



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, August 23, 2012

Electricity

Update: OPPD Delays Restart of 478 MW Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Plant in Nebraska

The Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) has delayed restart for the third time of its 478 MW Fort Calhoun nuclear power plant in Nebraska until later this year or early 2013. The plant has been shut down since April 2011 due to flooding along the Missouri River last year and other problems found during inspections by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). NRC issued restart guidelines in June that OPPD must complete before the plant can be restarted. OPPD plans to heat up the plant by December 1 in anticipation of restarting it, but an exact restart date is subject to NRC approval. OPPD has hired a unit of Exelon Corp. to manage the plant.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/22/utilities-oppd-fortcalhoun-idUSL2E8JMD2X20120822?feedType=RSS&feedName=marketsNews&rpc=43>

Exelon's 802 MW Three Mile Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Shut by August 23

Exelon Corp. reported that Unit 1 at its Three Mile Island Generating Station automatically tripped Wednesday due to high reactor coolant system pressure as a result of a main feedwater transient. According to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit remains stable in Hot Shutdown mode while operators conduct a post trip review.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2012/20120823en.html>

NMC's 522 MW Prairie Island Nuclear Unit 1 in Minnesota at Full Power by August 23

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 22 the unit was operating at 70 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

NPPD's 764 MW Cooper Nuclear Unit in Nebraska at Full Power by August 23

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of August 22 the unit was operating at 65 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2012/>

Petroleum

Phillips 66 Reports Leak from Process Piping at Its 306,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery August 22

Phillips 66 reported a leak from process piping at its Wood River refinery on Wednesday, leading to a release of hydrogen sulfide. According to a filing with state regulators, the leak was caused by equipment failure.

Reuters, 4:10 August 22, 2012

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1021842

Alon Reports CO Boiler Tube Rupture, FCCU Emissions at Its 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery August 22

Alon USA reported emissions from a carbon monoxide boiler at its 67,000 b/d Big Spring refinery in Texas on Wednesday. According to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the emissions from gasoline making fluid catalytic cracker were associated with the tube rupture.

Reuters, 14:51 August 22, 2012

Update: Sinclair Says All Units Back Online at Its 80,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming Refinery August 22

Sinclair Oil Corp. said all units at its 80,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming refinery were back online August 22 after a power outage on August 16, which damaged a sulfur processing unit, and forced operators to shut the refinery. Sinclair Oil began restart procedures August 17.

Marathon Petroleum to Shut Its 106,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery for Two Months as Part of Project to Expand Processing of Heavy Canadian Crude Oil

Marathon Petroleum Corp. said Wednesday that it will shut its 106,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan refinery September 4 for approximately two months as part of its \$2.2 billion expansion project. The expansion will allow Marathon to process heavy Canadian oil. The company said the refinery should be restarted by the end of the year.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Energy/2012/08/22/Marathon-to-shut-refinery-in-Detroit-for-2-2B-in-work.html>

Flint Hills May Upgrade Its 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery to Process More Eagle Ford Crude Oil

Flint Hills Resources said Thursday that it may spend more than \$250 million to improve processing at its 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery so it can process more cut-price crude oil from the Eagle Ford shale play. If approved, the project would take two years to complete.

Reuters, 11:04 August 23, 2012

Update: Kinder Morgan Starts Construction of 110,000 b/d Parkway Petroleum Products Pipeline in Louisiana and Mississippi

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners began construction of the 16-inch Parkway Pipeline over the weekend. The pipeline is designed to transport gasoline and diesel from Valero Energy Corp.'s Norco, Louisiana refinery to a Kinder Morgan hub in Collins, Mississippi. From there, refined petroleum products would enter pipelines serving major Southern markets. The 136-mile pipeline would have an initial capacity of 110,000 b/d, with the ability to expand to more than 200,000 b/d. It is expected to be in service by mid-year 2013.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/22/pipeline-operations-kindermorgan-plant-at-idUSL2E8JMA220120822?feedType=RSS&feedName=rbssEnergyNews&rpc=43>

Natural Gas

Fire Injures Four Workers at ConocoPhillips's 313 MMcf/d Lost Cabin Gas Plant in Wyoming August 22

A flash fire at ConocoPhillips Lost Cabin natural gas processing plant in Wyoming injured four workers Wednesday. According to the company, the fire extinguished itself immediately, and an investigation is being conducted into the cause of the fire. The employees all received medical attention. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality said the plant had been idle since August 1 for maintenance.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3078950/Latest-News/Fire-injures-four-at-Wyoming-gas-processing-plant-of-ConocoPhillips.html>

Reuters, 17:18 August 22, 2012

Southern Union Reports Unit Shutdowns at Its 140 MMcf/d Keystone Gas Plant in Texas August 22

Southern Union Gas Services reported that field units 2, 3, and 4 at its Keystone Gas plant in Texas went down Wednesday due to high pressure, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=172604>

Sempra Receives FERC Approval to Place New 7.5 Bcf Underground Natural Gas Storage Cavern into Service at Its Mississippi Hub

Sempra U.S. Gas & Power, LLC, said Thursday that it had received authorization from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to place a second 7.5 Bcf underground natural gas storage cavern into service at its Mississippi Hub facility in Simpson County, Mississippi. This will expand the facility's total storage capacity to 15 Bcf. Additional injection capacity at the facility will become available for customers once the dewatering process at the new cavern is complete. The company expects to complete construction on a third 7.5 Bcf cavern in 2013, further expanding the site's storage capacity to 22.5 Bcf.

Reuters, 10:31 August 23, 2012

Other News

Barge Traffic Resumes Along Drought-Ravaged Mississippi River August 22 but Backlog Remains

About 100 vessels had been stranded by low water levels since Monday after the Coast Guard closed an 11-mile stretch of the Mississippi River near Greenville, Mississippi for dredging and to replace missing navigation buoys. Barge traffic resumed on the waterway early Wednesday but the Coast Guard again closed the channel – this time for 12 hours – when a vessel became lodged in the sand. Traffic again resumed late Wednesday afternoon but traffic was restricted to one-way flow. As of Thursday morning, about 50 vessels remained backed up in the channel.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/23/us-usa-drought-barges-idUSBRE87M0WW20120823>

Update: Tropical Storm Isaac Gains Strength as it Continues Toward Gulf of Mexico August 23; May Become Hurricane

The U.S. National Hurricane Service continues to advise that Tropic Storm Isaac is advancing toward the eastern Gulf of Mexico. The storm is currently expected to reach the Florida Keys by 8:00 AM EDT Monday.

<http://www.sfgate.com/business/bloomberg/article/Isaac-in-Caribbean-May-Become-Hurricane-Before-3809860.php#ixzz24Od9qxxJ>

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/refresh/MIATCPAT4+shtml/231252.shtml>

International News

Nothing to report

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
August 23, 2012			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	97.36	95.15	84.26
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.80	2.82	4.10

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 and 1:00 PM Eastern Time every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM Eastern Time every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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