



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

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, December 29, 2015

Electricity

Update: Over 180,000 Customers Remain without Power in Southwest and Midwest December 29 after Strong Storms Hit December 27–28

Restoration efforts were continuing on Tuesday after strong storms producing damaging winds knocked out power to 515,174 customers Sunday and throughout the day Monday across multiple states in the South and Midwest. Freezing rain, sleet, snow, and strong winds of up to 70 mph were reported. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Tuesday, 182,293 customers remained without power. Public Service Company of Oklahoma said it was making steady progress, but anticipates that complete service restoration could take until 10:00 p.m. CST, January 1. DTE added that most of its customers will have power restored by this evening. NIPSCO said that due to the severity of the damage its electric system, some customers may not have their power restored until late Tuesday, and in some cases, outages will likely last into Wednesday. Indiana and Michigan Power said all customers will have power restored on Thursday by 11:00 p.m. CST. Ameren expects to have all power restored on Wednesday by 8:00 a.m. CST.

South, Midwest, New Mexico Customer Power Outages December 27–29, 2015			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Entergy Arkansas	AR	4,105	735
Ameren Illinois	IL	70,055	38,823
Commonwealth Edison	IL	27,000	7,097
Mid American Energy	IL	22,000	13
Northern Indiana Public Service Co (NIPSCO)	IN	29,000	10,882
Duke Indiana	IN	8,308	282
Indiana and Michigan Power	IN	32,000	7,138
Westar Energy	KS	5,126	175
DTE Energy	MI	25,000	11,661
Consumers Energy	MI	33,000	8,588
Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives	OK	82,293	47,287
Public Service of Oklahoma	OK	54,500	14,667
OG&E	OK	60,000	17,534
Municipal Electric Utilities	OK	10,838	4,700
First Energy	PA	19,843	9,691
Memphis Light Gas and Water	TN	8,603	31
AEP Texas	TX	15,000	2,462
SWEPCO	TX	8,503	473
TOTAL*		515,174	182,239

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

Sources:

<http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/ar.aspx>

<http://apps.ameren.com/outage/outagemap.aspx?state=IL>

<https://twitter.com/AmerenIllinois>

https://www.comed.com/_layouts/comedsp/OutageMap.aspx

<https://twitter.com/ComEd>

<https://www.midamericanenergy.com/outagewatch/dsk.html>

<http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/in/default.html>

<https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>

<http://www.nipscooutages.com/WSSNisourceOutageMap/outagemap.html?action=city&reloaded=true>

<http://outagemap.westarenergy.com/external/default.html>

<http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>
https://twitter.com/dte_energy
<https://www.consumersenergy.com/outagemap>
<https://twitter.com/OAECoops>
<http://ompa.com/2015/12/storms-cause-outages-across-state/>
<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=December+27+Winter+Storm>
<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
https://oge.com/wps/portal/oge/outages/systemwatch/lut/p/a1/04_Sj9CP
<http://azimuth.mlgw.org/OutageSummary.php>
<https://www.aeptexas.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
<https://www.aeptexas.com/info/news/viewRelease.aspx?releaseID=1887>
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/winter_storm_cuts_power_to_nea.html
<http://kfy.com/thousands-of-xcel-energy-customers-without-power-in-clovis-texas-new-mexico-region/>
<http://www.koco.com/news/3700-oge-customers-without-power-during-winter-storm/37146424>

Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Reduced to 59 Percent by December 29

The unit was reduced from 97 percent due to scheduled power-suppression testing.

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

Reuters, 8:43 December 29, 2015

Update: RRI Energy's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by December 28

The unit returned from an unplanned curtailment of 170 MW that began on December 21.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201512281515.html>

Petroleum

Coast Guard Closes Upper Mississippi River Section Due Flooding in St. Louis; Operations Unaffected at Phillips 66's 306,000 b/d Wood River Refinery in Illinois December 29

Heavy rain and flood conditions on Tuesday prompted the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Upper Mississippi River to establish a safety zone between mile markers 179 to 185.4, effectively closing a section of the Mississippi River which passes through the St. Louis metropolitan area. The closure comes just a day after Kinder Morgan announced temporary closures of terminals along the river in St. Louis, Missouri, and in Sauget and Rockwood, Illinois. Barge movements of energy commodities may be affected by this closure, however; at this time, no reports have confirmed any energy-sector impacts. Phillips 66's reported on Tuesday that operations were running normally amid flooding conditions at its 336,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois refinery. According to sources familiar with the plant's operations, the refinery docks were coping with high water levels, but that refined product loadings were ongoing.

<https://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/portDirectory.do?tabId=1&cotpId=1000000>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-mississippiriver-idUSKBN0UC00520151229>

Reuters, 13:47 December 29, 2015

Citgo Reports Normal Operations after Minor Upset at Its 427,800 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery December 28

Citgo Petroleum on Tuesday said it experience a minor unit upset at its Lake Charles, Louisiana refinery on Monday, but that normal unit operations had resumed with no impact to the environment or community.

Reuters, 15:38 December 29, 2015

Marathon Reports Pin Hole Leak at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery December 29

Marathon Petroleum Corp on Tuesday reported that the 120,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracking unit #3 (FCCU) experienced a pin hole leak on the regenerator piping at its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas refinery. No additional information was available at this time.

Reuters, 15:28 December 29, 2015

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-refinery-operations-marathon-galvesto-idUSKCN0S12U120151007>

Phillips 66 Reports Flaring at Its 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery December 28

Phillips 66 reported that flaring emissions exceeded 500 pounds of sulfur dioxide on December 28. The company also reported the furnace unit #41 as an additional source of emissions. The incident was ongoing and an investigation into the cause will be conducted, Phillips 66 said.

Reuters, 15:30 December 28, 2015

Shell's 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery Reports Unit Start Up December 24, Normal Operations December 28

Royal Dutch Shell reported a unit start up at its Martinez, California refinery on December 24, according to a filing with Contra Costa County Health Services Department. On December 28, Shell the facility had returned to normal operations.

Reuters, 15:26 December 28, 2015

Reuters, 14:44 December 28, 2015

Natural Gas

Update: SoCalGas Successfully Locates Leaking Well, Continues Efforts to Drill Relief Wells at Aliso Canyon, California December 27

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) on December 27 reported that crews successfully located the leaking well using an active magnetic ranging tool. The company said it had drilled to approximately 3,800 feet of measured depth for the first of two relief wells, and crews were preparing to resume drilling to more than 8,000 feet in order to intercept the ruptured well, and pump heavy mud and fluids to prevent the leak of gas from the reservoir. The company was also initiating grading efforts on the drilling pad where the second, backup relief well will be drilled. The drilling process continues around the clock, and is expected to be complete by late February or early March 2016.

<https://www.alisoupdates.com/main>

Southern Union Reports Power Loss at Its Keystone Gas Plant in Texas December 27

Southern Union reported its Keystone gas plant was down on purchased power loss due to a winter ice and snow storm. Maintenance was called to check the residue and inlet compressor units once the plant is back online.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=225007>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Pemex Says Brush Fire Contained at Its 220,000 b/d Salamanca Refinery in Mexico

Mexico's state oil company Pemex said on Monday that a brush fire at its Salamanca refinery was contained before it reached any installations or caused any injuries. The refinery, located in central Guanajuato state, was operating normally, although though due to environmental conditions it has not been possible to completely extinguish the blaze, Pemex said. The company did not say how the fire started, or when it expected to finish putting it out.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=50475

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 29, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	37.83	36.07	53.51
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.08	1.71	2.75

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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