



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 30, 2015

Electricity

Update: Over 73,000 Customers Remain without Power in Midwest December 30 after Strong Storms Hit December 27–28

Restoration efforts were continuing on Wednesday after strong storms producing damaging winds knocked out power to 516,855 customers Sunday and throughout the day Monday across multiple states in the South and Midwest. As of 3:30 p.m. EST Wednesday, 73,200 customers remained without power. Ameren Illinois expects the majority of customers to have power restored by Wednesday evening. Public Service Company of Oklahoma said complete service restoration could take until 10:00 p.m. CST, January 1. NIPSCO said all power should be restored by midnight on Wednesday, December 30. OG&E expects the majority of power to be restored by January 1 although some of the hardest hit areas won't be restored until January 3. Indiana and Michigan Power said all customers will have power restored on Thursday by midnight CST.

Midwest Customer Power Outages December 27–30, 2015			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Ameren Illinois	IL	70,055	15,568
Commonwealth Edison	IL	27,000	1,076
Northern Indiana Public Service Co (NIPSCO)	IN	29,000	1,981
Indiana and Michigan Power	IN	41,500	1,143
DTE Energy	MI	25,000	1,577
Consumers Energy	MI	33,000	547
Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives	OK	82,293	34,000
Public Service of Oklahoma	OK	129,164	4,823
OG&E	OK	60,000	11,797
First Energy	PA	19,843	688
TOTAL*		516,855	73,200

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

Sources:

- <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.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
- <https://www.indianamichiganpower.com/outages/details.aspx?stormName=December+28+Winter+Storm>
- <http://www.nipscooutages.com/WSSNisourceOutageMap/outagemap.html?action=city&reloaded=true>
- <http://www.dteenergy.com/map/outage.html>
- https://twitter.com/dte_energy
- <https://www.consumersenergy.com/outagemap>
- <https://twitter.com/OAECoops>
- <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!/ut/p/a1/04_Sj9CP
- 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>

NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuclear Unit in Nebraska Reduced to 55 Percent by December 30

On the morning of December 29 the unit was operating at full power.

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

Saturn Power Plans 10 MW Solar Farm in Oregon

Saturn Corp, a Canadian renewable energy company, is planning to create a nearly 10 MW facility near Redmond, Oregon. County planners have requested more information from Saturn before they can consider the application complete. The company is expected to submit additions by early January.

Reuters, 11:31 December 30, 2015

Petroleum

Enbridge's 215,000 b/d Ozark Oil Pipeline Shut Due to Mississippi River Flooding

Enbridge Inc. said it has halted operations on its Ozark pipeline due to flooding along the Mississippi River. There is no indication that there is any damage to the pipeline, and the line will remain shut until conditions improve, the pipeline operator added. The pipeline, also known as Line 51, crosses the Mississippi River between West Alton, Missouri and Hartford, Illinois, which is north of the river where a section is currently closed to vessel traffic. Line 51 runs 433 miles from Cushing to Wood River in southern Illinois where Phillips 66 operates a 336,000 b/d refinery. Earlier on Tuesday, sources told Reuters the Wood River refinery was not affected by the torrential storms.

Reuters, 19:27 December 29, 2015

Update: Marathon to Repair FCCU at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery December 29 – Sources

Marathon Petroleum Corp planned to shut the 120,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking unit #3 (FCCU) on Tuesday at its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay refinery in Texas City, Texas, to repair a piping leak, said sources familiar with plant operations. The Texas City Emergency Management Department warned residents that the Galveston Bay Refinery would be using its safety flare system on Tuesday night. The refinery has been working to repair the leak in piping on the FCCU's regenerator for about a month, said the sources. Marathon filed a notice with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Tuesday about the pinhole leak on FCCU which is expected to cause a release of propylene in excess of levels allowed by the refinery's operating permit, according to the notice.

Reuters, 18:31 December 30, 2015

Chevron Reports Flaring at Its 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery December 29

Chevron Corp reported a potential start up malfunction caused a flaring incident, but did not interrupt any operations.

Reuters, 23:24 December 29, 2015

NuStar and ConocoPhillips Load Export Cargo of Eagle Ford Crude Oil in Texas December 30

NuStar Energy and ConocoPhillips announced on Wednesday they were loading the nation's first export cargo of U.S.-produced light crude oil since the nearly 40-year-old ban was lifted on December 18. ConocoPhillips committed to sell Eagle Ford light crude oil and condensate to international trading company Vitol—the same buyer that secured a cargo from Enterprise on December 23. The cargo is expected to complete loading at NuStar's North Beach Terminal located in the Port of Corpus Christi on December 31, 2015. NuStar has invested heavily in recent years to expand its South Texas Crude Oil Pipeline System to move crude oil from the Eagle Ford Shale play to Corpus Christi. The company has also made major investments in its Corpus Christi terminal operations with the addition of more storage tanks, dock space and automated systems that allow the company to better accommodate and provide logistics services for its customers, including the ability to load export-size cargoes from its docks.

Reuters, 14:01 December 30, 2015

U.S. Crude Inventories Rise Unexpectedly; Record High in Cushing, Oklahoma – EIA

U.S. crude stocks rose unexpectedly last week on a bigger-than-expected build, data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Wednesday. Crude inventories rose by 2.6 million barrels in the last week, compared with analysts' expectations for a decrease of 2.5 million barrels. Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery hub rose by 892,000 barrels to a record high of 62.9 million barrels, EIA said.

Reuters, 10:39 December 30, 2015

Enable Gas Lowers Pipeline Pressure Due to Flooded Regulators in Arkansas

In a critical notice to shippers on Wednesday, Enable Gas Transmission reported that flooding at regulator stations has prompted operations to reduce pipeline pressure on its BT-3, BT-38, and BM-26 natural gas pipelines in Arkansas. The company said lines pressures would return to normal once flood waters have receded.

<http://pipelines.centerpointenergy.com/pdfs/LINEBM2612.30.15.PDF>

Enterprise Products Completes Final Phase of LPG Export Terminal Expansion in Texas

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. today announced that the partnership has increased the loading rate at its liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) export terminal on the Houston Ship Channel from 16,500 barrels per hour (b/h) to approximately 27,500 b/h of capacity. The incremental capacity was achieved through the completion of a new refrigeration train that increases loading capabilities at the terminal from 9 to 16 million barrels per month, which equates to a total of approximately 29 vessels per month. The LPG terminal expansion is expected to be complete and brought into service by the end of 2017.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=2125401&highlight>

Enterprise Completes Final Segment of Its Aegis Pipeline in Louisiana December 30

Enterprise Products Partners L.P. today announced it completed construction, commissioned, and initiated operation of the remaining 162-mile portion of the Aegis ethane pipeline from Lake Charles, Louisiana to the Napoleonville, Louisiana area. The 270-mile, 20-inch diameter Aegis system originates at Mont Belvieu, Texas, which is the terminus for more than 3 million barrels per day of natural gas liquids pipeline capacity, is connected to more than 2 million b/d of industry fractionation capacity and is home to more than 110 million barrels of Enterprise-owned storage capacity.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=irol-newsArticle&id=2125403&highlight>

Other News

NOAA Upgrades Geomagnetic Storming Watch to G3 (Strong) December 29

The National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration on Tuesday upgraded its geomagnetic storming watch for December 30 to a G3 (Strong), with a G1 (Minor) storming watch still in effect for December 31. Forecasters at NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center have issued watches based on consistent modeling results and the determination that a coronal mass ejection (CME) impact was likely after 7:00 a.m. EDT, December 30 with residual CME effects continuing into 31 December. The CME impact may cause a sudden impulse geomagnetic response at Earth, likely resulting in the G3 conditions. The CME was associated with a long-duration M1 flare, which peaked at 7:45 a.m. EDT, December 28.

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/news/g3-strong-geomagnetic-storming-likely-30-december>

International News

Iraq's Southern Oil Exports Hold Near Record in December – Sources

Oil exports from southern Iraq have held near a record high in December with an average of 3.27 million b/d, according to loading data tracked by Reuters and an industry source. That almost matches the record of 3.37 million b/d reached in November—which Iraqi officials said was unusually high as it included some tankers delayed from the previous month.

http://www.dowstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=50485

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 30, 2015			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	36.54	36.66	54.09
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.37	1.74	3.01

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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