallen to around 14–15 million cubic meters as a part of the move.

Reuters, 2:19 December 9, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 9, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	37.11	39.88	63.65
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.98	2.15	3.50

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>

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