

Refinery Events

January 17—January 23, 2014

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

PBF Says Dirty Water Released From Flare at Its 180,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery January 16

PBF Energy Inc. said dirty water was released from the flare system on Thursday morning at the company's Paulsboro refinery in New Jersey. The event occurred on clearing a piece of equipment at the refinery, the company said. Local media reported on Thursday that refinery officials were investigating a possible oil release that left chemical residue on cars and houses in the area.

Reuters, 23:09 January 16, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-17-14.

Shell Says Operations Normal Following Unit Upset at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery December 12

Royal Dutch Shell Plc said its Puget Sound refinery in Anacortes, Washington, had experienced an unspecified unit upset on January 9 but was now operating at planned rates. The company had reported an upset of the hydrotreater unit no. 2 at the refinery on January 9, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency.

Reuters, 22:04 January 16, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-17-14.

Flint Hills' 289,097 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery Flares on Power Outage January 22 – Media Report

The Flint Hills Corpus Christi refinery began flaring at 7:50 a.m. CST on Wednesday after a transformer failure affected electrical power supplies, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported on its website. Power has since been restored in some areas of Corpus Christi. Valero Energy Corp.'s 200,000 b/d Corpus Christi refinery warned nearby residents on Wednesday morning of possible flaring due to the power outage. Citgo Petroleum Corp.'s 163,000 b/d refinery in Corpus Christi on Wednesday also warned of possible flaring due to the power outage.

Reuters, 13:43 January 22, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

ExxonMobil Says No Output Impact From Injured Worker Incident at Its Baytown, Texas Facility January 22

ExxonMobil Corp. said on Wednesday that there was no impact to production due to an incident involving a contractor who was performing work at its Baytown, Texas, facility. A worker was injured on Wednesday after falling into a reactor while performing an overhaul on a shut gofiner unit at the refinery, according to sources familiar with operations at the refinery. The company will conduct an investigation in order to better understand what occurred, a company spokesperson said. The Baytown facility houses a 560,500 b/d refinery but the company did not confirm whether the incident occurred at the refinery.

Reuters, 15:57 January 22, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

Shell Puts Out Fire at Its Deer Park, Texas Facility January 22

Royal Dutch Shell Plc said it had extinguished a fire involving a unit at its Deer Park, Texas, facility on Wednesday. The cause was under investigation, the company said. The Deer Park facility houses a 327,000 b/d refinery.

Reuters, 16:35 January 22, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

Petrobras Says No Impact From Exchanger Leak at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery January 22

Petrobras said there was no impact on production or operations from a hydrocarbon leak, the source of which was a cooling water exchanger, at its refinery in Pasadena, Texas. The refinery reported the leak on Wednesday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 10:01 January 23, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

Phillips 66 Reports Equipment Malfunction, Start-up Procedures at Its 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery January 22

Phillips 66 reported an equipment malfunction at its Wood River refinery in Roxana, Illinois, which led to sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide emissions, a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency pollution regulator showed. On Wednesday the company had begun standard start-up procedures to bring a unit affected by a fire on Tuesday back into service. The company had earlier said a small process unit fire that began after a leak at the refinery had been extinguished.

Reuters, 4:27 January 23, 2014

Reuters, 18:24 January 22, 2013. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

ExxonMobil Reports No Production Impact From Mechanical Breakdown at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery January 21

ExxonMobil Corp. said on Wednesday there was no impact to production from the mechanical breakdown, which occurred on Tuesday, at its Joliet refinery in Channahon, Illinois. The company had earlier reported flaring due to the breakdown at the refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Reuters, 6:50 January 22, 2014. Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

PBF Reports Loss of Both SRUs, Flaring at Its 180,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery January 22

PBF Energy Inc. reported the loss of both sulfur recovery units (SRUs) on Wednesday at its refinery in Paulsboro, New Jersey, according to a filing with the National Response Center. The event occurred due to weather affecting instrumentation which caused hydrogen sulfide gas to go to the flare, the filing said.

Reuters, 00:43 January 23, 2014

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1071792 Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.

Hawaii Independent Energy Says Its 94,000 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery Returns to Full Operation January 23 After Processing Units Shut January 21

Hawaii Independent Energy said on Thursday its refinery in Kapolei, Hawaii, had returned to full operation following an unspecified incident that resulted in a brief shutdown of several processing units at the facility. No disruption to product supply was anticipated and an investigation is underway, according to a company spokesperson. An unexpected shutdown of a sulfur recovery unit was reported at the refinery on January 21, according to a notice filed with the National Response Center.

Reuters, 13:37 January 23, 2014

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1071782 Posted to DOE website 1-23-14.