



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 31, 2014

Major Developments

Update: Strong Wind Storm Knocks Out Power to 311,000 PG&E Customers in California December 30; Over 14,000 PG&E Customers Remain without Power December 31

A cold storm system originating in Western Canada began hitting Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E's) service area early Tuesday morning and continued through Wednesday morning knocking out power to a total of 311,000 customers over the course of the storm. Strong offshore/northeast winds, with gusts up to 70 mph in the higher terrain, caused vegetation and other debris to bring down power lines, damage equipment, and interrupt electric service primarily in the northern portion of PG&E's service area. PG&E said crews were continuing to work around the clock to restore service to customers and repair damage to the utility's infrastructure. As of 1 p.m. EST, 14,623 customers remained without power.

http://www.pge.com/en/myhome/alerts/morealerts.page?WT.ac=MyHome_Landing_Windstorm

Electricity

Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Reduced to 72 Percent Due to Switchyard Maintenance December 31

Exelon Corp reduced the power output at its Byron nuclear power plant in Illinois early Wednesday due to planned maintenance, a company spokesman said. The unit was reduced to 72 percent power by early Wednesday from full power early Tuesday. A company spokesperson said the site is performing planned switchyard maintenance and cannot perform the work while the unit is at full power. The company did not specify any duration for the power reduction or any estimate for the reactor to return to full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

Reuters, 8:14 December 31, 2014

PG&E's 1,087 MW Diablo Canyon Nuclear Unit 1 in California Reduced to 33 Percent by December 31

On the morning of December 30 the unit was operating at 92 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2014/>

La Paloma Generating Company's 260 MW Gas-fired Unit 4 in California Shut by December 30

The unit entered an unplanned outage.

<http://content.aiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201412301515.html>

Petroleum

Motiva Contains Oil Release at Its 600,250 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 30

Motiva Enterprises LLC said at about 1 a.m. local time on Tuesday a release of oil occurred at the Port Arthur, Texas refinery inside the refinery fence line. Motiva said the release was contained within the refinery and clean-up activities were taking place.

Reuters, 8:22 December 31, 2014

Enterprise and Enbridge Report First Crude Oil Volumes Shipped on Their 850,000 b/d Seaway Twin Pipeline from Oklahoma to Gulf Coast December 21

The Seaway Twin pipeline, a joint venture between Enterprise Products Partners and Enbridge Inc., shipped initial crude oil volumes to Jonas Creek on December 21, according to an operations notice filed Wednesday. The process of line filling the 512-mile Seaway Loop pipeline, known as the Seaway Twin, has been completed, the companies said. The completion of the pipeline more than doubles capacity of the Seaway Pipeline System between Cushing, Oklahoma and the Gulf Coast to more than 850,000 b/d.

<http://seawaypipeline.com/news/>

Reuters, 9:29 December 31, 2014

Natural Gas

Excelerate Energy's 8 mtpa Lavaca Bay, Texas LNG Export Plant Put on Hold due to Oil Price Fall

Excelerate Energy's floating 8 million tonne per annum (mtpa) liquefied natural gas (LNG) export plant moored at Lavaca Bay, Texas has been put on hold, according to regulatory filings, due to the oil price slump. The project was initially due to begin exports in 2018. The company told the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on December 23 said that uncertainty generated by a steep decrease in oil prices has forced it to conduct a "strategic reconsideration of the economic value of the project" and to suspend all activities until April 1, 2015.

Reuters, 13:17 December 30, 2014

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Update: Libya Containing Es Sider Oil Fire, Export Resumption Remains Uncertain

Libya has made progress containing a fire at the Es Sider oil port that has destroyed four days of the country's oil production but the damage to storage tanks will hamper efforts to resume exports, officials and industry insiders said. The fire at Es Sider, the country's main oil export terminal, has been going on since December 25 when a rocket hit an oil storage tank. The fire damaged seven tanks and destroyed up to 1.8 million barrels of oil, four times Libya's daily output.

Reuters, 9:17 December 31, 2014

Iraq Oil Exports via Pipeline through Turkey Reach 32.2 Million Barrels

Iraq exported a total of 32.2 million barrels of oil to world markets via a Kurdish-built pipeline going through Turkey since May, Turkish Energy Minister Taner Yildiz said on Tuesday.

<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/business/energy/2014/12/31/Oil-falls-towards-57-as-demand-concerns-outweigh-supply-disruptions.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 31, 2014			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	52.61	55.45	98.64
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.12	2.97	4.31

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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