

## Refinery Events

May 4, 2012 – May 10, 2012

The following events were obtained from the Department of Energy (DOE) website:

### **Update: Pasadena Refining Plans to Rebuild Fire-Damaged Coker Unit at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery**

Pasadena Refining Systems Inc. said Friday it will begin rebuilding a coker unit at its refinery in Pasadena after careful evaluation of the scope of the work needed to repair the damage caused by a fire December 10, according to reports. The fire didn't impact any other unit at the refinery, a company spokesman said at the time.  
DJN, 11:16 May 4, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-4-12.

### **Flare Gas Recovery Compressor Trips at Phillips 66's 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery May 4**

Phillips 66 reported that a flare gas recovery compressor tripped at its joint-venture Wood River refinery in Roxana, Illinois, according to a filing with state regulators posted on Friday. Operators put the compressor back online, which was expected to resolve the issue, the filing said. ConocoPhillips recently completed the spinoff of Phillips 66 as an independent downstream company.  
Reuters, 10:51 May 4, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-4-12.

### **Update: Alon Plans to Restart Its 11,000 b/d Bakersfield, California Refinery in May after First-Quarter Shutdown Due to Economics**

Alon USA Energy Inc. said Friday it plans to restart its Bakersfield refinery in May, according to an executive. The company idled the refinery in mid-January due to bad margins.  
Reuters, 10:10 May 4, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-4-12.

### **Citgo Reports Power Loss, Flaring at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery May 7**

Citgo Petroleum Corp. on Monday reported a power loss at its Lemont refinery resulted in flaring, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The flaring was ongoing at the time of the filing.  
Reuters, 10:44 May 7, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-7-12.

### **Marathon Returning Process Units at Its 455,790 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery to Planned Rates after Power Snag May 5**

Marathon Petroleum Corp. on Monday said it was continuing to return its Texas City refinery to normal operations after a loss of power Saturday, a spokesman said. The company reported an external power loss very early Saturday morning led operators to quickly shut process units at the refinery, an incident that lasted approximately 2 hours, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators began returning those units to service as soon as external power was restored, the spokesman said.

DJN, 10:23 May 7, 2012

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=168133>

Posted to DOE website 5-7-12.

### **Unspecified Malfunction Triggers Flaring at Flint Hills' 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery May 6**

Flint Hills Resources reported an unspecified malfunction at its East Plant triggered flaring on Sunday at its Corpus Christi refinery, according to a filing with the Corpus Christi Local Emergency Planning Committee. The flaring stopped later that day, according to a subsequent filing.

Reuters, 17:53 May 6, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-7-12.

### **Motiva Reports Corrosion Issue in Fuel Gas System at Its 285,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery May 7**

Motiva reported its Port Arthur refinery is currently experiencing a corrosion issue in the plant's fuel gas system that requires maintenance on some of the existing piping, according to a filing with state regulators. To remedy the corrosion issue and perform necessary repairs, operators are planning to temporarily place into service three compressors at the West Side Gas Plant (WSGP). The use of the WSGP compressors will help maintain fuel gas system reliability during the maintenance activity and will reduce the potential for a fuel gas flaring event during the maintenance work.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=168138>

Posted to DOE website 5-7-12.

### **Hess Reports Emissions from Its 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery May 7**

Hess Corp. on Monday reported smoke released from a flare at its Port Reading refinery for a period of about 10 minutes, according to a filing with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Reuters, 09:45 May 7, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-7-12.

### **Update: BP Restarting Its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery May 7, Three Months after CDU Fire – Sources**

BP Plc on Monday was restarting its Cherry Point refinery after being shut for nearly three months following a fire in the refinery's central crude distillation unit (CDU), according to sources familiar with refinery operations.  
Reuters, 16:48 May 7, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-8-12.

### **Unspecified Plant Start-up Causes Emissions at Chevron's 279,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery May 7; Chevron Later Reports Unspecified Breakdown, Flaring**

Chevron on Monday reported sulfur dioxide emissions due to an unspecified plant start-up at its El Segundo refinery in a filing with the California Emergency Management Agency. Later that day, Chevron reported unplanned flaring due to an unspecified breakdown at the refinery in a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District.  
Reuters, 17:06 May 7, 2012

Reuters, 16:47 May 7, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-8-12.

### **Update: Hess's 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery Operating Normally May 8 after Compressor Snag May 7**

Hess Corp. reported its Port Reading refinery was operating normally on Tuesday after a compressor malfunction Monday caused a brief episode of flaring, according to a spokeswoman.

Reuters, 08:48 May 8, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-8-12.

### **Flaring from Three Stacks Leads to Heavy Smoke at Delek's 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery May 7 – Local Reports**

Reuters, 15:01 May 7, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-8-12.

### **CDU Fire Quickly Extinguished at Sunoco's 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery May 8**

Sunoco workers quickly extinguished a fire Wednesday morning after it ignited in a crude distillation unit (CDU) in the Girard Point section of its Philadelphia refinery, according to a source close to refinery operations. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Reuters, 09:31 May 9, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Flash Fire Ignites in Gas Recovery Unit at Sinclair's 74,000 b/d Sinclair, Wyoming Refinery May 8**

A flash fire ignited Tuesday morning in Sinclair Oil Corp.'s refinery near Rawlins, a company official said. The fire injured four workers but did not cause damage to the facility, according to a release.

Reuters, 18:56 May 8, 2012

[http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/four-workers-burned-by-sinclair-oil-refinery-fire-inwyoming/article\\_c70e19a8-1e2f-5f71-abc4-ad00a57d44cd.html](http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/four-workers-burned-by-sinclair-oil-refinery-fire-inwyoming/article_c70e19a8-1e2f-5f71-abc4-ad00a57d44cd.html)

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/05/08/refinery-operations-sinclair-idUKL1E8G8H9Q20120508>

Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Unspecified Process Unit Upset Leads to Emissions at BP's 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery May 8**

BP Plc reported a process unit upset at its Cherry Point refinery led to sulfur dioxide emissions early Tuesday morning, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The release was ongoing at the time of the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1010839](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1010839) Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Delek Reports Boiler Snag in FCCU at Its 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas, Refinery May 7-8**

Delek U.S. Holdings reported a boiler snag in a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Tyler refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Emissions occurred from Monday afternoon until Tuesday morning due to "non-routine operation of the refinery," the filing said.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=168200>

Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Solenoid Coil Failure Shuts Vent Gas Compressor at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery May 8-9**

Alon USA Energy Inc. reported an off-gas stream vented to the flare when the vent gas compressor (VGC) tripped due to a solenoid coil failure Tuesday evening, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators replaced the solenoid and restarted the VGC early the next morning.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=168235>

Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Lyondell Reports Minor Leak on Piperack Flange at Its 227,200 b/d Houston, Texas Refinery May 8**

LyondellBassell subsidiary Houston Refining LP reported a leak developed on a flange in a piperack located near Dock B at its Houston refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators estimate about 15 gallons of BT Feed spilled onto the ground.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=168208>

Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **Citgo Reports SRU Snag, Emissions at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery May 7**

Citgo Petroleum Corp reported emissions from a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) at its Lemont refinery after a train tripped off line Monday morning, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 04:00 May 9, 2012. Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

### **PetroChina in Talks to Buy Valero's Shuttered 235,000 b/d Aruba Refinery – Sources**

Valero Energy said in a recent filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that it has received a nonbinding indication of interest for the shuttered, 235,000 b/d Aruba refinery, which it shut at the end of March due to poor economics. Valero did not identify the interested party in the filing, but sources familiar with the negotiations say PetroChina Co Ltd. is in talks with the company.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/09/us-petrochina-valero-aruba-idUSBRE8480C620120509>

Posted to DOE website 5-9-12.

## **BP Shuts CDU for Repairs after Problems during Restart Procedures at Its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery – Sources**

BP Plc has stopped restarting the central crude distillation unit (CDU) at its Cherry Point refinery because of problems during its return to service, according to sources familiar with refinery operations. The unit has been shut for repairs since February 17 when it was damaged by a fire. It was unknown how long the crude unit would be shut for the new repairs, the sources said. On Wednesday, the refinery reported an ongoing release of sulfur dioxide from the No. 2 tail gas unit absorber was due to a chain reaction from shutting the crude unit the day before, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 10:24 May 10, 2012

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1010839](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1010839) Posted to DOE website 5-10-12.