

Refinery Events

December 6, 2013—December 12, 2013

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

Update: Citgo to Restart of Vacuum Unit at Its 174,500 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery After October Fire

Citgo Petroleum said today it will try to restart the vacuum section of a crude unit at its Lemont refinery in mid-January after it was shut October 23 due to a fire. The company is repairing areas around the vacuum unit, including pipe racks that were damaged in the fire, according to a source with Citgo Petroleum.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3287038/Latest-News/Citgo-nears-restart-of-Illinois-refinery-vacuum-unit-following-October-fire.html> Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Husky Says Crude Processing Rates Normal at Its 146,200 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery December 6

Husky Energy Inc. said crude processing rates remained normal at its Lima, Ohio refinery. The company had earlier reported that it restarted a compressor after repairs to the refinery, according to a filing with regulators. Reuters, 10:59 December 6, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Motiva Reports CCU Emissions, Five Barrel Oil Spill at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery December 5

Motiva Enterprises reported hydrogen sulfide emissions from a catalytic cracking unit (CCU) at its Norco, Louisiana refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The company also reported a mechanical failure that led to a discharge of five barrels of oil from a pipe inside the Norco refinery, according to a separate filing with regulators.

Reuters, 00:37 December 6, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067703
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067679 Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Valero Reports Compressor Trip, Flaring at Its 290,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 5

Valero Energy Corp. reported a recycled gas compressor tripped offline due to unknown causes at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The company was trying to restart the compressor and had reduced the charge to the unit. The incident caused flaring of hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide at the refinery, the filing said.

Reuters, 00:44 December 6, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067701 Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

ExxonMobil Reports Flaring at Its 503,000 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana Refinery December 5

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported a release of hydrogen sulfide from a flare at its Baton Rouge, Louisiana refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The filing did not specify the cause of the flaring.

Reuters, 00:51 December 6, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067664 Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Shell Reports SRU Outage at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery November 28

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) outage at its Puget Sound refinery in Anacortes, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency that was made public on Thursday.

Reuters, 19:47 December 5, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

BP Reports Hydrocracker Malfunction at Its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery November 30 12-6

BP Plc reported the malfunction of a hydrocracker unit at its Cherry Point refinery in Blaine, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency.
Reuters, 19:40 December 5, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Sulfur Plant Upset at its 100,000 b/d Ferndale, Washington Refinery December 2

Phillips 66 reported a sulfur plant upset at its Ferndale, Washington refinery, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. The incident resulted in emissions from the no. 2 tail gas unit, the filing said.
Reuters, 19:34 December 5, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Tesoro Says Unplanned Flaring Due to Power Blip at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 4

Tesoro Corp. said its refinery in Martinez, California experienced a power interruption on Wednesday, which resulted in unplanned flaring. The company said power was restored and the refinery was operating at planned but unspecified rates.
Reuters, 15:49 December 5, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-6-13.

Flint Hills Reports Emissions at Its 289,097 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 8

Flint Hills Resources reported a hydrocarbon release from a light ends unit condensate vent at the East Plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas refinery, according to a notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The company was evaluating the incident, including the possibility of bypassing the propane dryer reboiler, the filing said.
Reuters, 19:40 December 8, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-9-13.

Valero Reports Pump Failure at Its 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery December 8

Valero Energy Corp. reported a compressor discharge pump near a crude unit failed at its refinery in Corpus Christi, according to a filing with the Texas pollution regulators. The filing stated that an emission event occurred, sourced to a flare and a crude unit but it did not say what had been released into the atmosphere. It said the pump had been repaired and normal operations were restored.
Reuters, 17:08 December 8, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-9-13.

Calumet Shuts Unit at Its 35,000 b/d Superior, Wisconsin Refinery December 7

Calumet Specialty Product Partners was shutting down a sulfur recovery unit at its Superior refinery in Wisconsin when it released hydrogen sulfide from a flare, according to a filing with the National Response Center.
Reuters, 13:01 December 8, 2013
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067858 Posted to DOE website 12-9-13.

Coffeyville Resources Reports FCCU Shut, Emissions at Its 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery December 7

Coffeyville Resources Refining was shutting down a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Coffeyville refinery in Kansas when it released hydrogen sulfide from a flare, according to a filing with the National Response Center.
Reuters, 12:59 December 8, 2013
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067837 Posted to DOE website 12-9-13.

Shell Reports Leak at Its 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery December 7

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a benzene-type leak from a flange close to a hydrotreater at its Deer Park refinery in Texas, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The leak of benzene-containing material was contained on a concrete pad and a nearby sewer, the filing said. A second filing with the National Response Center said an unknown amount of benzene had leaked due to a malfunction in an unspecified unit.
Reuters, 12:43 December 8, 2013
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1067818 Posted to DOE website 12-9-13.

Bango Refining Reports Explosion, Fire at Its Bango Refinery in Nevada December 9

Bango Refining reported an explosion and fire on Monday at its refinery in Churchill County, Nevada that injured one worker. The official cause of the explosion remained under investigation but the company said the facility experienced a rupture in one of its product tanks. No material escaped the facility that would be considered dangerous to the surrounding environs or nearby residents, according to the company.

<http://www.rgj.com/viewart/20131209/NEWS/131209006/Update-Man-critically-injured-after-oil-tank-explosion-Fallon-refinery-video-> Posted to DOE website 12-10-13.

Sinclair Oil Reports Fire at Its 80,000 b/d Sinclair Refinery in Wyoming December 9

Sinclair Oil Corp. reported a fire broke out at the plant's alkylation unit and was extinguished by the refinery's fire department with no injuries reported. Sinclair said the refinery continues to operate at rates similar to those prior to the incident and an investigation of the incident was underway.

<http://www.ogj.com/articles/2013/12/fire-hits-at-sinclair-refinery-in-wyoming.html>

Posted to DOE website 12-10-13.

Tesoro Reports 50 Barrel Petroleum Release at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 10

Tesoro Corp. reported a release of 50 barrels of petroleum from a pipeline at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. The release was contained, the filing said.

Reuters, 21:02 December 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-11-13.

ExxonMobil Reports Operational Issue at Its 572,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery December 11

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported an operational issue at its Baytown, Texas facility, according to a message posted on a community information line. The incident may cause intermittent safety flaring, the message added.

Reuters, 1:09 December 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-11-13.

Citgo Reports Emissions, Upset at Its 174,500 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery December 10

Citgo Petroleum Corp. reported sulfur dioxide emissions due to an unspecified upset at its Lemont, Illinois refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. There were no known off-site impacts due to the incident, the filing said.

Reuters, 010:23 December 11, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1068085 Posted to DOE website 12-11-13.

Motiva Reports Emissions at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery December 10

Motiva Enterprises reported a release of hydrogen and ethylene at its Norco, Louisiana refinery, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The filing did not specify the cause of the incident.

Reuters, 00:30 December 11, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1068072 Posted to DOE website 12-11-13.

Shell Says No Impact From Catalyst Leak at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery December 10

Royal Dutch Shell Plc said on Tuesday a catalyst leak from a tank on December 6 had no impact on operations at its refinery in Martinez, California. Earlier, Shell reported that a dimersol plant catalyst leaked to a containment area at the refinery, according to a filing with the Contra Costa Health Services.

Reuters, 15:59 December 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-11-13.

ExxonMobil Says Pinhole Pipeline Leak Repaired at Its 348,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery December 12

Exxon Mobil Corp. said a spill event at its refinery in Beaumont, Texas had ended after a small pinhole leak was repaired. The refinery had reported a spill of benzene due to a pipeline leak, according to a notice filed with

regulators. Laboratory analysis found the leak did not contain benzene and the refinery did not anticipate any impact on production, according to a spokesperson.
Reuters, 9:26 December 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-12-13.

**ExxonMobil Reports Pressure Valve Failure at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery
December 11**

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported a pressure safety valve failure at its Joliet refinery in Channahon, Illinois which led to flaring, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The event was terminated, the filing said.

Reuters, 4:34 December 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-12-13.

Tesoro Says Supply Not Impacted by Equipment Snag at Its 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery December 11

Tesoro Corp. said there was no impact to production from an equipment malfunction at its Los Angeles-area refinery in Carson, California. Tesoro had earlier reported unplanned flaring at the refinery, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Reuters, 16:00 December 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-12-13.

**HollyFrontier's 52,000 b/d Cheyenne, Wyoming Refinery Experiences Boiler Malfunction
December 11**

HollyFrontier's refinery in Cheyenne experienced a boiler malfunction, according to a report with WyomingNews.com. Crews were working to get the boiler back up and running, the refinery manager said.

Reuters, 16:38 December 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 12-12-13.