



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, December 29, 2008

Major Developments

High Winds Cause Widespread Power Outages U.S. Midwest, Northeast and Canada More than 800,000 Lose Power December 28-29

High winds tore through Indiana, Michigan, New York, Quebec and Ontario yesterday and today, cutting power to an estimated 820,640 customers. An estimated 305,240 customers remained without power, as of latest reports. DTE Energy, the hardest-hit American utility, said it had brought in crews from Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee to help in the recovery process. Both it and Consumers Energy expected to restore all customers by Wednesday.

Bloomberg News, 00:05 December 29, 2008

Reuters, 13:05 December 29, 2008

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Nearly-200000-without-power-apf-13925621.html>

<http://my.dteenergy.com/main/indexStorm.html>

U.S. Northeast and Midwest, Canada Customer Power Outages			
December 28-29, 2008			
Electric Utility	State/Province	Peak	Latest Reported
DTE Energy	MI	230,000	120,000
Consumers Energy	MI	183,000	42,000
Great Lakes Power	MI	17,840	421
Midwest Energy Cooperative	MI	8,000	0
Hydro One	ON	235,000	97,707
Toronto Hydro Corporation	ON	10,000	3,000
Hydro-Quebec	QE	71,000	36,000
NYSEG	NY	26,000	1,900
National Grid	NY	21,000	1,776
Rochester Gas & Electric	NY	17,000	2,400
Indiana Michigan Power	IN	1,800	36
TOTAL*		820,640	305,240

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

Sources:

Hydro One:

http://www.hydroonenetworks.com/en/about/our_services/power_outage_maps/NewReports/outage_summary.html

DTE Energy <http://my.dteenergy.com/main/indexStorm.html>

Consumers Energy Peak: <http://www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm>

Great Lakes Power: <http://www.gtlakes.com/news/newsdetail.aspx?itemID=80>

Toronto Hydro Corporation:

http://corporate.torontohydro.com/newsroom/toronto_hydroelectric_system_limited_power_outage_update.html

Hydro-Quebec: <http://www.canada.com/windsorstar/news/story.html?id=076aafcf-6295-4676-8f17-15304e46530c>

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idCATRE4BS4FE20081229>

Midwest Energy Cooperative: <http://wsjm.com/Power-Restored-for-8-000/3565834>

Indiana-Michigan Power:

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081228/News01/812289993/0/ENT>

<http://www.mlive.com/news/kzgazette/index.ssf?base/news-32/123056588081210.xml&coll=7>

NY: National Grid: <http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/534944.html>

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

NY: Rochester Gas and Electric: <http://www.13wham.com/mostpopular/story/High-Winds-Bring-Down-Power-Lines-Trees/CqPnxm0XO0eOyGCTj4VITw.csp>

NY: New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG): <http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/534944.html>
http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/Crews_continue_to_restore_power_in_WNY_20081229

Hawaiian Electric Company Reports Power Fully Restored to Over 294,000 Customers Following Island-Wide Blackout December 26

On December 28, the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) said power was fully restored to the island of Oahu after a blackout struck the island early evening, Friday December 26. The cause of the island-wide outage remains under investigation as HECO officials continue to work with police and other emergency communications personnel that claim significant lightning was the culprit of the outage that left all 294,600 HECO customers without electricity. Among those affected were President-elect Obama and family, who were vacationing on the island.

HECO customer count information: http://www.heco.com/vcmcontent/StaticFiles/pdf/01_01_PowerFacts.pdf
<http://www.heco.com/portal/site/heco/menuitem.508576f78baa14340b4c0610c510b1ca/?vgnextoid=0ac8af133ea7e110VgnVCM1000005c011bacRCRD&vgnnextfmt=default&cpsexcurrchannel=1>
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28412451/>

Reuters, 20:53 December 27, 2008

Electricity

Wind Storms Cut Power to More than 80,000 Customers in Illinois December 27

Wind storms cut power to 63,600 ComEd customers and 20,322 Ameren customers in Illinois on December 27, news sources reported. ComEd had restored service to most its affected customers by evening, but said substation flooding was hampering its efforts. Ameren reported only scattered outages across its Illinois service territory, as of latest figures.

<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1351943.122808flooding.article>
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28401093/>
http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_IllinoisOutageInformation.asp

Winds Cut Power to 34,416 KCP&L Customers in Missouri December 27

Winds knocked down trees, power poles and cut power to more than 30,000 Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) customers December 26-27. KCP&L hoped to restore most its affected customers by day's end, December 27.

http://www.kcpl.com/kcmaps/frameset_menus.htm
<http://www.kansascity.com/116/story/954638.html>
<http://www.hdnews.net/wirestories/k1003-BC-KS-KansasToday-12-28-0809>

Winds Cut Power to About 48,000 Nova Scotia Power Customers in Canada December 24

Winds deposited sea salt on transmission lines, cutting power to about 48,000 Nova Scotia Power customers in Nova Scotia, Canada on December 24. The company restored power to most customers by late that evening.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/nova-scotia/story/2008/12/24/ns-more-outages.html?ref=rss>

Update: TVA Shuts Seven of Nine Units after Coal Ash Spill at 1,700 Kingston Coal-fired Power Plant in Tennessee

Seven of nine units at the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Kingston coal-fired power plant remained shut on Friday, TVA confirmed, four days after a coal ash spill destroyed nearby homes and forced shut a road and rail line. A retention wall collapsed on Monday, December 22, spilling 5.4 million cubic yards of coal ash into adjacent homes, a waterway, a roadway, and a rail line. Blocked from receiving new coal deliveries, TVA decided to keep the plant mostly-shut to conserve coal supplies. TVA said reduced electricity demand enabled the prolonged shutdown. In addition to Kingston's seven units, TVA shut 15 other coal-fired units.

Reuters, 16:22 December 26, 2008

Reuters, 14:09 December 26, 2008

Luminant's 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Shuts December 28

The unit "tripped due to loss of flame signal in the boiler," the company said in a filing with state regulators. The filing did not say when the unit would return to service.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118133>

Luminant Shut 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas December 28

The company planned to shut the unit to “repair a boiler feed pump thrust bearing,” it said in a filing with state regulators. The shutdown was expected to last about two days, a spokeswoman said.

Bloomberg News, 10:09 December 29, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117938>

Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Restarts by December 29

The reactor shut automatically on December 27 due to a main generator trip, the company said. It returned to 7 percent power by this morning, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). A spokesman said earlier that the incident would not impact Exelon customers. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 27 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://daily-journal.com/archives/dj/display.php?id=433132>

Reuters, 07:40 December 29, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: Ameren Returns 1,190 MW Callaway Nuclear Reactor in Missouri to Full Power by December 26

The unit shut on December 15 due to an electric malfunction on a condensate pump, a news source said. It ramped up to 42 percent power by December 24, and resumed full output by December 26.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2629817420081226>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

FirstEnergy's 882 MW Davis-Besse Nuke Unit in Ohio Ramped Up to 88 Percent by December 29

Operators shut the reactor last week due to an oil leak in the turbine building. Engineers said a clogged lubrication system triggered the leak. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 28 the unit was operating at 33 percent.

<http://www.cleveland.com/business/plaindealer/index.ssf?base/business-11/123038460947690.xml&coll=2>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Update: NRG Energy to Restart 813 MW Limestone Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas December 26-29

NRG Energy planned to restart the unit after performing turbine and boiler work, it said in a filing with state regulators. The unit went offline on December 18 due to high turbine bearing vibration, a previous report said.

Reuters, 12:11 December 26, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118121>

Luminant Restarts 793 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas by December 26

Luminant shut the unit on December 24 to fix a boiler tube leak, according to a filing with state regulators. The unit resumed service by December 26, a spokeswoman confirmed.

Bloomberg News, 12:36 December 26, 2008

Reuters, 08:05 December 26, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118104>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118106>

Reliant's 246 MW Coolwater Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Returns to Service by December 26

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by December 25, and returned to service by December 26.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812261515.html>

Reliant's 245 MW Coolwater Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by December 26

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit shut for unplanned reasons by December 25, and returned to service by December 26.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812261515.html>

AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Ramps up by December 25

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit ramped up from an unplanned curtailment.
<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812251515.html>

Bruce Shuts 750 MW Bruce Nuke Unit 3 in Ontario December 26

The company shut the unit for short-term maintenance, it said in a release.
Reuters, 12:55 December 26, 2008

OPG Shuts 475 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 4 in Ontario December 28

Bloomberg News, 08:29 December 29, 2008

OPG Shuts 155 MW Thunder Bay Coal-fired Unit 3 in Ontario December 27

Bloomberg News, 08:29 December 29, 2008

Update: OPG Restarts 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 3 in Ontario by December 26

The unit was down for three days.
Reuters, 12:11 December 26, 2008

Update: NRG Energy Announces Commercial Operations of 122 MW Elbow Creek Wind Project in Texas December 29

The Elbow Creek Wind Project consists of 53, 2.3 MW wind turbine generators.
http://media.corporate-ir.net/media_files/irol/12/121544/news/1229_Elbow_Creek.pdf

APS Files for License Extensions at 3,875 MW Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant in Arizona

Arizona Public Service Co. (APS) filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to extend licenses for each of Palo Verde's three nuclear reactors. The current licenses begin to expire in 2025.

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/business/articles/2008/12/26/20081226biz-paloverderenew1226.html>
http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/nuclear/page/at_a_glance/reactors/palo_verde.html

Developers Consider Retooling Government Flood-Control Dams to Produce Electricity

Developers are considering revamping government flood-control dams into hydroelectric power facilities, as renewable energy mandates, tax credits and regulatory issues encourage growth in the hydropower sector. Included in possible plans are the Tygart Dam in Pennsylvania and the Bluestone Dam in West Virginia.

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2008/12/27/ap5862110.html>

Petroleum

After Weekend Power Outage, Valero's 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Resuming Normal Rates December 29

The facility experienced a brief electrical disruption on Saturday, December 27. The incident cut power to a crude-oil unit and triggered flaring. Valero said today that the facility was returning to normal rates. Separately at Port Arthur, Valero said a compressor shut unexpectedly on December 23.

Bloomberg News, 17:19 December 24, 2008

Reuters, 11:11 December 29, 2008

Reuters, 09:00 December 29, 2008

Bloomberg News, 12:05 December 28, 2008

Bloomberg News, 11:54 December 29, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118131>

Citgo Shuts Hydrotreater at 156,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 24

A malfunction forced shut a mixed distillate hydrotreater in Corpus Christi's west plant, according to a filing with state regulators. The shutdown occurred at 2:42 AM, local time on December 24, and concluded at 1:42 PM, local time, the filing indicated.

Reuters, 18:03 December 25, 2008

Bloomberg News, 23:12 December 26, 2008

Valero's 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery Returns to Normal Rates by December 29

A power outage forced offline most units on December 18. Valero returned the facility to normal rates by today, a spokesman said.

DJN, 11:17 December 29, 2008

Bloomberg News, 11:27 December 29, 2008

ConocoPhillips' 139,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery Resumes Normal Operations December 26

The refinery sustained "a minor upset on a unit used to aid in the production of motor fuel" on December 25, a spokesman said. The refinery resumed normal operations by December 26. The incident resulted in flaring

Reuters, 14:34 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg News, 16:40 December 26, 2008

Compressor Shutdown Delays Coker Restart at Tesoro's 97,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery December 26

A wet gas compressor malfunction forced operators to delay the restart of a coking unit, multiple sources reported. The coking unit had been returning from maintenance, a spokesman said. The incident resulted in flaring, but it was not immediately clear whether it would impact production. In separate sources, the spokeswoman said the incident had not damaged any refinery units, but that it could affect production, "depending on how long it takes us to correct the problem."

Reuters, 12:37 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg News, 16:06 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg news, 07:32 December 26, 2008

Fire at Cenex's 59,600 Laurel, Montana Refinery December 24

The fire forced shut the ultra-low sulfur diesel hydrotreating unit, a Cenex spokeswoman said. Operators did not shut any other units. "We continue to study what the cause of the fire was," the spokeswoman said. "We don't have any definitive timeframe yet for restarting the unit."

<http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSTRE4BP1X220081226>

Fire at ConocoPhillips' 58,000 b/d Billings, Montana Refinery December 24

The fire occurred in a unit "that aids in the production of gasoline," a company spokesman said. The affected, unit will remain shut for two weeks, but refinery operations are otherwise normal, he said. He added that production was "marginally reduced but there shouldn't be significant impact on the marketplace."

Bloomberg News, 13:05 December 26, 2008

<http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSTRE4BP1X220081226>

Fire at Petro Star's 48,000 b/d Valdez, Alaska Refinery December 28-29

The fire burned from 10:45 PM, local time, until about 1:15 AM, local time. Officials had not yet said whether the incident caused significant damage to the facility. The refinery generates mostly jet fuel, marine diesel and home heating oil.

<http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=9589936>

BP May Postpone Planned Restart of FCC at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery

BP plans to restart a gasoline-producing fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) on December 28, it said in a filing with state regulators. The restart, however, may be pushed back until January 11, 2009. The unit is returning from planned work, the filing indicated.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117929>

Reuters, 09:21 December 29, 2008

Update: BP to Restart Ultraformer at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery December 28-January 13

BP planned to restart its Ultraformer #3 from December 28 to January 13, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The unit shut three years ago due to Hurricane Rita, the company said previously.

Bloomberg News, 16:08 December 28, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118123>

Magellan Cancels Plans for 80-mile Texas Pipeline and Announces Smaller Project

Magellan Midstream Partners said it will not build an 80-mile pipeline between Port Arthur and Houston, Texas, as announced in May 2008. Instead, Magellan and Explorer Pipeline plan to construct a 9-mile, 20-inch pipeline, linking Magellan's East Houston terminal to Explorer's existing 28-inch diameter pipeline in Texas. Magellan also expects to add a pipeline connection between its East Houston terminal and Motiva's existing Pasadena terminal. Both projects are slated to come online by 2011. Despite its cancellation, Magellan said it still plans to increase its capabilities to handle additional transportation volumes at its existing locations. Included in that aim are two storage projects—a 900,000 barrel facility at East Houston, and a 200,000 barrel addition at Frost, Texas—expected to enter service by 2010. Magellan also plans to expand loading capabilities at its Odessa terminal by early 2009.

http://www.magellanlp.com/news/2008/20081229_30.htm

Update: Flying J's 66,000 b/d Big West Refinery in Bakersfield, California Could Shut after Bankruptcy Declaration, Oil Producers Say

The refinery could be forced shut as local suppliers worry Flying J will be unable to pay for new deliveries, sources said. If it cannot secure oil supplies, producers fear, the refinery could have to shut. Under current terms, Flying J pays for oil every 50 days. To ease payment concerns, local executives said, Flying J proposed paying its suppliers every 8 days. Flying J filed for bankruptcy last week.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Big_West_Refinery_May_Face_Closure_14409.aspx

Shell Restarts Upgrader Unit adjacent to 155,000 b/d Scotford, Alberta Refinery

Shell restarted a residue hydroconversion unit after a mid-November shutdown, the company confirmed in a December 28 news source. During the restart, a "minor glitch" triggered flaring for several hours, a Shell spokesman said. The spokesman did not say when the unit would resume full rates. The shutdown had slowed production at the upgrader, and at the associated Muskeg River mine. The upgrader sits adjacent to Shell's 155,000 b/d Scotford, Alberta refinery.

Bloomberg News, 15:23 December 28, 2008

Bloomberg News, 12:37 December 28, 2008

Fire Shuts Naphtha Unit at Venezuela's 640,000 b/d Amuay Refinery December 24

PdVSA said its 900,000 b/d Paraguana Refining Complex was operating normally after a fire shut a naphtha unit at its 640,000 b/d Amuay refinery December 24. Venezuela's state-oil company said it was operating a separate naphtha unit at full rates to compensate for the downed output.

Bloomberg News, 15:33 December 28, 2008

Reuters, 13:55 December 28, 2008

Reuters, 11:50 December 27, 2008

Power Outage Forces Shuts PdVSA's 320,000 b/d Isla Refinery in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles December 25

An "interruption in the supply of steam and electricity," forced Venezuela's PdVSA to shut its 320,000 b/d Isla refinery in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles on December 25. It was the second such power-related closure in one week. In a statement, the Isla refinery said it was restarting.

Reuters, 11:31 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg News, 16:03 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg News, 12:05 December 24, 2008

Update: Venezuela's 300,000 b/d Cardon Refinery Back to Normal after December 18 Power Outage

The facility returned to normal by December 26, a refinery source confirmed. A December 18 power outage forced shut Venezuela's Cardon and Amuay refineries.

Reuters, 12:14 December 26, 2008

Bloomberg News, 16:46 December 26, 2008

Update: After Cyclones, Woodside Restarts 61,000 b/d Cossack Oil Venture, 800 MMcf/d Natural Gas, 50,000 b/d Condensate Cossack Venture Offshore Australia

Woodside restarted the Cossack Pioneer venture on December 26, following a three-day, cyclone-related shutdown. It restarted the Angel platform on December 28.

Bloomberg News, 01:32 December 29, 2008

Attackers Blow Up Oil Pipeline in Yemen December 28 No Impact to Production or Exports, Official Says

Attackers blew up a pipeline in Yemen's north Kholan region late December 28, but an oil ministry official said the incident did not affect exports or production. Disgruntled tribesmen were the likely culprits, sources indicated. The official expected the line to resume throughput today, following the completion of repairs. In a separate report, however, a local official said the resultant fire continued today, albeit under control. That official expected the blaze to be extinguished this evening. Yemen exports about 200,000 b/d of oil.

Bloomberg News, 10:43 December 29, 2008

http://uk.reuters.com/article/reutersComService_3_MOLT/idUKTRE4BS1T920081229

Natural Gas

Suspected Natural Gas Pipeline Leak Explodes House, Kills One in California December 24

The National Transportation Safety Board said an investigation would begin this week, and Pacific Gas & Electric Co., the local natural gas utility, said it would share its preliminary findings with authorities.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j18HArDvyFqqfYco0ddZRROA9PHAD95AR0Q00>

Other News

Fire at Glacial Lakes Energy's 100 Million Gallon/Year Ethanol Plant in South Dakota— No Impact to Production, Company Says

The fire occurred in the corn dryer, but was extinguished in “a matter of five to 10 minutes,” a company official said. The incident did not impact plant production, he said.

Bloomberg News, 11:35 December 26, 2008

<http://www.kcautv.com/Global/story.asp?S=9572605>

Pacific West Energy, Kaua'i Island Utility Co-op Plan 15 Million Gallon/Year Sugar-to- Ethanol Plant, 30 MW Power Facility in Hawaii

The companies plan to retrofit an existing sugar mill in Kaua'i, Hawaii, to generate 15 million gallons a year of ethanol and 30 MW of power. If built, it would be the first sugar-to-ethanol plant in the United States.

<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20081229/NEWS09/812290333/1001/LOCALNEWSFRONT>

Verenium Plans 36 Million Gallon/Year Cellulosic Ethanol Plant in Florida

Verenium Biofuels plans to build a 36 million gallon/year cellulosic ethanol facility in Highlands County, Florida. County officials granted the company a special use permit last week. If built, the facility would require about 400,000 tons of dried feed stocks.

<http://www2.highlandstoday.com/content/2008/dec/24/la-proposed-training-center-ethanol-plant-moving-a/>

National Guardsmen and State Police to Cease Patrols at New Jersey Nuclear Power Facilities

National Guardsmen and State Police will stop patrols at New Jersey's nuclear power facilities, officials said. Instead, the facilities will employ a new video monitoring system—equipped with thermal imaging capabilities—and private security. The state's Attorney General said security would remain adequate, despite the changes.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20081227/NEWS01/812270323/1006>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 29, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	37.97	32.74	97.07
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.44	5.66	7.11

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Storms Cut Power to About 20,000 FPL Customers in Florida December 24

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/broward/story/825988.html>

Wind Storm Cuts Power to 13,500 Central Maine Power Customers in Maine December 25

<http://www.wmtw.com/mostpopular/18357013/detail.html>

Snow Storm Cuts Power to 10,000 Customers in Utah December 25

<http://www.abc4.com/news/local/story/Christmas-Day-storm-brings-Utah-snow-traffic-woes/E7eb2VBT9U2mqZX8KD481A.csp>

Valero Reports “Unexpected Swings in Operational Conditions” at 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 25

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118115>

OSHA Cites Sunoco's 145,000 b/d Westville, New Jersey Refinery for 34 Safety Violations

<http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=15122&pagetitle=Sunoco+refinery+in+N.J.+cited+for+34+safety+violations>

U.S. Oil Demand Dips 833,000 b/d in October 2008, Year-on-Year, EIA Says—Figure is 3.14 Percent Higher than EIA’s Previous Estimate

Reuters, 10:17 December 29, 2008

Antrim Energy Plans 15,000 b/d Causeway Field in UK North Sea

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8256921.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>
http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71112

Update: Apache Restarts 13,200 b/d Oilfields Offshore Australia after Cyclone

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71108

Oil Exports from Iraq’s Southern Basra Port Dip 68 Percent, to 552,000 b/d on December 27—Rates Recover to 1.8 Million b/d December 29

Reuters, 04:43 December 29, 2008

Nigerian Rebel Group MEND Warns it Will Cripple Oil Sector if Government Fails to Release Militant Leader

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8256835.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

Militants Attack Agip's Tedidaba Oil Flow Station in Niger Delta, Nigeria

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71090

United Arab Emirate's Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. to Cut February Supplies of Crude after OPEC Cuts—Source Says Reductions were Larger-than-Expected

<http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSTRE49B3Y620081226>

Libya Tells Oil Companies to Slash Oil Output by 270,000 b/d, Beginning January 1, in Line with OPEC Quota

Bloomberg News, 08:56 December 29, 2008

Ecuadorean President Orders Agip to Halt its Oil Production in Ecuador after OPEC Quota Cuts

Bloomberg News, 15:48 December 27, 2008

Oil Prices Jump after Israeli Attacks in Gaza Strip

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=az1OkwDMQLUM&refer=home>

Gasoline Prices Hit 58-month Low December 26

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/2008-12-26-gas-prices_N.htm

Compressors Shutdown at Cedar Lake Booster Station in Texas December 28

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118132>

Pressure Spike, Flaring at Big Spring Booster Station in Texas December 24

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118111>

Residential Coal Consumption Rises 9 Percent in 2007, 10 Percent More over First Eight Months of 2008—EIA

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/27/business/27coal.html?_r=1&sq="+Energy%20Information%20Administration"&st=nyt&adxnml=1&scp=1&adxnmlx=1230570111-VTASerF3iyVobgSMqPZmw](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/27/business/27coal.html?_r=1&sq=)

International Renewable Energy Agency to Hold First Conference in January 2009—Organization Will Work to Promote, Expand Renewable Energy

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=11719238

Update: After Last Week's Fog, Houston Ship Channel Resumes Normal Traffic December 29

Reuters, 10:04 December 29, 2008

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

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. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

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

Please direct comments and questions to: ead@oe.netl.doe.gov