



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 29, 2011

## *Electricity*

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### **Update: Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Ramped Up to 87 Percent by December 29**

On the morning of December 28 the unit was operating at 60 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **Update: Exelon's 1,022 MW Clinton Nuclear Unit in Illinois Ramped Up to 97 Percent by December 29**

On the morning of December 28 the unit was operating at 82 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **Update: Entergy's 966 MW River Bend Nuclear Unit 1 in Louisiana Ramped Up to 92 Percent by December 29**

On the morning of December 28 the unit was operating at 50 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2011/>

### **BPA to Begin Construction on Six 500-kV Replacement Transmission Lines to Connect Grand Coulee Dam in Washington to Power Grid in U.S. Pacific Northwest**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) announced December 23 that construction of six new 500-kV overhead transmission lines at Grand Coulee Dam will begin in February 2012. The six new transmission lines will replace six existing, aging underground lines and will transfer power from Grand Coulee Dam's third power plant across the Columbia River to BPA's regional, high-voltage power grid.

<http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/BPAnews/nreleases.cfm>

## *Petroleum*

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### **DDS Unit Shuts, Leads to Flaring at Flint Hills's 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 28**

Flint Hills Resources reported a distillate desulfurizer (DDS) unit shutdown due to unknown causes at its refinery Wednesday evening, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The shutdown led to a material release from the flare. Operators were shutting down the flaring but had not secured the event at the time of the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999158](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999158)

### **Update: Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Operating at Planned Rates after December 24 SRU Snag**

Valero Energy Corp. on Wednesday said its Port Arthur refinery was operating at planned rates after a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) malfunctioned at the refinery December 24. A company spokesman said in an email to reporters that the malfunction has caused no material impact to production.

Reuters, 14:38 December 28, 2011

## **Update: Valero's 171,000 McKee, Texas Refinery Operating at Planned Rates after December 22 Power Disruption**

Valero Energy Corp. said on Tuesday its McKee refinery was operating at planned rates after a power outage late last week.

Reuters, 11:21 December 27, 2011

## **Update: Western Refining Reports Normal FCCU Rates at Its 122,000 El Paso, Texas Refinery December 28**

Western Refining said on Wednesday a gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) was operating at planned rates at its El Paso refinery after starting up last Sunday.

Reuters, 10:27 December 28, 2011

## **Petroplus May Shut 161,800 b/d Petit Couronne Refinery in France Due to Credit Freeze Affecting Crude Supplies; Could Restrict Fuel Imports to U.S. East Coast**

Petroplus Holdings AG said it may be forced to stop operations at the Petit Couronne refinery in France on January 2 amid a credit freeze restricting crude supply for the plant. Refinery workers began a strike Wednesday that will block deliveries of oil products without otherwise impacting refinery operations. Petroplus management has indicated credit problems might force the company to progressively shut its four other plants in Europe, as well. Analysts say that lower gasoline production could restrict fuel imports to the U.S. East Coast.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-12-28/new-york-gasoline-gains-as-petroplus-may-shut-french-refinery.html>

## **Update: Nebraska Plans September 2012 Deadline for Environmental Impact Study on Route for TransCanada's Proposed 830,000 b/d Keystone XL Crude Oil Pipeline**

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Oil/6809193>

<http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/story/2011-12-29/pipeline-nebraska/52272372/1>

## **Natural Gas**

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### **Keystone Midstream to Construct 50 MMcf/d Bluestone Cryogenic Gas Processing Plant in Pennsylvania**

Keystone Midstream has obtained all necessary permits to begin construction of the 50 MMcf/d Bluestone cryogenic gas processing plant in Butler County, Pennsylvania. The company hopes to commission the plant in May 2012. The company also plans to coordinate the fracture stimulation and completion of its 20 gross wells in Butler County throughout the first half of 2012 with the Bluestone plant's commencing operations.

<http://ir.rexenergycorp.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=635304>

### **Temperature Probe Malfunction Shuts AGI Unit at Enbridge's Tilden Gas Plant in Texas December 27**

Enbridge reported that its acid gas injector (AGI) No. 1 shut down due to bad third-stage high discharge temperature, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators immediately responded by replacing a bad temperature probe.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163158>

### **Enterprise Reports Leak on Its Rio Grande Propane Pipeline in Texas December 27**

Enterprise reported a propane release due to unknown causes was detected on its Rio Grande pipeline on Tuesday, according to a filing with state regulators. An investigation is on-going. Operators were immediately dispatched to locate the leak and later isolated it between the pipeline's nearest block valves.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163162>

### **Exterran Reports Equipment Malfunctions at Its 50 MMcf/d Reinecke Gas Plant in Texas December 27**

Exterran reported malfunctions involving two units at its plant on Tuesday in filings with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Unit 72833 went down on high scrubber level due to the cold weather. Operators manually drained the scrubber. Unit 77082 went down on engine oil level. Operators added oil and restarted the unit.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163181>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163182>

## Other News

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Nothing to report

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 29, 2011			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	98.55	99.84	91.36
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.07	3.05	4.10

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### Substation Circuit Malfunction Due to Unknown Causes Briefly Cuts Power to 12,000 PECO Customers near Philadelphia December 28

<http://pottstown.patch.com/articles/peco-power-outage-affects-12-000-customers>

### Current U.S. Tax Incentives for Wind Energy Set to Expire at the End of 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/12/28/windpower-outlook-consultancy-idUSL6E7NS10B20111228>

## Links

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***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](http://www.eia.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://www.eia.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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