

Refinery Events

November 4, 2011—November 11, 2011

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

Coker Wet Gas Compressor Trips Offline at ExxonMobil's 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery November 3

ExxonMobil reported that the coker wet gas compressor tripped off-line Thursday and led to flaring, according to a filing with state regulators. Operators were restarting the compressor and normalizing operations, and they expected only minimal impact to production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161341>

Posted to DOE website 11-4-11.

ConocoPhillips Reports a Minor Fire in the Petroleum Coke Pit at Its 120,000 b/d Rodeo, California Refinery November 3

Refinery operations were unaffected by a fire Thursday morning in a petroleum coke pit, a company spokeswoman said. Petroleum coke, a coal substitute made from residual crude oil, is dumped into the pit after it's produced in a delayed coking unit.

Reuters, 20:28 November 3, 2011. Posted to DOE website 11-4-11.

Marathon Plans to Refine Up to 12,000 b/d of Crude Oil from Utica Shale Wells Early Next Year at Its 78,000 b/d Canton, Ohio Refinery

<http://www.cantonrep.com/news/business/x2086386014/Marathon-eyes-Utica-oil-for-Canton-refinery>

Posted to DOE website 11-4-11.

Update: Petrobras Restarts CDU at 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery after Repairs Following Fire on September 30

The refinery is restarting a crude distillation unit (CDU) that has been shut for repairs since it was damaged in a fire on September 30, sources familiar with refinery operations said on Friday. Only the refinery's delayed coking unit has been in operation since the fire.

Reuters, 14:24 November 4, 2011. Posted to DOE website 11-7-11.

Valero Reports Flaring Due to Equipment Malfunction at Its 144,000 b/d Benicia, California Refinery November 7

Valero Energy Corp said on Tuesday that the refinery experienced no material impact to production after operators reported flaring due to an equipment malfunction on Monday, according to a filing with California regulators.

Reuters, 10:29 November 8, 2011. Posted to DOE website 11-8-11.

Vacuum Breaker Fails at Valero's 142,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery November 8

Operators reported a failed vacuum breaker on the floating roof of Tk-72 and are making repairs, 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=161517>

Posted to DOE website 11-9-11.

Update: CVR Energy Restarts Unit at Its 115,700 b/d Coffeyville, Kansas Refinery November 8 after Major Mechanical Problems

CVR Energy reported on Tuesday that it has restarted a unit at its Coffeyville, Kansas refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators made the filing to report a release of

Hydrogen Sulfide from a flare stack due to the unit start-up. Earlier this month, operators reported a major mechanical problem while restarting the refinery, and CVR Energy announced at that time that it expected reduced rates to last 10–12 days.

http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=994948

Posted to DOE website 11-10-11.

Flint Hills Resources Reports Flaring During Startup of Mid-Crude Unit at Its 288,468 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery November 8

Flint Hills Resources (FHR) reported Wednesday that two flaring events occurred on November 8 when operators started the FHR West Refinery Mid-Crude Unit and the C6 Splitter over pressurized twice. FHR operators initiated prompt measures to assess, minimize, and implement the necessary corrective actions to return the processes to normal operating conditions. All emissions control devices and monitoring systems were in service during the event to the extent possible.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161551>

Posted to DOE website 11-10-11.

Equipment Failure Shuts SRU-5 at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery November 7

Total Petrochemicals reported that Sulfur Recovery Unit No. 5 (SRU-5) shut down at its Port Arthur refinery on Monday and would not restart, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. All acid gas was being processed at SRU-4.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=161556>

Posted to DOE website 11-10-11.