

Refinery Events

August 19, 2011—August 25, 2011

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

Update: Valero Restarting Units at Fire-Downed 195,000 b/d Memphis, Tennessee Refinery

The company is restarting one of two crude distillation unit, an FCC, and other units. The entire refinery was shut on August 5 due to a fire in a crude distillation unit.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27635 Posted to DOE website 8-19-11.

FCCU Trips Offline at Exxon's 560,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery August 19

The trip activated the feed diversion system on the refinery's fluidized catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), the company said in a regulatory filing. The unit was placed into "hot standby" to stabilize temperatures. The event is ongoing and is expected to last until August 20 but no impact on production is expected.

Reuters, 11:25 August 19, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-19-11.

Flaring Did Not Impact Production at ConocoPhillips' 247,000 b/d Belle Chasse Refinery August 18

The company said there was no impact on production after flaring was reported due to an upset at a sulfur plant incinerator on August 17.

Reuters, 17:43 August 18, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-19-11.

Valero Reports Vacuum Vapor Compressor Upset in Complex #3 at 156,000 b/d McKee, Texas Refinery August 20

Reuters, 12:26 August 21, 2011

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=158237> Posted to DOE website 8-22-11.

FCC Unit 1 Trips Offline at BP's 407,000 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery August 20

According to a filing with state regulators, adjustments were made to stabilize the fluid catalytic cracker (FCC).

DJN, 10:41 August 22, 2011

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=158240> Posted to DOE website 8-22-11.

ConocoPhillips Reports Upset at Sulfur Plant 2 at 100,000 b/d Ferndale, Washington Refinery August 20

According to a company filing, operators were in the process of "regaining control of the unit."

Reuters, 00:19 August 22, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-22-11.

Tesoro Restarts Alkylation Unit at 94,300 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery Following Power Outage August 21

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-08-22/gulf-gasoline-weakens-as-hurricane-irene-may-hit-south-carolina.html> Posted to DOE website 8-22-11.

PBF Reports Power Loss at 182,000 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery

The loss of power was possibly caused by a lightning strike.

Reuters, 08:22 August 23, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-23-11.

BP Evacuates Portions of 405,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery Due to Chemical Release August 23

According to reports, there were no injuries, nor is there a threat to the community, due to the release of hydrogen sulfide at the refinery.

Reuters, 10:25 August 23, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-23-11.

Update: 114,000 b/d FCC Unit Back in Service at ExxonMobil's 560,640 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery Following 60 Hour Outage

The fluid catalytic cracker (FCC) tripped offline due to a breakdown on August 17.

DJN, 11:58 August 23, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-23-11.

Total Restarts Compressor at 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 22

According to a company filing, the compressor shut on August 20.

Reuters, 17:30 August 22, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-23-11.

BP's 225,000 b/d Cherry Point Refinery in Ferndale, Washington Returns to Normal Operations August 23

The No. 1 diesel unit malfunctioned on August 21, though it caused no significant impact on production.

Reuters, 00:17 August 23, 2011

Reuters, 12:33 August 23, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-23-11.

Units Restarting at Husky Energy's 155,000 b/d Lima, Ohio Refinery August 23 after Wet Compressor Snags, Shutting Gasoline-Making FCCU August 22

The company said on August 23 that the snag and fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) shutdown had no impact on production. The wet gas compressor originally shut due to a failure of the seal oil system.

Reuters, 16:56 August 23, 2011

Reuters, 00:07 August 24, 2011

DJN, 11:39 August 24, 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110823-715923.html> Posted to DOE website 8-24-11.

Update: Compressor Leading to Coker Unit Shutting Due to Leak at BP's 405,000 b/d Whiting, Indiana Refinery August 23

According to previous reports, BP evacuated portions of the refinery yesterday due to a chemical release. It was not clear from reports whether the events were related. It is also not clear if the coker's output is affected.

DJN, 11:59 August 24, 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110823-715923.html> Posted to DOE website 8-24-11.

Update: Alkylation Unit Returns to Normal Operations at Tesoro's 94,300 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery August 23 Following Power Outage August 21

Reuters, 14:17 August 23, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-24-11.

Gasoline-Making FCC Unit Has Been Offline since Small Fire Last Week at Marathon's 212,000 b/d Catlettsburg, Kentucky Refinery

Reuters, 11:14 August 24, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-24-11.

Reduction, Possible Shutdown at 135,000 b/d CDU after Fire at Sunoco's 335,000 b/d Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Refinery August 24

According to Reuters, the crude distillation unit (CDU) was operating at reduced levels due to a fire which was quickly extinguished on Wednesday morning. Dow Jones Newswires, however, reported that the unit was taken out of service. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1E77N1BP20110824>

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110825-711580.html> Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

Marathon Reports Small Fire at 106,000 b/d Detroit, Michigan Refinery August 25

The fire at an unspecified unit has been extinguished. The company did not say whether the fire impacted operations.

Reuters, 09:50 August 25, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

Citgo Reports Snag at Gasoline-Making FCCU at 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery

The snag in the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) led to flaring.

Reuters, 00:18 August 25, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

Power Interruption Causes Multi-Unit Upset at Holly Frontier's 138,000 b/d El Dorado, Kansas Refinery August 24

Units were shut down due to the event.

Reuters, 00:07 August 25, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

Total Discovers Product on Top of Floating Roof Storage Tank at 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery August 24

According to a filing with state regulators, operators blocked in a transfer line due to the event and are attempting to establish the cause and determine a course of action to correct the situation.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=158395> Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

ConocoPhillips Reports Compressor Trips, Restarts at 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery August 24-25

Reuters, 09:47 August 25, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.

Emissions Reported at ExxonMobil's 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery August 24

Reuters, 00:20 August 25, 2011. Posted to DOE website 8-25-11.