

Refinery Events

July 5, 2013—July 11, 2013

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

Power Failure Trips Gas Turbine at Chevron's 330,000 b/d Pascagoula, Mississippi Refinery July 2

Chevron Corp. reported nitrogen oxide emissions at its Pascagoula, Mississippi refinery Tuesday, as a gas turbine tripped due to a power failure. The unit was not specified and repairs were made, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 02:08 July 5, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-5-13.

Tail Gas Unit Pump Seal Failure Reported at Phillips 66's 44,500 b/d Arroyo Grande Refinery July 4

Phillips 66 reported sulfur dioxide emissions from an incinerator at its Arroyo Grande refinery in California Thursday due to a pump seal failure in a tail gas unit. The pump seal was repaired and the refinery was back to normal operation later that day.

Reuters, 21:20 July 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-5-13.

Hydrogen Plant Returns to Service at Phillips 66's 76,000 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery by July 7

An upset in the supply of hydrogen triggered an unscheduled unit shutdown at the Phillips 66 76,000 b/d refinery in Rodeo, California, setting off flaring and prompting complaints from plant neighbors, according to a filing July 5.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-07-08/top-oil-market-news-wti-crude-advances-to-highest-in-14-months.html> Posted to DOE website 7-8-13.

Unspecified Breakdown Leads to Flaring at ExxonMobil's 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery July 8

ExxonMobil Corp. reported unplanned flaring at its Torrance refinery early this morning was due to an unspecified breakdown, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District

Reuters, 08:07 July 8, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-8-13.

SRU, Tail Gas Incinerator Snag Causes Emissions at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 7

Valero reported emissions at its Port Arthur refinery Sunday morning were caused by a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) tail gas incinerator (TGI) "excursion," according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The event caused emissions from the shell claus off-gas treating (SCOT) 1 TGI, SRU No. 543, and SRU No. 544.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=185192>

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1052957 Posted to DOE website 7-8-13.

Process Upset Causes Emissions at Phillips 66's 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery July 7

Phillips 66 reported emissions at its Borger refinery Sunday night were due to an unspecified process upset, 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=185191>

Posted to DOE website 7-8-13.

Exxon's 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery Operating Normally After Flaring July 8

Exxon Mobil Corp's Los Angeles area refinery was operating normally Tuesday following reported emissions and a flare event lasting less than four hours due to equipment breakdown Monday morning. The company said the

malfunction would not affect production from the refinery.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/refinery-status-tesoro-plans-flare-event-at-carson-calif-refinery-20130709-00826>

Reuters, 13:16 July 9, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-9-13.

CO Limits Exceeded on Wet Gas Scrubber at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur Refinery in Texas July 7

According to a filing with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality, carbon monoxide limits were exceeded on the wet gas scrubber during start up while the unit was on torch oil. Operations brought the unit up later that night.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=185219>

Posted to DOE website 7-9-13.

FCCU Shut at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 9

The FCCU was taken out of production after an upset, 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=185296>

Posted to DOE website 7-10-13.

Leak Reported at Tesoro's 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery July 9

A leak due to a build-up of pressure in the line causing the release through a valve was reported at the Los Angeles area refinery. The leaked substance was identified as light cycle oil.

Reuters, 19:58 July 9, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-10-13.

HCU Start-up Begins at Valero's 205,000 b/d St. Charles, Louisiana Refinery July 10

Startup procedures on the new hydrocracking unit (HCU) have started at the St. Charles refinery and are expected to progress over the next several days.

Reuters, 9:56 July 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-10-13.

Phillips 66 Restarting Several Units After Storm-Related Power Disruption at its 198,400 b/d Ponca City, Oklahoma Refinery July 11

A storm-related power disruption this morning affected several Ponca City units. Phillips 66 is in the process of restarting several units.

Reuters, 10:45 July 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-11-13.

Update: FCCU Operating at Reduced Rates at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur Refinery in Texas July 10

A fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) was running at less than planned production levels yesterday following an upset on Tuesday. A story in yesterday's EAD incorrectly reported the FCCU as shut. Since tripping out of production on July 4, the refinery has reported two malfunctions on the FCCU.

Reuters, 11:57 July 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-11-13.

Shell Shuts Unspecified Unit at its 600,000 b/d Motiva Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 11

Royal Dutch Shell initiated a planned shutdown of an unspecified unit at its Port Arthur refinery due to an operational issue.

Reuters, 10:38 July 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-11-13.

SRUs Shut at Total's 174,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 9

Total Petrochemicals reported the sulfur recovery units (SRU) were shut down after a malfunction. Units 819 and 836 were shut down to minimize emissions, 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=185338>

Posted to DOE website 7-11-13.

Compressor Breakdown Reported at Flint Hills' 320,000 b/d Rosemount, Minnesota Refinery July 11

A compressor broke down at Flint Hills' refinery, releasing sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide into the air. The compressor was restarted and the gas release secured.

Reuters, 2:33 July 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-11-13.