

Refinery Events

December 13, 2013—December 19, 2013

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

Fire Reported at CHS's 59,600 b/d Laurel, Montana Refinery December 13

A fire was reported at CHS Inc.'s Laurel, Montana refinery at about 8 a.m. Friday, according to a report on the Billings Gazette website. The fire was at the diesel hydrotreating unit and there were no injuries, the report said. Reuters, 11:12 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-13-13.

Total Reports Emissions at Its 233,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 13

Total Petrochemical reported emissions from temporary piping equipment during maintenance activities at Area 3 of its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, according to a notice the refinery filed with Texas pollution regulators. The temporary piping was put out of service and cleared of any residue product, the filing said. Reuters, 11:38 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-13-13.

Motiva Reports Emissions at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery December 13

Motiva Enterprises reported a release of sulfur dioxide at its Norco, Louisiana refinery due to unknown causes, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The release was not secured and investigations were underway, the filing said. Reuters, 00:28 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-13-13.

Western Refining Reports Emissions at Its 122,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery December 13

Western Refining Inc. reported sulfur dioxide emissions due to maintenance on a flare gas recovery compressor at its El Paso, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The release was secured and the company was completing the work, the filing said. Reuters, 00:38 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-13-13.

Total Reports Unit Upset at Its 233,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 13

Total Petrochemical reported an upset at unit 860 of its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a notice filed with Texas pollution regulators. Sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide emissions were reported from area 1 and area 5 of the refinery, the filing said. Earlier, Total reported emissions from temporary piping equipment during maintenance activities at area 3 of the refinery. Reuters, 16:10 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-16-13.

Shell Reports Fuel Gas Valve Leak at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery December 12

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a fuel gas valve leaking into a natural gas line at its Puget Sound refinery in Anacortes, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. Reuters, 15:56 December 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-16-13.

Workers at Northern Tier's 81,500 b/d Saint Paul, Minnesota Refinery May Strike – Union

Workers at Northern Tier Energy's Saint Paul refinery in Minnesota voted to go on strike if necessary after rejecting job and wage cut proposals from management, Teamsters Local 120 said on Tuesday. The union warned the proposals, including wage cuts of as much as 40 percent, would lead to dangerous conditions at the plant. The statement said a collective bargaining agreement covering 200 workers at the refinery will expire on Dec. 31, 2013. It did not say when a strike could take place or what would prompt the action. Reuters, 13:16 December 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-17-13,

ExxonMobil Says Operations Normal at Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery December 16

Exxon Mobil Corp. said operations were normal at its refinery in Torrance, California, after a brief power interruption on December 7. The company had reported a breakdown due to a power failure at the refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.

Reuters, 15:20 December 16, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-17-13.

Motiva Reports Flaring at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery December 14

Motiva Enterprises' Norco, Louisiana refinery reported flaring on Saturday, according to a notice filed with the National Response Center.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1068532

Reuters, 15:47 December 15, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-17-13.

BP Completes Commissioning of New Units at Its 413,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery December 18

BP announced today all the major new units associated with the Whiting modernization project have been successfully brought on stream. The start-up of the new 102,000 b/d coker in mid-November marked the last major milestone of the multi-year, multi-billion dollar modernization project at the facility in Northwest Indiana. The refinery is working through post-start-up troubleshooting activities and expects to be ready to begin the ramp up of progressively higher Canadian crude processing from year-end through the first quarter of 2014.

<http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/press/press-releases/bp-completes-commissioning-of-whiting-refinery-units.html> Posted to DOE website 12-18-13.

Tesoro Performs Unscheduled Maintenance at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 17

Tesoro Corp. said it was performing unscheduled maintenance on an unspecified unit at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California. The company said it did not anticipate any impact to product supply commitments as a result of this maintenance activity. Tesoro earlier reported a major unit shutdown at the refinery, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 17:53 December 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-18-13.

Chevron Reports Flare Gas Compressor Offline at Its 245,000 b/d Richmond, California Refinery December 16

Chevron Corp. reported a flare-gas compressor tripped offline at its Richmond, California, refinery, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 17:04 December 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-18-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Sulfur Dioxide Emissions at Its 238,000 b/d Linden, New Jersey Refinery December 17

Phillips 66 reported sulfur dioxide emissions at its Bayway refinery in Linden, New Jersey, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.

Reuters, 12:20 December 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-18-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Emissions at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery December 18

Phillips 66 reported a sudden failure of the PP splitter pressure control system that resulted in venting to flare which continued until the control system was repaired.

Reuters, 23:04 December 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-19-13.

PBF Reports Nitrogen Emissions at Its 180,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery December 18

PBF Energy Inc. reported nitrogen oxide emissions at its refinery in Paulsboro, New Jersey, according to a filing with state pollution regulators on Wednesday.

Reuters, 14:41 December 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-19-13.