

Refinery Events

July 8, 2012—July 14, 2012

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

Update: July 5 Fire at ExxonMobil's 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery Causes "Some Impact to Production"

According to previous reports, a xylene release started a fire at the refinery. New reports indicate that it also caused an electrical malfunction in a process unit. A company representative declined to identify the unit or say whether it had restarted. The company does plan to meet customer needs.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/07/08/refinery-operations-exxon-beaumont-idUKWEN517320110708>

Posted to DOE website 7-8-11.

Operators Report 45,000 b/d HCU Snags at Valero's 292,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 7

According to a filing with state regulators, the "hydrocracker fractionator overhead pressure controller malfunctioned," leading to flaring. There was no material impact on production, and the hydrocracking unit (HCU) was not shut down.

<http://www1.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156575> Posted to

DOE website 7-8-11.

Incinerator Temperature Drops, Causing Incinerator Stack Trip at Alon USA's 67,000 b/d Big Spring Refinery in Texas July 7

<http://www1.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156573> Posted to

DOE website 7-8-11.

Unspecified Unplanned Emergency Event Leads to Flaring at CVR Energy's 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery July 9

Reuters, 17:51 July 10, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-11-11.

Small Fire Shuts Wet Gas Compressor at the 40,000 b/d Gasoline-Making FCC at Sunoco's 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery July 10

A small fire broke out in the fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit at the Point Breeze section of the refinery. The FCC, which normally runs at 40,000 b/d, was already reduced due to problems with the wet gas compressor and is currently running at 25,000 b/d.

Reuters, 10:16 July 11, 2011

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/07/08/refinery-operations-sunoco-philadelphia-idUKWNAB964320110708> Posted to DOE website 7-11-11.

Multiple Trips at Sulfur Unit at Alon's 68,000 b/d Bakersfield, California Refinery Cause No Impact on Production July 9

According to a filing with state regulators, the shutdown of "unit 17" did lead to flaring.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/07/11/refinery-operations-alon-bakersfield-idUSWEN520920110711>

Reuters, 00:07 July 11, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-11-11.

Update: Husky Returns 155,000 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery to Full Rates July 9

Operators shut the refinery's crude unit on June 27 for repairs to the furnace.

Reuters, 11:46 July 11, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-11-11.

Update: Diesel Hydrotreater Snags at Valero's 287,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery

The incident is under investigation. It did not have a material impact on production.
Reuters, 14:43 July 8, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-11-11.

Update: Operators Restarting Reformer at ExxonMobil's 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery July 12

The company shut the unit for unplanned work last week. According to previous reports, the facility experienced an electrical malfunction in a process unit last week, impacting production. Reports also indicated that a xylene release started a fire at the refinery July 5.
Reuters, 12:02 July 12, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-12-11.

Compressor Trips, Restarts Less than One Hour Later at ExxonMobil's 560,640 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery July 11 – Incident Had No Impact on Production

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156642> Posted to DOE website 7-12-11.

Update: Sunoco Completes Repairs on 40,000 b/d Gasoline-Making FCC at 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery July 13

The fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit was cut to 25,000 b/d on July 6 after a failure at the unit's wet gas compressor. A small fire broke out on July 10 while operators tried to repair the unit. The unit is located at the Point Breeze section of the refinery.
Reuters, 12:54 July 13, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-13-11.

ExxonMobil Reports Emissions from Sulfur Conversion Unit at 560,640 b/d Baytown, Texas

Reuters, 00:38 July 13, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-13-11.

Shell Reports Instrument Problems Cause Unplanned Flaring in Light Oil Processing Unit at 125,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery July 13

DJN, 11:14 July 13, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-13-11.

ExxonMobil Reports Process Upset Leads to Flaring at 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery July 12

Reuters, 04:19 July 13, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-13-11.

Motiva Enterprises Reports Upset at 234,700 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery

Reuters, 00:25 July 13, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-13-11.

Total Shuts SRU at 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery for Repairs July 13-14

The company reported a sulfur recovery unit (SRU) known as "unit 871" was shut to repair environmental monitoring thermowells.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=156784> Posted to DOE website 7-14-11.

Possible Equipment Failure Leads to Emissions at CVR Energy's 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery July 13

Reuters, 00:17 July 14, 2011. Posted to DOE website 7-14-11.