



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 23, 2015

Electricity

Update: Restoration Nearly Complete to 32,000 PGE Customers in Oregon December 23 after Wind, Rain Hit December 21

Restoration was nearly complete on Wednesday morning to the 32,000 Portland General Electric (PGE) customers in Oregon who had power knocked out on Monday due to rain and high winds. Wind gusts of more than 40 mph were reported, knocking down trees and power lines. As of 3:00 p.m. EST Wednesday, 954 customers remained without power.

<https://www.portlandgeneral.com/outages/outage-map>

<https://twitter.com/portlandgeneral>

SCE's 820 MW Big Creek Hydro Unit in California Reduced by December 22

The unit entered an unplanned curtailment of 658 MW.

<http://content.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512221515.html>

SunPower, Xcel Energy Begins Commercial Operation of 50 MW Hooper Solar Plant in Colorado December 23

Xcel Energy and SunPower Corp. announced today that commercial operations have commenced at the 50 MW Hooper solar photovoltaic power plant in Colorado's San Luis Valley. Xcel Energy is purchasing the power generated by the plant at cost-competitive rates under a power purchase agreement with SunPower.

<http://newsroom.sunpower.com/2015-12-23-50-Megawatt-SunPower-Solar-Plant-Now-Delivering-Power-to-Xcel-Energy-Customers-in-Colorado>

Westar Energy to Add Nearly 300 MW of Wind Energy in Kansas by Early 2017

Westar Energy Inc. announced today an agreement that will add nearly 300 MW to its growing wind energy portfolio in Kansas by early 2017. Westar, in collaboration with Infinity Wind Power, will construct the Western Plains Wind Farm, a 280 MW wind farm in Ford County, Kansas. In a separate agreement anticipated before year end, Westar also plans to pursue another 200 MW of wind energy with an option to own a 50 percent share of that capacity.

<https://www.westarenergy.com/content/about-us/news/2015-news-releases/western-plains>

Petroleum

Enterprise Announces First Agreement to Export U.S. Crude Oil from Houston, Texas December 23

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. today announced that it agreed to provide pipeline and marine terminal services to load its first U.S. export of domestically produced crude oil under the law enacted earlier this month. The announcement comes just a day after, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security formally lifted commodity licensing restrictions on crude oil, which have prevent exports of U.S. crude oil for nearly 40 years. The 600,000 barrel cargo of domestic light crude oil is scheduled to load at the company's Enterprise Hydrocarbon Terminal (EHT) on the Houston Ship Channel during the first week of January 2016.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=2124926>

Tesoro Confirms Unplanned Maintenance after Upset at Its 363,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery December 22

Tesoro Corp. on Tuesday confirmed unplanned maintenance was underway at the Wilmington portion of its Los Angeles, California refinery following an upset. The company did not confirm which units were impacted or how long the maintenance would last.

Reuters, 2:38 December 22, 2015

Valero Reports Process Upset, Emissions at Its 205,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 23

Valero Energy Corp reported a process upset and emissions from the sulfur recovery unit, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 12:35 December 23, 2015

HollyFrontier Reports FCCU Emissions, Shutdown at Its 70,300 b/d Tulsa East, Oklahoma Refinery December 20

HollyFrontier reported a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Tulsa East, Oklahoma refinery was shut following an emissions event on December 20. The unit was reportedly shutdown on December 7, and again on December 11 due to a cooling water leak. The company has not disclosed any additional details on the unit at this time.

Reuters, 15:14 December 23, 2015

U.S. Crude Oil Stockpiles Fall Unexpectedly – EIA

U.S. crude oil stocks fell unexpectedly last week, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. Crude inventories fell by 5.9 million barrels in the last week, compared with analysts' expectations for an increase of 1.1 million barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 2 million barrels, EIA said.

Reuters, 10:36 December 23, 2015

U.S. Oil Drillers Cut Rigs for Fifth Week in Six – Baker Hughes

U.S. energy firms this week cut oil rigs for a fifth week in the last six, Baker Hughes data showed on Wednesday. Drillers removed three oil rigs in the week ended December 23, bringing the total rig count down to 538. That decrease brings the total rig count down to about a third of the 1,499 oil rigs operating in same week a year ago. Since the end of the summer, drillers have cut 134 oil rigs. Last week, they added 17 rigs, the first increase in five weeks.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/usa-rigs-baker-hughes-idUSL1N14C0L320151223>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Pemex Says Stolen Fuel Catches Fire in Mexico December 22

Mexico's state oil company Pemex said a stockpile of stolen fuel caught fire late on Tuesday alongside one of its pipelines in the southern state of Tabasco. The fire was controlled without the pipeline being affected, Pemex said, adding that none of the reportedly 30 injured people were Pemex employees.

Reuters, 1:03 December 23, 2015

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 23, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	36.66	36.51	55.81
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.74	1.64	3.04

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

Energy Assurance Daily provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

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