

Refinery Events

June 14, 2013—June 20, 2013

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

Update: Citgo Says All Units Except Hydrotreater Back Online after Production Resumes at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery Following Lightning Strike June 12

Citgo Petroleum Corp. said a hydrotreater was still down at its Lemont refinery after production returned to normal within hours following a thunderstorm on Wednesday. The hydrotreater is expected to return to full operation in a couple of days, a company official said. Several units were shut on Wednesday after the refinery was struck by lightning.

Reuters, 18:29 June 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Exxon Restarts Compressor at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery by June 14 after Heavy Rainfall Causes Unplanned Shutdown June 12

ExxonMobil Corp. restarted a compressor at its Joliet refinery after it was shut due to rain entering a conduit on Wednesday evening, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The incident led to sulfur dioxide emissions for slightly more than 30 minutes.

Reuters, 04:00 June 14, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Update: Chevron Restores Normal Operations at Its 245,271 b/d Richmond, California Refinery by June 13

Chevron Corp. on Thursday reported it has introduced feed to the sole crude distillation unit (CDU) and restored normal operations at its Richmond refinery, according to a spokeswoman. Operators restarted the CDU on April 26 following a lengthy outage that began August 6, 2012, when a fire caused major damage to the unit. The refinery has been producing motor fuels at about 50 percent of capacity during repairs.

Reuters, 11:00 June 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Chevron to Shut Two Crude Units at Its 279,000 b/d El Segundo, California Refinery This Summer for Maintenance and Repairs

Chevron Corp. is planning to shut two crude units at its El Segundo refinery for maintenance and repairs later this summer, according to a person familiar with operations at the plant. Chevron will shut the No. 4 crude unit next month for short-term repairs. The No. 2 crude unit will also be brought down in August for a maintenance turnaround expected to last several weeks.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-06-13/los-angeles-gasoline-gains-on-tankers-as-chevron-plansrepairs.html?cmpid=yhoo> Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Chevron Reports Small PCB Leak at Its 93,500 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery June 12

Chevron Corp. reported a leak of 20 gallons of oil, possibly containing polychlorinated biphenyls, occurred at its Kapolei, Hawaii refinery Wednesday as operators prepared to move a transformer onsite, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators secured the release.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1050230 Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Update: Marathon Restarts FCCU, Restores Normal Operations at Its 451,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery by June 14

Marathon Petroleum Corp. reported the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Galveston refinery was back online and operations were normal on Friday. On June 7 operators reported a plant-wide shutdown at the refinery after discovering a leak on the FCCU. Operators restarted crude units and other operations over the following weekend, but the FCCU had remained shut for repairs.

Reuters, 08:42 June 14, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Valero Reports Sour Naphtha Spill at Its 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 12; Increasing HCU to Planned Rates after Restarting It by June 14

Valero Energy Corp. reported emissions at its Port Arthur refinery Wednesday afternoon were caused when approximately 60 barrels of sour naphtha spilled from Tank 926 into a secondary containment space, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. In a separate report, a spokesman said the refinery restarted a 45,000 b/d hydrocracking unit (HCU) and was increasing the unit to planned rates Friday.

Reuters, 10:07 June 14, 2013

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=184060>

Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Unspecified Process Upset Causes Emissions at Phillips 66's 146,000 b/d Borger, Texas Refinery June 14

Phillips 66 reported a process upset at its Borger refinery early this morning led to 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=184105>

Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Normal Operations at Its 238,000 b/d Linden, New Jersey Refinery June 12 after Employee is Exposed to Hydrogen Sulfide

Phillips 66 said operations were not affected at its Linden refinery after an employee was hospitalized following an exposure to hydrogen sulfide on Wednesday. The employee was released from the hospital later the same day, a spokesman said.

Reuters, 15:16 June 13, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-14-13.

Update: MDU Resources Says Construction on Its 20,000 b/d Dakota Prairie Refining Diesel Refinery in North Dakota on Track to Complete in Late 2014

MDU Resources announced today that construction on the Dakota Prairie Refining diesel refinery in Stark County, North Dakota is on track with initial site grading substantially complete. MDU Resources has partnered with Calumet Specialty Products Partners, L.P. to build and operate the refinery, which will process 20,000 b/d of Bakken crude oil. Developers are targeting an in-service date in late 2014. When complete, it will be the first Greenfield refinery built in the United States since 1976.

<http://www.mdu.com/Documents/NewsAttachments/DPPProgress.pdf> Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Motiva Shuts CFH Unit to Investigate Possible Leak at Its 600,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 14

Motiva Enterprises shut the catalytic feed hydrotreater (CFH) unit at its Port Arthur refinery early Friday morning to investigate a potential leak, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The shutdown caused emissions from the CFH unit and the Hydrocracking Unit 2 Flare for about 3 hours Friday morning.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=184167>

Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Compressor Shutdown Causes Emissions at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 16

Total reported a compressor at Unit 860 unexpectedly shut at its Port Arthur refinery Sunday morning, resulting in emissions from a flare gas recovery system, 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=184211>

Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Unit Malfunction Leads to SRU Emissions at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 12

Total reported a malfunction on Unit 870 at its Port Arthur refinery on June 12 led to emissions from the No. 4

sulfur recovery unit (SRU) incinerator, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators also reported a faulty transmitter was replaced on Unit 866 and the unit was returned to normal operating conditions.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=184058>

Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Leaking Flange Releases Hydrofluoric Acid and Butane at CHS' 59,600 b/d Laurel, Montana Refinery June 14

CHS Inc. reported a leaking flange at its Laurel refinery released an unknown amount of hydrofluoric acid and butane Friday afternoon, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators secured the release.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1050429 Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Unspecified Plant Upset Shuts Units at Shell's 145,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery June 7

Royal Dutch Shell reported a plant upset at its Anacortes refinery on June 7, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. Operators were working to bring units back online. In a separate filing, Shell reported maintenance on cogeneration Unit 3 at the refinery.

Reuters, 18:01 June 14, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

PBF Reports Tailgas Unit Emissions at Its 180,000 b/d Paulsboro, New Jersey Refinery June 14

PBF Energy Inc. reported emissions from tailgas units Nos. 80 and 81 at its Paulsboro refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators on Friday.

Reuters, 12:51 June 14, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-17-13.

Update: Tesoro Announces Sale of Its Shuttered 94,000 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery to Par Petroleum Corp.; Par Intends to Operate Refinery

Tesoro Corporation on Monday announced that it has signed an agreement with a wholly owned subsidiary of Par Petroleum Corporation to sell all of its interest in Tesoro Hawaii, LLC, which operates the 94,000 b/d Kapolei refinery, retail stations, and associated logistical assets. As part of the agreement, Par Petroleum intends to operate the assets as an integrated refining, logistics, and retail system. Tesoro anticipates completing the sale in the third quarter 2013, subject to regulatory approval. Tesoro announced in January 2012 its intention to sell its Hawaii operations to focus on its U.S. Midcontinent and West Coast operations. In January 2013 it announced plans to cease refining operations at the Kapolei refinery in April 2013, and begin converting the facility into an import, storage, and distribution terminal. It ceased refining operations on April 30.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=79122&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1830538>

Posted to DOE website 6-18-13.

Update: Motiva Shuts Unspecified Unit Due to an Operational Issue at Its 600,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery June 14

Motiva Enterprises said it initiated a planned shutdown on an unspecified unit due to an operational issue at its Port Arthur refinery on Friday. Operators had previously reported they were shutting the catalytic feed hydrotreater (CFH) unit at the refinery early Friday morning to investigate a potential leak. Energy industry intelligence service Genscape reported on Friday that elevated flaring had ceased from a flare tower associated with the 75,000 b/d hydrocracker and three sulfur recovery units located in Sulfur Block 2. Genscape added that one of the SRUs has been shut since May 27.

Reuters, 10:16 June 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-18-13.

Update: Valero Says HCU at Planned Rates at Its 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery by June 18

Valero Energy Corp. said a 45,000 b/d hydrocracking unit (HCU) was operating at planned rates at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery on Tuesday after restarting on Friday.

Reuters, 10:29 June 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-18-13.

Update: Total Restarts Compressor at Its 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery after Unexpected Shutdown June 16

Total restarted a compressor on Unit 860 at its Port Arthur refinery after it unexpectedly shut Sunday, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The shutdown caused sulfur dioxide emissions for a period of 31 minutes.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=184211>

Posted to DOE website 6-18-13.

Update: CHS Shuts Alkylation Unit at Its 59,600 b/d Laurel, Montana Refinery June 14 Due to Leaking Flange

CHS Inc. shut an alkylation unit at its Laurel refinery after a leak was discovered on Friday. The refinery had reported a leaking flange released an unknown amount of hydrofluoric acid and butane Friday afternoon in a filing with Federal regulators. Operators expect the unit will return to service in the coming days, and the remainder of the refinery continues to operate, a spokeswoman said.

Reuters, 13:19 June 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-18-13.

Exxon Shuts CDU at Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery for Repairs June 18

ExxonMobil Corp. said it began shutting a crude distillation unit (CDU) at its Torrance, California refinery to repair thin piping. The shutdown is expected to last up to a week.

Reuters, 22:39 June 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-19-13.

Phillips 66 Starts Up of HCU at Its 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery June 18

Phillips 66 reported that it had started up a hydrocracker unit at its Wood River refinery in Illinois on Tuesday, according to a filing with national pollution regulators.

Reuters, 4:09 June 19, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-19-13.

Shell Reports Boiler Trip at Its 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery June 19

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported a boiler trip at its refinery in Martinez, California, on Wednesday. According to the filing with the National Response Center, the trip allowed approximately 10 pounds of hydrogen cyanide and 100 pound of ammonia to be released into the atmosphere. The company is in the process of bringing the boiler back online.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1051024

Reuters, 19:09 June 19, 2013. Posted to DOE website 6-20-13.