

Refinery Events

February 22, 2013—February 28, 2013

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

PES to Transport by Rail 140,000 b/d of Bakken Crude Oil to Its 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery by the Third Quarter This Year – CEO

Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) CEO Philip Rinaldi on Thursday said the company's Philadelphia refinery expects to transport in by rail 140,000 barrels of Bakken crude per day by the third quarter of this year, the outcome of a three-phased project to expand the ability of the refinery to take in the crude.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/22/refinery-operations-philadelphia-idUSL1N0BM0R220130222>

Posted to DOE website 2-22-13.

Unscheduled Maintenance Causes Alkylation Unit Emissions at Delek's 60,000 b/d Tyler, Texas Refinery February 20

Delek Refining LTD reported excess sulfur dioxide emissions from the No. 5 alkylation unit flare at its Tyler refinery Wednesday morning were due to unscheduled maintenance, according to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179634>

Posted to DOE website 2-22-13.

Update: Motiva Restarting FCCU after Repairs to Fix Pipe Leak at Its 600,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery February 21 – Sources

Motiva Enterprises on Thursday began restarting a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Port Arthur refinery, shutting the unit February 18 for repairs to fix a leak in a pipe connecting to a storage unit, according to sources familiar with refinery operations.

Reuters, 10:31 February 22, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-25-13.

ExxonMobil Says Operations Normal at Its 572,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery by February 25 after Boiler Snag Results in FCCU Emissions February 22

ExxonMobil on Monday said it had restored normal operations at its Baytown refinery after reducing feed to the No. 3 fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) over the weekend. A carbon monoxide boiler trip at the refinery Friday night resulted in emissions from the wet gas scrubber on the FCCU, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 09:03 February 25, 2013

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179694>

Posted to DOE website 2-25-13.

Phillips 66 Begins Restarting 124,000 b/d CDU and Coker Unit at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery after Extended Work by February 22

Phillips 66 was restarting a 124,000 b/d crude distillation unit (CDU) and a coking unit at its Sweeny refinery on Friday, according to sources familiar with refinery operations. Operators began restarting the units earlier in the week and expected initial production to begin this week, with full production restored by mid-March. The CDU and coker were shut in early January for planned work initially scheduled to run four weeks, but operators extended the work by two weeks for additional repairs.

Reuters, 16:57 February 22, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-25-13.

Marathon Stops Valves Leaking Product into DDU Flare at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery February 23

Marathon Petroleum Corp. reported it stopped relief valves from leaking product into a distillate desulfurization unit

(DDU) flare at its Galveston Bay refinery on Saturday after discovering the leaks the day before, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Marathon recently renamed the facility to be called the Galveston Bay refinery after closing on its purchase of the refinery from BP, which had called it the Texas City refinery.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179690>

Posted to DOE website 2-25-13.

BP Reports Boiler Emissions at Its 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery February 16

BP Plc reported emissions of nitrogen oxides from the No. 6 boiler at its Cherry Point refinery on February 16, according to a filing with Northwest Clean Air Agency.

Reuters, 15:49 February 22, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-25-13.

Update: Phillips 66 Restarting Pipestill, SRU at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery after Extended Work by February 25 – Sources

Phillips 66 was restarting production units including a pipestill and sulfur recovery unit (SRU) at its Sweeny refinery on Monday, according to sources familiar with the operations. Several production units were shut in early January for planned work initially scheduled to run four weeks, but operators extended the work by two weeks for additional repairs. Sources had previously reported the refinery was on Friday restarting a 124,000 b/d crude distillation unit and a coking unit. A Phillips 66 spokesman said Monday that maintenance was still underway.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-02-25/gulf-gasoline-slumps-as-exxon-phillips-66-restartunits.html?cmpid=yahoo>

Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

Update: Motiva Places FCCU Back Into Production at Its 600,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery February 25 – Sources

Motiva Enterprises placed a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Port Arthur refinery back into production on Monday, after completing restart procedures over the weekend, according to sources familiar with operations at the refinery. Operators shut the unit February 17 for repairs to fix a leak in a pipe connecting to a storage unit.

Reuters, 17:40 February 25, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

Process Upset Causes DCU Emissions at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery February 25

Valero Energy Corp. reported an unspecified process unit upset resulted in flaring of coker blow at its Port Arthur refinery Monday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The filing lists two flare stacks and the No. 843 delayed coking unit (DCU) as sources of emissions. Operators reestablished a water seal to stop the flaring. On Tuesday, the refinery reported that a high level in a suction drum caused the K-1 compressor to trip offline, resulting in a unit's depressuring, according to another filing with the TCEQ. The incident was under investigation. Two flare stacks and the No. 943 hydrocracking unit (HCU) are listed as sources of emissions.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179750>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179771>

Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

Phillips Reports Process Upset, FCCU Emissions at Its 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery February 25

Phillips 66 reported a process upset and emissions from the No. 40 fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Borger refinery Monday morning, 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=179747>

Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

Unspecified Process Unit Upset Causes Flaring at Phillips 66's 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery by February 25

Phillips 66 on Monday reported an unspecified process unit upset at its Wood River refinery led to flaring, according to a filing with state pollution regulators.
Reuters, 04:00 February 26, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

BP Keeps 102,500 b/d FCCU and Alkylation Unit Shut for Unexpected Repairs at Its 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery – Sources

BP Plc has kept a 102,500 b/d fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) offline at its Carson refinery after maintenance work was extended due to unexpected repairs required on the FCCU and alkylation unit, according to sources familiar with operations at the refinery. The units have undergone six weeks of overhaul.
Reuters, 16:52 February 25, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-26-13.

Update: Valero Expects No Impact on Production after Compressor Trip Shuts 57,000 b/d HCU at Its 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery February 26

Valero Energy Corp. reported a 57,000 b/d hydrocracking unit (HCU) at its Port Arthur refinery was recovering after a compressor trip on Tuesday. Operators reported that due to unknown causes, the external hydrogen supply was lost, which caused emissions and required operators to shut a hydrocracking unit, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The incident did not affect the refinery's other, 292,000 b/d HCU, and the refinery expected no material impact to production.

Reuters, 11:39 February 27, 2013

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1039438 Posted to DOE website 2-27-13.

Update: Phillips 66 Schedules Maintenance on FCCU Wet Gas Compressor at Its 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery February 27 after Process Upset February 25

Phillips 66 reported it was scheduling maintenance on the No. 40 fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) wet gas compressor at its Borger refinery after a process upset caused emissions from that unit on Monday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Excess emissions are expected during the maintenance, which is scheduled to continue until March 8.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=179682>

Posted to DOE website 2-27-13.

CountryMark to Install Pollution Controls at Its 26,500 b/d Mount Vernon, Indiana Refinery after Agreement with Federal Regulators

CountryMark announced it will voluntarily invest more than \$18 million to reduce air-borne emissions from the Mt. Vernon refinery as part of an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Justice Department. Under the agreement, CountryMark will update "grandfathered" permits for process heaters, boilers, and the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) to enhance leak detection and repair practices. CountryMark will also adopt new strategies for ensuring continued compliance with benzene management requirements under the Clean Air Act. CountryMark will also implement programs to minimize flaring events and maximize flaring efficiency.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=58167> Posted to DOE website 2-27-13.

Update: Hess Shuttters Its 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery February 26; Complex Will Operate as Terminal, Included in Planned Sale of Terminal Network

Hess Corporation on Wednesday said it closed its Port Reading refinery on February 26 and that it had no plans to sell the refinery to another entity to operate it. The facility will continue to operate as a terminal and is included in the planned sale of the company's terminal network, a spokesman said. Hess announced in late January that it would pursue the sale of its terminal network in the United States and complete its exit from the refining business by closing its Port Reading refinery by the end of February. Operators on Wednesday reported emissions from the refinery in a filing with state pollution regulators, and said that the company was "shutting down refinery for good."

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-02-27/gasoline-futures-fall-most-in-14-months-on-rising-production>

Reuters, 18:53 February 27, 2013

Reuters, 17:11 February 27, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Valero Applies to Build Rail Offloading Facility at Its 144,000 b/d Benicia, California Refinery to Bring in Up to 70,000 b/d of North American Crude Oil

Valero Energy Corp. in December 2012 filed a land use permit application with the City of Benicia for a proposed crude by rail project at its Benicia refinery in California. Valero seeks to bring in by rail up to 70,000 b/d of North American crude oil to the refinery. The project would involve constructing a rail offloading rack and installing a pump, piping, and crude storage tank. Pending necessary approvals, construction would begin in mid-2013 and operations at the rail offloading facility would begin in 2014.

<http://benicia.patch.com/articles/valero-applies-to-build-crude-by-rail-project-up-to-70k-barrels-to-benicia-by-traindaily> Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Bridger Logistics, Eddystone Rail Company to Supply 80,000 b/d of Bakken Crude Oil to Eastern Markets on the Delaware River

Bridger Logistics, LLC, through its subsidiary Bridger Transfer Services, LLC, on February 14 announced that it has executed a long-term agreement with Eddystone Rail Company, LLC to through-put seven unit trains per week (approximately 80,000 b/d) of crude oil into barges for delivery to East Coast refineries. Bridger will bring crude oil to the Philadelphia area from unit trains that will primarily originate out of the Enbridge Rail L.P. unit train-loading facility in Berthold, North Dakota.

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/bridger-logistics-announces-long-term-rail-contract-with-eddystone-railcompany-supplying-1757196.htm> Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Update: MDU Resources and Calumet Approved to Begin Construction on 20,000 b/d Dakota Prairie Refining Diesel Refinery in North Dakota

MDU Resources Group, Inc. and Calumet Specialty Products Partners, L.P. on Monday announced that the North Dakota Department of Health has issued an Air Quality Permit to Construct for Dakota Prairie Refining, a diesel refinery the two companies are developing in southwestern North Dakota. The approval will allow the companies to begin construction next month, and the facility could be operational by late 2014. The facility will process 20,000 b/d of Bakken crude oil.

<http://www.mdu.com/News/Pages/NewsArticle.aspx?article=330> Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Western Refining Planning 25,000 b/d Expansion at Its 122,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery

Western Refining Inc. is planning a 25,000 b/d capacity expansion at its El Paso refinery, the company's CEO told investors and analysts on Thursday. The project is in its early stages, and the company intends to share more on the timing and costs later in 2013.

Reuters, 11:22 February 28, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Unplanned Unit Shutdown at Its 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery February 27

Phillips 66 on Wednesday reported an unplanned, unspecified unit shutdown at its Wood River refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. The incident led to elevated emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, nitrous dioxide, and hydrogen sulfide.

Reuters, 04:00 February 28, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Unspecified Process Glitch Leads to Flaring at ExxonMobil's 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery by February 28

ExxonMobil Corp. on Thursday reported an unspecified process glitch led to flaring at its Joliet refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The incident led to elevated nitrous oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions.

Reuters, 04:01 February 28, 2013. Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.

Power Outage Causes Nitrogen Dioxide Emissions at United Refining's 65,000 b/d Warren, Pennsylvania Refinery February 23

United Refining reported a release of nitrogen dioxide from a flare stack due to a plant-wide power outage on February 23, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators were working to determine what caused the power outage. Emissions related to the incident continued for 1.5 hours.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1039199 Posted to DOE website 2-28-13.