



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, December 11, 2009

Electricity

Update: Fewer than 20,000 Customers Remain Without Power across U.S. Midwest December 11

Fewer than 20,000 customers remained without power across 12 U.S. states on December 10, about three days after wind and winter storms cut power to more than 500,000, multiple sources reported. Among the outages were more than 10,000 Appalachian Power customers: 5,833 in Virginia and 5,033 in West Virginia, the company said on its website.

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

<http://www.wisn.com/news/21925701/detail.html>

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20091210/METRO/912100455/1361/6-000-without-power-as-Metro-Detroit-faces-cold-strong-winds>

Update: APS's 1,247 MW Palo Verde Nuke Unit 3 in Arizona at Full Power by December 11

The unit shut due to a valve malfunction by December 4, a news source said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 10 the unit was operating at 18 percent.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1125093220091211?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/>

Southern Restarts 1,152 MW Vogtle Nuke Unit 1 in Georgia by December 11

The company shut the unit due to "high turbine vibration" on December 9, it said in a previous filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Operators had been returning the unit from a separate, unscheduled outage at the time of the incident, according to the filing. The NRC reported that on the morning of December 10 the unit was not operating.

Reuters, 07:10 December 11, 2009

<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 858 MW Arkansas Nuclear Unit 2 in Arkansas Ramped Up to 70 Percent by December 11

Operators took the unit offline after a pump shutdown led to low steam generator levels on December 8, the company said in an earlier filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of December 10 the unit was operating at 20 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2009/20091209en.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: AES's 175 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 2 in California Returns to Service by December 10

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

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200912101515.html>

Update: Luminant to Restart 593 Monticello Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas December 11

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

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

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=132992>

Deepwater Wind Plans 385 MW Wind Farm Offshore Rhode Island

Deepwater Wind plans to open a 28 MW, 8-turbine wind farm offshore Rhode Island in 2013, and aims to break ground in 2014 or 2015 on a planned, 385-to-500 MW wind farm in federal waters, according to a news source. Reuters, 20:45 December 10, 2009

Update: Alliant Energy’s IPL Opens 200 MW Whispering Willow Wind Farm-East in Iowa by December 11

Alliant Energy’s Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) began commercial operations at its 121-turbine, 200 MW Whispering Willow Wind Farm-East in Franklin County, Iowa by December 11, the company said in a press release.

<http://www.alliantenergy.com/Newsroom/RecentPressReleases/024430>

Update: PG&E Plans July 2010 Start-Date for 163 MW Gas-fired Humboldt Bay Generating Station in California

Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) received approval from the California Coastal Commission to permanently retire its existing 135 MW gas-fired Humboldt Bay power plant in California, and replace the facility with a 163 MW, ten-unit gas-fired station, according to multiple sources. The 163 MW plant would include ten 16.3 MW generators. Each unit would be equipped to run on diesel, in addition to natural gas.

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt/index.html>

http://www.pge.com/about/news/mediarelations/newsreleases/q2_2006/060410.shtml

http://www.times-standard.com/localnews/cj_13975672

Update: GE, Plutonic Power to Resume Construction at Proposed 300 MW Dokie Wind Power Project in British Columbia, Canada

GE Energy Financial Services and Plutonic Power Corporation plan to restart construction in January 2010 at their newly-purchased, proposed 300 MW Dokie wind power project in British Columbia, Canada, according to a news release. The project had stalled amid creditor troubles under its previous owner, EarthFirst Canada Inc, a news source said. GE and Plutonic Power expect to complete the facility’s 144 MW first phase by early 2011.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gDqEHkPTQLIkyFRjGiOWnqUgvydvw>

http://www.plutonic.ca/s/PressReleases.asp?ReportID=376786&_Type=Press-Releases&_Title=GE-Plutonic-Power-Purchase-and-Prepare-to-Resume-Construction-of-British-Co...

Petroleum

Oil Prices Drop to Two-Month Low on U.S. Oversupply December 10

Crude oil for January delivery slid to \$70.54 on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX)—the lowest closing price since early October—as U.S. oil supplies continued to outpace demand, a news source said. Prices fell 10 ten percent over the seven-day stretch to December 10.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aVzz5bxltNcA>

Tank Fire at Calumet’s Shreveport, Louisiana Refinery by December 11

Approximately 158,000 gallons of asphalt ignited as workers removed the material from a damaged storage tank, a news source said on December 11. The fire was under control, according to a fire official.

Bloomberg News, 00:18 December 11, 2009

Total, CNPC and Petronas to Produce 535,000 b/d of Oil at Halfaya Field in Iraq

Total SA, China National Petroleum Corp. (CNPC) and Petronas won a contract to boost production to 535,000 b/d over a 13-year stretch at the existing 3,100 b/d Halfaya oilfield in Iraq, a December 11 news source said.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703522904574589241516916598.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

Update: North West Upgrading Plans 231,000 b/d Bitumen-to-Diesel Upgrader and Refinery in Alberta, Canada

North West Upgrading plans to convert bitumen into 231,000 b/d of diesel at an upgrader and refinery near Redwater, Alberta, according to a news source. Pending regulatory approval, the company expects to open the project's first phase—of a total three phases—in the spring of 2010.

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/business/Diesel+production+green+solution+bitumen/2324476/story.html>

Shell Consortium to Produce 1.8 Million b/d at Majnoon Oilfield in Iraq

Shell, Petronas and the Iraqi state government plan to increase production to 1.8 million b/d at the existing 45,000 b/d Majnoon oilfield in Iraq, Shell said in a release. Shell and Petronas received the contract on December 11, according to Iraq's Oil Minister.

http://www.shell.com/home/content/media/news_and_library/press_releases/2009/iraq_majnoon_contract_11122009.html

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703522904574589241516916598.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

Natural Gas

Natural Gas Futures Jump to Near Year-long High on U.S. Inventory Decline December 10

Natural gas for January delivery jumped 40.9 cents—finishing at \$5.298 per million Btus on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX)—after the Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported a larger-than-expected slide in U.S. inventories on December 10, a news source said. It was the highest closing price since January 2009.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aGkKGhpVg8MY>

Other News

Coal-Carrying Train Cars Derail in Colorado December 9

Thirteen coal-carrying cars partly-derailed and stacked in Colorado Springs, Colorado on December 9, a news source said. The incident occurred on private property, but did not cause any injuries.

<http://www.coloradoconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=388479>

Equipment Issues to Blame as Tharaldson Ethanol Runs 110 MMGal/Yr. Casselton, North Dakota Ethanol Plant Below Planned Rates

Tharaldson Ethanol has been unable to operate at full rates due to equipment issues at its 110 MMGal/Yr. ethanol plant in Casselton, North Dakota, according to a news source. ICM Inc. plans to install replacement equipment, and resolve the problem, by February 1.

http://ethanolproducer.com/article.jsp?article_id=6215

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 11, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	69.91	75.83	48.03
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.02	4.57	5.67

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Underground Equipment Breakdown Cuts Power to 12,442 PG&E Customers in California December 10—Company Restores Power to Most Within one Hour

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_13974654

Dominion Virginia Power Electric Customers' Demand to Jump by 4,000 MW Over Next Decade—State Official

http://www2.timesdispatch.com/rtd/business/energy/article/B-ENER11_20091210-215205/310829/

Companies Would Need to Install 20,000 New Wells—From about 1,700, at Present—to Completely Develop Bakken and Related Oil Formations in North Dakota, Montana and Saskatchewan, Canada

http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/article_a7283b3c-e5f7-11de-8e71-001cc4c03286.html

Premier Oil Plans 50,000 b/d FPSO at Block 12W Oilfield Offshore Vietnam

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=83892

Uganda Plans Oil Pipeline to Tanzania amid Delays over Proposed Line through Kenya

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=19886

Canada-to-United States Natural Gas Exports Rise for First Time in Approximately 18 Months during September 2009—National Energy Board

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Update: Chesapeake Renewable Energy Receives Tentative State Environmental Approval for Planned Grain-Based 15 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plant and Biomass-fired 20 MW Power Plant in Maryland by December 11

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20091211/NEWS01/912110303>

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.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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

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