

Refinery Events

October 2, 2013—October 10, 2013

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

Lima Energy to Supply 22,000 b/d of Synthetic Crude Oil to Husky's Lima Refinery

Lima Energy Company, a subsidiary of USA Synthetic Fuel Corporation, has signed a contract to supply up to 80 million barrels of oil equivalent of Ultra Clean Synthetic Crude (UCSC) to Husky Energy's Lima Refinery over 10 years. The Lima Energy Project is being designed to convert solid hydrocarbon (coal, petroleum coke, and renewables) feedstock into low cost Global 1™ UCSC. The UCSC will be manufactured next door to the Lima Refinery, eliminating the significant supply costs and logistics of transporting oil. The contract calls for volumes of up to 22,000 b/d starting with an initial production volume of about 7,000 b/d.

http://www.usasfc.com/usasfc_dev/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Lima-Energy-Release-with-Husky-FINAL.pdf
http://www.usasfc.com/usasfc_dev/?page_id=237 Posted to DOE website 10-2-13.

Citgo Shuts Diesel Hydrotreater for Work at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery October 2

Citgo Petroleum Corp.'s Lemont, Illinois, refinery has shut a diesel hydrotreater for replacement of a bad compressor. The compressor replacement is expected to take four days and be finished before the refinery shuts a gasoline hydrotreater next week for a month-long overhaul, according to sources.
Reuters, 11:26 October 2, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-2-13.

Total Reports Power Blip Led to SRU Emissions at Its 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery September 29

Total Petrochemicals' reported power loss at a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) caused emissions at its refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Loss of power to the SRUs led to the sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide emissions, the filing said.
Reuters, 13:22 September 30, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-2-13.

Tesoro Reports Normal Operations After Fire at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 1

Tesoro Corp. said operations were running normally after a fire was extinguished at an unspecified unit at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, on Tuesday. There was no damage to equipment in the refinery, the company said.
Reuters, 16:44 October 1, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-2-13.

Tesoro Undertaking Unplanned Maintenance at Its 120,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery

Tesoro Corp. said its refinery in Anacortes, Washington, is undergoing unplanned maintenance. The company did not specify the units affected by the work or its duration, but said it is not anticipated to have any impact to its ability to meet product supply commitments. The company had earlier reported that it was shutting down an unspecified unit at the refinery, in a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.
Reuters, 9:31 October 2, 2013
http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1061749 Posted to DOE website 10-2-13.

PES Reports a Fifth of Bakken Oil Bound for Its 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery

Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) reported its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, refinery is now processing a fifth of all oil produced in North Dakota's Bakken shale oil formation and the plant could take more from there or other sources. The plant is processing 190,000 b/d of Bakken crude, of which 160,000 b/d is arriving directly to the refinery on two unit trains a day while the other 30,000 b/d is coming by rail then barge.

Reuters, 10:32 October 3, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Motiva's 600,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Reports Compressor Trip, Emissions October 2

Motiva Enterprises reported a compressor trip, which led to the release of benzene at its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The company had earlier reported emissions from a vacuum pipe, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 00:24 October 3, 2013

Reuters, 19:09 October 2, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Shell Reports Flaring, Sulfur Dioxide Release at Its 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery October 1

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported flaring and a release of sulfur dioxide at its refinery in Deer Park, Texas, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 00:21 October 3, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Update: BP-Husky Restarts SRUs at Its 125,600 b/d Toledo, Ohio Refinery October 2

BP Plc reported it restarted the sulfur recovery units (SRUs) at its refinery in Toledo, Ohio, on Wednesday. The units had been shut since September 24 due to a malfunction and production at the plant was cut to reduce sulfur pollution from the refinery during the shutdown.

Reuters, 16:50 October 2, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Citgo Reports Small Pipeline Leak at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery October 2

Citgo Petroleum Corp. reported a small leak that led to the release of 142 barrels of heavy blend naphtha just outside the compound of its Lemont, Illinois, refinery, according to a report filed with the U.S. National Response Center. The pipeline was damaged while Archon Construction was drilling to install new phone lines.

Reuters, 9:48 October 3, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Startup of Unit at Its 198,400 b/d Ponca City, Oklahoma Refinery September 27

Phillips 66 reported the startup of an unspecified unit on September 27 at its refinery in Ponca City, Oklahoma, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The company had earlier reported shutdown of an unspecified unit on September 14 at the refinery.

Reuters, 16:05 October 2, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Tesoro Reports Operations Running Normally After Flaring, Breakdown at Its 96,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery

Tesoro Corp. said operations were running normally at its Los Angeles-area refinery in Wilmington, California, after an earlier report of unplanned flaring and a breakdown, according to a notice with the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Reuters, 9:44 October 3, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

Chevron Reports Flaring at Its 245,000 b/d Richmond, California Refinery September 28

Chevron Corp. reported flaring at its Richmond, California, refinery, according to a filing with state regulators on Saturday. The flaring was stopped but the cause and the units affected were not disclosed.

Reuters, 13:49 October 2, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-3-13.

BP Repairing CDU Pipestill at Its 413,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery October 4

BP Plc on Friday was repairing the 110,000 b/d crude distillation unit (CDU) pipestill at its Whiting, Indiana, refinery. The work to repair a failed flange is expected to finish sometime next week if no other problems are discovered.

Reuters, 13:31 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-4-13.

Total Reports Shut Unit Due to Equipment Failure at Its 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery October 3

Total Petrochemicals reported instrumentation failure which resulted in an unspecified unit shutdown at its refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. In addition, emissions were reported from a sulfur recovery unit of the refinery.
Reuters, 15:08 October 3, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-4-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Small Fire in Process Unit at Its 120,200 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery October 3

Phillips 66 reported a small fire in the insulation of a process unit at its Rodeo refinery in northern California, according to a filing with the Contra Costa Health Services.
Reuters, 13:05 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-4-13.

Tesoro Reports Small Grass Fire at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 4

Tesoro Corp. reported a small grass fire along a railroad line at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, on Friday, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.
Reuters, 13:09 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-4-13.

ExxonMobil Reports Unplanned Flaring at Its 149,000 b/d Torrance, California Refinery September 26

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported unplanned flaring at its refinery in Torrance, California, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District.
Reuters, 13:13 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-4-13.

Update: Philadelphia Energy Restarts HDS at Its 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery October 4

Philadelphia Energy Solutions restarted a hydrodesulfurizer (HDS) unit after planned maintenance at the Point Breeze section of its refinery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, according to a notice from the state regulators. The company had reported that it shut an HDS unit for repairs on September 19.
Reuters, 16:08 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-7-13.

Update: Marathon Reports FCCU Back Online at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery October 4

Marathon Petroleum Corp. said a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) resumed operation after it had tripped offline at its Galveston Bay, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with state regulators. Flaring from the FCCU and an electrostatic precipitator stack were also reported in the same filing.
Reuters, 15:36 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-7-13.

Update: Tesoro Reports Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery Running at Planned Rates Despite Nearby Brush Fire October 4

Tesoro Corp. said there was no impact to operations from a brush fire on Friday and that its nearby Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, was running at planned rates, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services.
Reuters, 16:27 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-7-13.

Exxon Reports Unplanned Flaring at Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery September 26

Exxon Mobil Corp. reported unplanned flaring at its refinery in Torrance, California, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Reuters, 13:13 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-7-13.

Tesoro Reports Process Upset at Its 145,000 b/d Anacortes, Washington Refinery October 1

Tesoro Corp. reported a process upset at its refinery in Anacortes, Washington, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. The company reported possible sulfur dioxide emissions, the filing added.

Reuters, 18:32 October 4, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-7-13.

Motiva Shuts FCCU for Planned Maintenance at Its 233,500 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery

Motiva Enterprises' refinery in Norco, Louisiana, is conducting planned repairs on a fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU), a person familiar with operations said. The unit was shut in the third week of September for 50 days of scheduled maintenance. A community notice on September 19 from St. Charles Parish, where the refinery is located, said that Motiva would begin planned maintenance on several units the week of September 28.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3264053/Latest-News/Motiva-shuts-FCC-at-Norco-refinery-in-Louisiana-for-maintenance-repairs.html> Posted to DOE website 10-8-13.

ExxonMobil Says Minimal Impact From HCU Startup Malfunction at Its 572,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery

ExxonMobil Corp. said there was minimal impact to production from a malfunction during a hydrocracking unit (HCU) startup at its refinery in Baytown, Texas.

Reuters, 4:15 October 7, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-8-13.

Valero Reports Wet Gas Compressor Outage at Its 290,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery October 7

Valero Energy Corp. confirmed on Monday that a wet gas compressor outage led to flaring at its Port Arthur refinery in Texas. No material impact to production was expected, according to a spokesperson. The company had reported hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide emissions at the refinery, a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said.

Reuters, 14:02 October 7, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-8-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Incinerator Shut at Its 247,000 b/d Sweeny, Texas Refinery October 7

Phillips 66 shut an incinerator at its refinery in Sweeny, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The company reported emissions from its sulfur recovery unit, the filing said.

Reuters, 17:36 October 7, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-8-13.

Citgo Reports Emissions at Its 167,000 b/d Lemont, Illinois Refinery October 7

Citgo Petroleum Corp. reported emissions due to unknown reasons at its Lemont, Illinois, refinery, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

Reuters, 4:15 October 8, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-8-13.

Update: Valero Reports Normal Operations After Compressor Outage at Its 290,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery October 7

Valero Energy Corp. said there was no material impact to production due to a wet gas compressor outage that led to flaring at its Port Arthur refinery, in Texas, on Monday. The company had earlier confirmed there was a wet gas compressor outage that led to flaring at the Port Arthur refinery.

Reuters, 10:54 October 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-10-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Compressor Trip at Its 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery October 9

Phillips 66 reported a flare gas recovery compressor tripped at its Wood River refinery in Roxana, Illinois, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The incident led to nitrous dioxide emissions, the filing said.

Reuters, 4:12 October 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-10-13.

Flint Hills Reports Emissions from NHT/CCR at Its 260,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery October 9

Flint Hills Resources reported emissions from a Naphtha Hydrotreater (NHT) and Catalytic Reformer (CCR) unit at the West Plant of its Corpus Christi, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The event occurred when the threading at the connection to a valve began to leak on a vessel at the NHT/CCR unit, the filing said, adding that the company had initiated “prompt measures to assess, minimize, and correct the upset conditions.”

Reuters, 18:38 October 10, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-10-13.

Phillips 66 Reports Startup of Unit at Its 198,400 b/d Ponca City, Oklahoma Refinery October 6

Phillips 66 reported startup of an unspecified unit on Sunday at its refinery in Ponca City, Oklahoma, according to a filing with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 18:02 October 9, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-10-13.

Tesoro Reports Units Shut Due to Leak at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery October 8

Tesoro Corp. reported a unit shutdown following a pinhole leak at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services. The company said it was performing planned and unplanned maintenance activities at the refinery. “We do not anticipate any impacts to our ability to meet product supply commitments,” a spokesperson said.

Reuters, 18:40 October 9, 2013. Posted to DOE website 10-10-13.