



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, December 30, 2016

Electricity

Power Restoration Underway after Nor'easter Hits New England, Southeastern Canada December 29 – 30

A powerful Nor'easter producing heavy snow and rain knocked out power to at least 206,109 customers in New England and Southeastern Canada on Thursday, with affects lasting into Friday. Wind gusts of up to 60 mph were reported, bringing down trees and powerlines. As of 12:30 p.m. EST on Friday, 115,402 customers remained without power. Central Maine Power said its crews were working on repairs but with poor travel conditions and deep snow along the roadsides, it could take several days to complete the restoration. Emera Maine said it was making progress and outage numbers may fluctuate as crews might need to suspend power in some cases to make repairs. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by utility. The "Affected" column shows the total count of customers that lost power at one point or another over the course of the storm for each utility. These outages may not have occurred concurrently and are not the same as peak outages.

New England, Southeastern Canada Customer Power Outages			
December 29 – 30, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
Eversource	MA	1,267	5
Central Maine Power	ME	97,635	81,857
Emera	ME	25,000	12,113
Eversource	NH	8,188	358
Unitil	NH	2,000	0
NB Power	New Brunswick	20,019	11,682
Nova Scotia Power	Nova Scotia	37,000	4,387
Maritime Electric	Prince Edward Island	15,000	5,000

Sources:

- <http://outagemap.cmpco.com/cmp/>
- <http://www.cmpco.com/OurCompany/News/2016/news161230a.html>
- http://apps.emeramaine.com/about/outages/Outage_Map.cfm
- <https://www.eversource.com/psnh/outage/outagemap.aspx>
- <http://unitil.com/outage-center/electric-outage-map>
- <http://www.nbpower.com/Open/Outages.aspx>
- <http://www.maritimeelectric.com/index.aspx>
- <https://www.facebook.com/maritimeelectricpei/>
- <http://outagemap.nspower.ca/external/default.html>
- <https://twitter.com/nspowerinc>
- <http://www.nh1.com/news/nearly-9-000-left-without-power-as-nor-easter-pounds-nh/>
- <https://weather.com/storms/winter/news/winter-storm-fortis-northeast-news>
- <http://patch.com/new-hampshire/concord-nh/nearly-9-000-nh-without-power-more-200-crashes-reported-highways>
- <http://patch.com/massachusetts/boston/boston-power-outages-problems-reported-noreaster-bears-down>

NRC Cites PG&E for Cooling System Problem at Its 2,323 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant in California December 29

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Thursday issued a white finding of low to moderate safety significance to Pacific Gas & Electric's (PG&E) for failing to adequately maintain the emergency core cooling system at its Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo, California. Each reactor at Diablo Canyon is equipped with two emergency core cooling systems that are used to provide cooling water to a reactor under certain accident conditions. During a scheduled test conducted in May, workers discovered that a maintenance problem had rendered one of the Unit 2 emergency core cooling systems inoperable for an extended period of time, beginning as early as October 2014. A second emergency core cooling system was available if needed. The licensee has corrected the condition and changes have been made to maintenance procedures to prevent recurrence, The NRC said.

<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2016/16-024.iv.pdf>

<https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML1627/ML16277A340.pdf>

Southern Company, RES to Develop Wind Projects Totaling 3,000 MW to Begin Operations in 2018–2020

Southern Company subsidiary, Southern Power, on Friday announced a joint development agreement with Renewable Energy Systems Americas Inc. (RES) to develop and construct approximately 3,000 MW across 10 wind power projects with commercial operation dates between 2018 and 2020. Additionally, Southern Power has signed agreements to purchase wind turbine equipment from both Siemens and Vestas for use at the facilities.

<http://www.southerncompany.com/news/2016-12-29-spc-announces-wind-development.cshtml>

Petroleum

Tesoro Reports Unplanned Work at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery December 29

Tesoro Corp on Thursday reported unplanned maintenance was underway at its Anacortes, Washington refinery. Genscape earlier on Thursday reported that a 26,000 b/d catalytic reformer was being shut at the refinery.

Reuters, 20:51 December 29, 2016

Reuters, 16:06 December 29, 2016

PES Reports Unit Startup, Shutdowns at Its 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery December 27, 28

Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) reported units 1732, 865, and 431 restarted after a steam emergency at the Girard Point section of its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania refinery on December 28, according to a filing with the state pollution regulator. PES shut units 865, 1732, 431, and 8733 on December 27, and units 869 and 1733 on December 26.

Reuters, 12:51 December 30, 2016

U.S. Crude Output Hits 8.81 Million b/d in October – EIA

U.S. crude oil output rose 232,000 b/d in October to 8.81 million b/d, data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed on Friday. In North Dakota, oil output increased 72,000 b/d in October, while in Texas, output rose by 23,000 b/d. Offshore U.S. Gulf Coast production rose by 84,000 b/d.

Reuters, 12:15 December 30, 2016

U.S. Oil Rig Count Increases to 525 December 30 – Baker Hughes

The number of rigs drilling for oil in the U.S. rose by 2 to 525 in the week to December 30, data from oil services firm Baker Hughes showed on Friday.

Reuters, 13:03 December 30, 2016

Natural Gas

U.S. Natural Gas Rig Count Increases to 132 December 30 – Baker Hughes

The number of rigs drilling for natural gas in the U.S. rose by 3 this week to 132, data from oil services firm Baker Hughes showed on Friday.

Reuters, 13:00 December 30, 2016

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 30, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	53.61	51.72	36.54
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.68	3.57	2.37

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.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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