

## Refinery Events

January 6, 2012—January 12, 2012

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

### **Power Failure Shuts Several Units at Citgo's 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery January 5**

Citgo Petroleum Corp's reported a power outage due to an unknown cause at its Lake Charles refinery Thursday evening, according to a notice filed with the U.S. National Response Center. The outage shut several units, including the uncracker, coker 2 unit, acid plant, sulfur recovery unit, and xylene unit, and led to flaring, according to the filing. Emergency crews were onsite and an investigation was underway at the time of the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999699](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999699) Posted to DOE website 1-6-12

### **Update: ExxonMobil Says Production Unaffected at Its 238,600 b/d Joliet, Illinois Refinery after January 4 Coker Upset**

An ExxonMobil Corp. spokeswoman said in a statement Friday that the refinery was unaffected by Wednesday's coker upset. The refinery reported a compressor shutdown due to an unspecified equipment failure, which led to flaring from the coker main fractionator, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 11:19 January 6, 2012

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999593](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999593) Posted to DOE website 1-6-12.

### **Repsol to Shut FCCU at 220,000 b/d Petronor Refinery in Spain Citing Poor Margins and Low Demand**

Operators at Repsol's Petronor refinery in northern Spain issued a statement announcing plans to shut the fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU), which will remain out of service for the entire month of January, due to the "drastic decline" in European refining margins in the last three months and the fall in product demand throughout 2011.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/2957611/Latest-News/Repsol-shuts-FCC-unit-at-Petronor-refineryin-Spain-amid-poor-margins.html> Posted to DOE website 1-6-12.

### **BP, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil Discuss Plan to Export Alaska's North Slope Gas as LNG to Asian Pacific Markets, Not by Pipeline to U.S. Lower 48**

Reuters, 21:21 January 5, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-6-12.

### **Update: Citgo Reports Minimal Impact from Power Glitch at Its 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery January 5**

Citgo Petroleum Corp. said only a minimum number of units were impacted by power outage that lasted 10 minutes last Thursday.

Reuters, 15:456 January 6, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-9-12.

### **ExxonMobil Reports Compressor Restart at Its 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery January 8**

ExxonMobil reported emissions from the coker flare due to a wet gas compressor trip Sunday, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators later reported they brought the compressor back on line, and the flaring stopped.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999843](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999843)

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999879](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999879) Posted to DOE website 1-9-12.

### **Marathon Reports Malfunction at Its 204,000 b/d Robinson, Illinois Refinery January 6**

Marathon Petroleum Corp. reported an unspecified unit malfunction at the refinery Friday night led to flaring, according to a filing with Illinois pollution regulators.

Reuters, 17:45 January 8, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-9-12.

### **Motiva to Shut Multiple Units for Repairs, Other Work at Its 285,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery in First Quarter 2012 – Industry Sources**

Motiva Enterprises LLC shut a diesel hydrotreater for repairs and will idle a crude unit January 17 and a coker March 1 for work, according to two people with knowledge of the operations.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-01-09/gasoline-advances-as-refinery-shutdowns-may-reduce-supply.html> Posted to DOE website 1-10-12.

### **ExxonMobil Reports Flaring, Breakdown at Its 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery Due to Brief Power Interruptions January 9**

ExxonMobil reported unplanned flaring due to a breakdown at its Torrance refinery, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District late Monday. On Tuesday, the company said the flaring was caused by two temporary external power interruptions the day before. The impact of the outages is being assessed, a company spokeswoman said.

Reuters, 23:05 January 9, 2012

DJN, 10:16 January 10, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-10-12.

### **Excessive Rains Shut Boiler, Cause Emissions at Citgo's 429,500 b/d Lake Charles, Louisiana Refinery January 9**

Citgo Petroleum Corp reported that excessive rains caused the loss of a boiler at its Lake Charles refinery, leading to emissions of sulfur compounds, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center late Monday night. Operators were trying to restart the boiler and had not secured the release at the time of the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999990](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999990)

Posted to DOE website 1-10-12.

### **Motiva Reports a Release of Untreated Fuel Gas from Its 236,400 b/d Norco, Louisiana Refinery January 9**

Operators reported an atmospheric release of untreated fuel gas on Monday at Motiva Enterprises' Norco refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. The release was rerouted to a flare, and operators were attempting to resolve the issue to stop the release, according to the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=999961](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=999961)

Posted to DOE website 1-10-12.

### **Tesoro Announces Plans to Sell 94,000 b/d Kapolei, Hawaii Refinery**

Tesoro Corporation yesterday announced its plan to sell its Hawaii operations, including the 94,000 b/d Kapolei refinery, operations at 32 retail stations, and all associated logistical assets, in an effort to concentrate its focus on the U.S. Mid-Continent and West Coast operations. Tesoro Hawaii anticipates completing the sale no sooner than the second half of 2012, subject to regulatory and other approvals.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=79122&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1646902&highlight>

Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

### **ConocoPhillips May Demolish Its 185,000 b/d Trainer, Pennsylvania Refinery if No Buyer Is Found by March – Union Leaders**

ConocoPhillips may demolish its Trainer refinery by the end of March if it does not find a buyer for the idled plant, according to union leaders on Tuesday who said a plant manager gave them the information last week. A ConocoPhillips spokesman said the company is still focused on finding a buyer, but would evaluate its options at the end of March. The refinery has been idle since November.

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/neighborhoods/mt-airychestnut-hill-/item/32418-conocophillips-to-demolishtrainer-refinery-if-no-buyer-found-by-march> Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**Update: ExxonMobil Normalizing Operations at 149,500 b/d Torrance, California Refinery January 10 after Power Outages Shut Some Units, Slow Others**

ExxonMobil on Tuesday reported it was normalizing operations at its Torrance refinery after two temporary power outages overnight Monday shut some of the facility's units and slowed others, the company said.

Reuters, 17:53 January 10, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**Hess Reports Emissions from 70,000 b/d Port Reading, New Jersey Refinery January 10**

Hess Corp. reported emissions at its Port Reading refinery in a filing with state regulators on Tuesday, saying the facility had exceeded permitted total suspended solids in its scrubber. Trading sources said the incident had no impact on production from the refinery.

Reuters, 12:41 January 10, 2012. Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**Unit Shuts at Total's 232,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 10**

Total Petrochemicals reported Unit 871 shut down for unknown reasons late Tuesday night, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The filing lists sulfur recovery units Nos. 4 and 5 and Units 870 and 871 as sources of emissions. The unit restarted early on January 11. An investigation is currently underway.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163579>

Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**Shell Reports Debenziner Piping Leak at Its 329,800 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery January 10**

Shell discovered a leak on the overhead piping from the Debenziner 1 column (COL602) yesterday morning, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Operators rerouted the process stream to the offspec system, depressurized the overhead line, and isolated the leak point.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163567>

Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**ConocoPhillips Reports External Roof Collapse Due to Heavy Rains at Its 239,400 b/d Westlake, Louisiana Refinery January 10**

ConocoPhillips reported an external floating roof had collapsed on Tuesday due to heavy rains and that it was performing maintenance on unidentified units, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center. Operators were applying foam to the material in the tank to minimize the ongoing release of volatile organic compounds to the atmosphere, according to the filing.

[http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard\\_web+inc\\_seq=1000081](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/reports/rwservlet?standard_web+inc_seq=1000081)

Posted to DOE website 1-11-12.

**United Steelworkers Ratify National Oil Bargaining Policy, Authorize Strike If Oil Industry Doesn't Negotiate**

United Steelworkers (USW) members have ratified the National Oil Bargaining policy, the union's national contract proposal, the union said today. The policy covers health and safety, wage, benefit, and contract language issues, and it also gives the union an authorization to strike if the oil industry doesn't negotiate. USW's current agreement with the oil industry expires on February 1, 2012.

<http://fuelix.com/blog/2011/11/21/oil-workers-prepare-for-new-contracts-in-feb-strike-okd-if-need-arises/>

Posted to DOE website 1-12-12.

**Wet Gas Compressor Trip Causes Emissions from Coker Flare at ExxonMobil's 344,500 b/d Beaumont, Texas Refinery January 11**

Operators restarted the wet gas compressor and restored normal operations to the refinery, anticipating no impact to production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=163612>

Posted to DOE website 1-12-12.