



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, December 18, 2015

Electricity

Update: Entergy's 979 MW Indian Point Nuclear Unit 3 in New York Restarts December 17, Ramps Up to Full Power by December 18

Control room operators returned Indian Point Unit 3 to service Thursday after it was shut down automatically Monday night. The unit was shut when its main electrical generator sensed an electrical disturbance in transmission lines that connect the plant to the external power grid. Workers replaced several electrical insulators on a high-voltage transmission line this week prior to returning the unit to service. Engineers will examine the replaced insulators over the next few days to help determine the cause of the electrical disturbance.

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

<http://www.energynewsroom.com/latest-news/control-room-operators-return-indian-point-unit-service-generating-electricity/>

Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania at Full Power by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit was operating at 91 percent, reduced from full power on December 16.

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

Update: Exelon's 1,116 MW Peach Bottom Nuclear Unit 2 in Pennsylvania at Full Power by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit had restarted and was operating at 31 percent. The unit was shut from full power on December 14 to inspect and repair a steam valve.

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

Reuters, 10:39 December 14, 2015

TVA's 1,125 MW Sequoyah Nuclear Unit 1 in Tennessee Reduced to 50 Percent by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit was operating at full power.

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

FPL's 693 MW Turkey Point Nuclear Unit 4 in Florida Reduced to 85 Percent by December 18

On the morning of December 17 the unit was operating at full power.

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

NMC's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 2 in Minnesota Shut December 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said one of the two reactors at Xcel Energy's Prairie Island nuclear plant shut down automatically on Thursday after a problem developed in the unit's turbine, causing fire alarms to go off. It took more than 15 minutes for operators to confirm there was no fire and therefore the incident had to be reported to the NRC as an "unusual event." The NRC is conducting an investigation into why the fire alarms went off.

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

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20151218en.html>

Reuters, 6:31 December 17, 2015

SCE's 820 MW Big Creek Hydro Unit in California Reduced by December 17

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 708 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512171515.html>

Update: AES's 498 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 5 in California Returns to Service by December 17

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on December 15.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512171515.html>

Update: AES's 495 MW Alamos Gas-fired Unit 6 in California Returns to Service by December 17

The unit returned from an unplanned outage that began on December 15.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512171515.html>

Alta Wind's 168 MW Wind Unit 5 in California Shut by December 17

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512171515.html>

Southern Company Subsidiary Acquires 200 MW Garland Solar Facility in California

Southern Company subsidiary Southern Power today announced the acquisition of a controlling interest in the 200 MW Garland solar facility under construction in California from Recurrent Energy, a subsidiary of Canadian Solar Inc. Construction of the Garland solar facility began this month, with Signal Energy Constructors managing the engineering, procurement, and construction of the facility. The facility will consist of more than 800,000 polycrystalline photovoltaic solar modules, mounted on single-axis tracking tables, and is expected to enter commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2016.

<http://www.southerncompany.com/news/2015-12-18-spc-garland.cshtml>

Scatec Solar Commissions 104 MW Red Hills Renewable Solar Plant in Utah

Scatec Solar on December 11 announced it formally commissioned the 104 MW photovoltaic solar plant in Parowan, Utah. The Utah Red Hills Renewable Park (URHRP) is Utah's first utility-scale solar plant and will more than double the state's current solar footprint. When the plant is fully operational within the week, it will generate around 210 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year to be fed into the grid under a twenty-year Power Purchase Agreement with PacifiCorp's Rocky Mountain Power, according to the utility's obligation under the federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act.

<http://www.scatecsolar.com/Investor/Stock-exchange-notice/Scatec-Solar-Completes-Utah-s-First-Utility-Scale-104-MW-Solar-Plant>

Petroleum

U.S. House Passes Bill to Fund Government, Export Crude Oil December 18

The U.S. Congress on Friday passed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill to keep government agencies open and funded through September 2016 and lift the 40-year-old ban on U.S. crude oil exports. The vote sends the bill to President Barack Obama for signing into law. The White House, which helped negotiate the package, has said President Obama supports it.

Reuters, 9:40 December 18, 2015

ExxonMobil Says Unit Fire Contained at Its 502,500 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery December 18

Exxon says responders contained a unit fire at its Baton Rouge refinery on Friday morning and no injuries were reported. The Baton Rouge Fire Department reported no outside damage to the refinery.

Reuters, 7:37 December 18, 2015

Total Reports Equipment Malfunction at Its 225,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 18

Total reported an equipment malfunction in unit 805 was isolated at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery.

Reuters, 10:27 December 18, 2015

Petrobras Reports SRU Startup at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery December 17

Petrobras reported a pump on the nash unit malfunctioned during startup resulting in elevated sulfur in the fuel gas. This caused emissions of sulfur dioxide from the heaters and boilers. The company said repairs to the pump were completed and the sulfur recovery unit (SRU) was restarted.

Reuters, 2:54 December 17, 2015

Platte River Midstream Announces Open Season for Its 157,000 b/d Platte River Pipeline in Colorado December 18

Platte River Midstream, Inc. today announced a binding open season for the Platte River Pipeline System, a new crude oil gathering system being constructed in Weld County, Colorado. The open season will close on January 18, 2016. The Pipeline System will have a design capacity to transport up to 157,000 b/d of crude oil from numerous field receipt points in the Denver-Julesburg Basin. The pipeline will transport crude oil to a central delivery point near Lucerne, Weld County, Colorado (the Lucerne West Station), for further transportation in interstate commerce on the Grand Mesa Pipeline.

<http://www.rimrockmidstream.com/prg.html>

Reuters, 7:00 December 18, 2015

Natural Gas

Southern Union Reports Emergency Shutdown at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas December 17

Southern Union reported the control air shut causing an emergency shutdown at the plant. Repairs were being made to gain control and the plant units were reset to get them back online.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=224643>

Regency Reports Hydrate Restriction at Its 290 MMcf/d Waha Gas Plant in Texas December 16

Regency reported the line between the inlet separator and the flash tank experienced a hydrate restriction. Methanol was repeatedly injected into the line to remove the restriction and normal operations returned after the hydrate was eliminated.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=224611>

Tallgrass Energy Reports Operating, Design Capacity Changes of Overthrust-Wamsutter Interconnect on Its REX Pipeline in Wyoming

Tallgrass Energy reported that due to current throughput levels and third-party pressures, its Rockies Express (REX) pipeline is experiencing rapid changes in current conditions in the Wamsutter, Wyoming area. As a result, the Operating Capacity of the Overthrust-Wamsutter interconnect, available for scheduling delivery quantities, net of allocated receipts, will be reduced to 290 MDth/d effective for the Timely Cycle, Gas Day Saturday, December 19, 2015 and until further notice. REX will endeavor to schedule volumes above design capacity to the extent that operating conditions allow. Additionally, the Design Capacity of the Overthrust-Wamsutter interconnect for delivery quantities will be reduced from 320 to 213 MDth/d effective for the Timely Cycle, Gas Day Saturday, December 19, 2015 and until further notice. Based on the current level of nominations, secondary and primary quantities are at risk of not being scheduled. REX will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as additional information becomes available. REX is a 1,698-mile natural gas pipeline system that spans from Rio Blanco County, Colorado, to Monroe County, Ohio.

<http://pipeline.tallgrassenergy.com/Pages/NoticeDetail.aspx?pipeline=501&type=CRIT>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 18, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	34.59	35.60	55.53
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.75	1.91	3.66

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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