



Hurricane Zeta | Update #3

REPORT TIME & DATE: 10:00 AM EDT | Saturday, October 31, 2020

REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Public

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Zeta made landfall near Cocodrie, Louisiana around 5:00 PM EDT on Wednesday, October 28 as a strong Category 2 hurricane, before moving directly over New Orleans and across portions of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Zeta caused flooding, wind damage, and widespread power outages across the affected regions. The DOE Energy Response Center has been activated to manage Emergency Support Function #12 activities and to coordinate with industry, interagency, and state partners in response to Hurricane Zeta.

Electricity Sector Summary

- As of 8:30 AM EDT, there were approximately 731,000 customer outages reported across Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Approximately 136,000 of the customer outages are in Georgia, 174,000 in Alabama, and 214,000 in Louisiana.
- Restoration efforts are underway across the impacted area. Mutual assistance networks have been activated to support restoration efforts. More than 22,000 workers from at least 29 states and Canada are supporting restoration efforts for Hurricane Zeta, as well as supporting the ice storm that impacted Oklahoma and portions of northern Texas.

Oil & Natural Gas Sector Summary

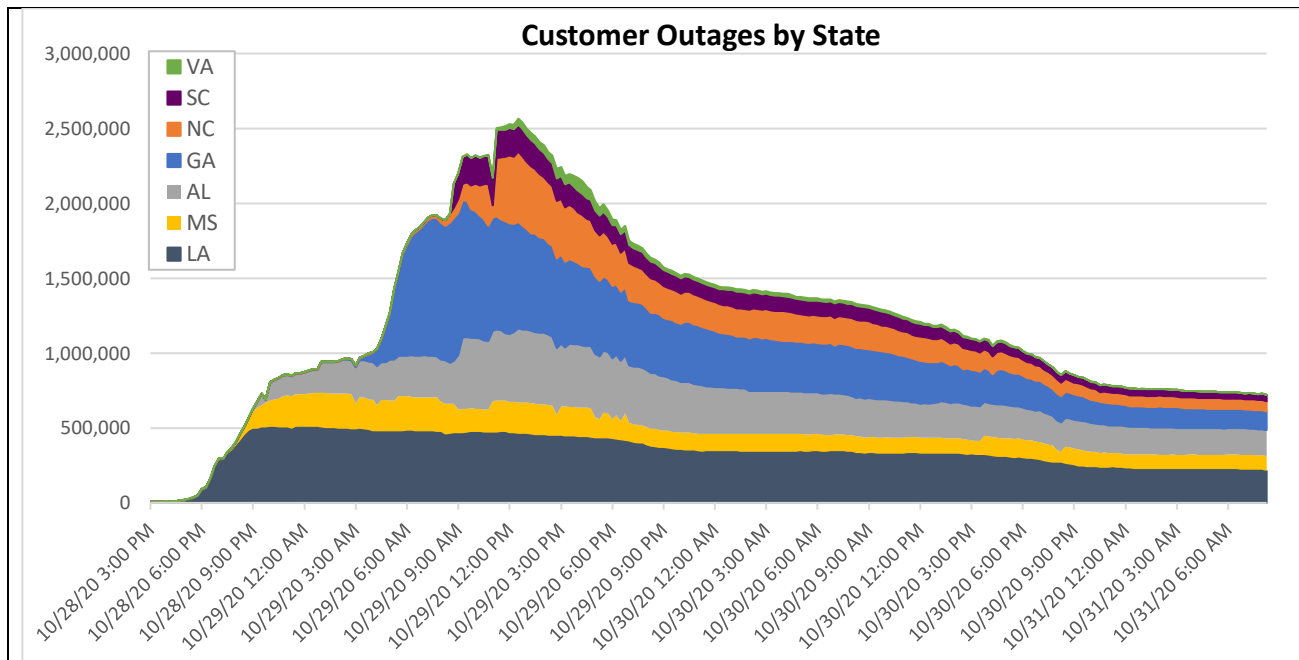
- The port of Pascagoula, Mississippi remains closed, and the port of Mobile, Alabama has reopened with draft restrictions.
- Some refineries in the New Orleans area have begun the restart process after going offline due to commercial power outages.
- As of 12:30 PM EDT, October 30, 66% of the oil production and 40% of the natural gas production in the federally administered areas of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico remains shut-in, according to estimates by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Production was shut-in as a precaution ahead of the storm.
- The refinery and offshore platform shut-ins are not anticipated to cause any immediate supply issues. For the week ending on October 23, overall U.S. stocks of gasoline and distillate stocks were 2.4% and 16.7% above the seasonal 5-year average respectively. Jet fuel is slightly below the average. Across the Gulf Coast and Southeast, stocks of gasoline and distillate were above the 5-year average. Gulf Coast stocks of crude oil were 15.2% above the 5-year average in the Gulf Coast (excluding the Strategic Petroleum Reserve).

ELECTRICITY SECTOR

POWER OUTAGES

- As of 8:30 AM EDT, October 31, there are 730,945 customer outages across Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, due to Hurricane Zeta.

Customer Power Outages as of 8:30 AM EDT 10/31/2020				
State	Current Outages	% of State Without Power	Peak Storm Outages	% Customers Restored from Peak
Louisiana	214,092	10%	509,372	58%
Mississippi	97,861	8%	234,975	58%
Alabama	173,633	8%	497,277	65%
Georgia	136,294	3%	953,403	87%
South Carolina	39,197	1.4%	187,060	79%
North Carolina	69,868	1.5%	468,697	85%
Total	730,945	-	-	-

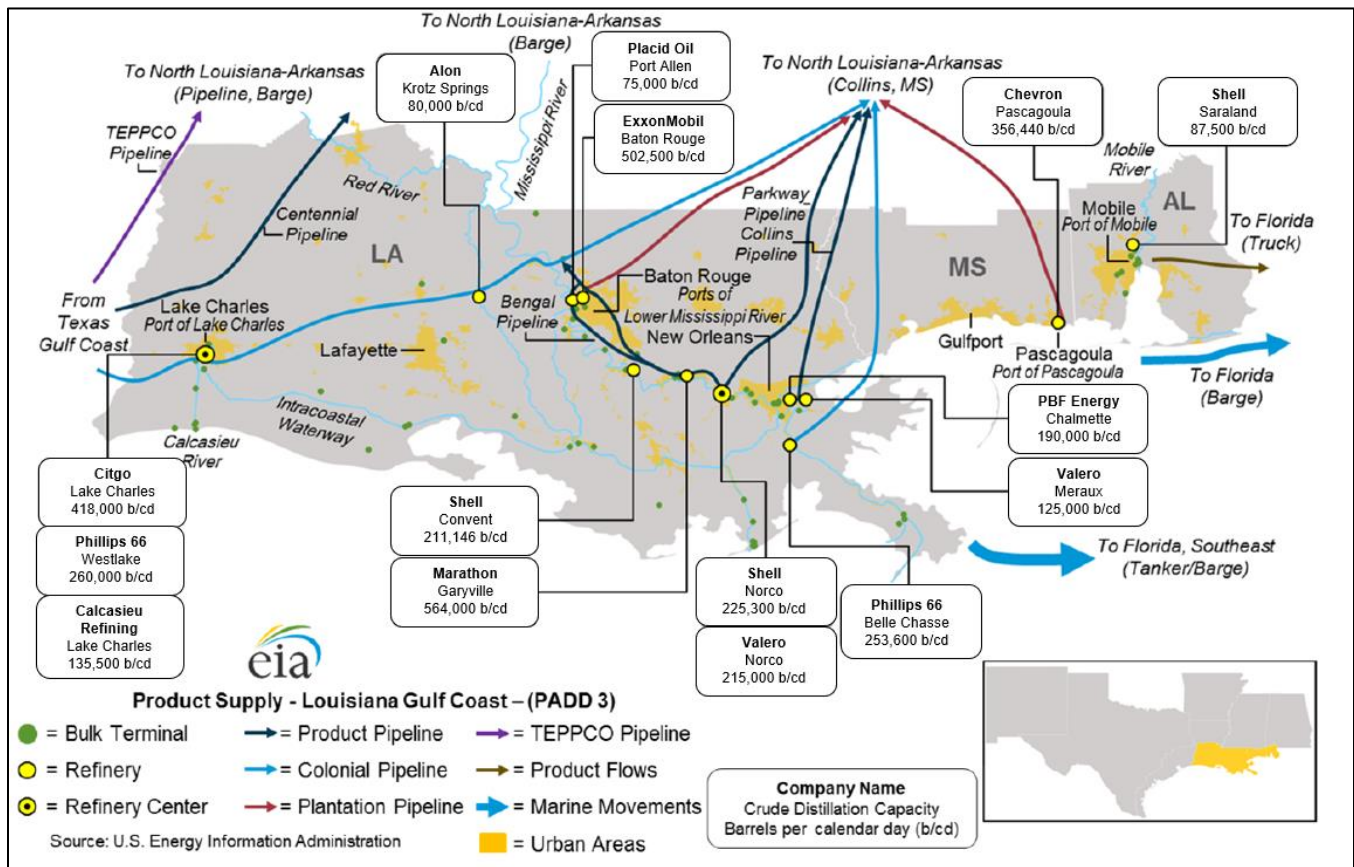


RESTORATION OVERVIEW

- Restoration efforts are under way across the affected region. Fluctuation in the outage numbers is expected and normal during large-scale restoration efforts.
- Flooding and debris are limiting access to some areas. Crews are unable to operate in heavily flooded areas and when wind speeds are greater than 30 MPH.
- In advance of the storm, utilities pre-positioned crews, materials, and equipment and held pre-storm mutual assistance coordination calls.
- As of October 30, more than 22,000 workers from at least 29 states and Canada are supporting restoration efforts for customers impacted by Hurricane Zeta, as well as supporting the ice storm that impacted Oklahoma and portions of northern Texas.
- Utilities typically follow an overall plan to restore service to customers. After power is restored to essential services and facilities critical to public health and safety, crews focus on repairing lines that will return service to the largest number of customers in the least amount of time. Power is restored systematically to neighborhoods, industries, and businesses and then to individual homes and small groups of customers.
- DOE is working with industry partners to determine if there are any locations where outages may be extended.

OIL AND NATURAL GAS SECTOR

Just over half of total U.S. refining capacity is located in the Gulf Coast (PADD 3) region. Gulf Coast refinery production is critical for supplying fuels to markets in the high-demand East Coast (PADD 1) region. Products move out of the Gulf Coast region on the Colonial and Plantation pipeline systems to Southeast and Central Atlantic markets, and via tanker and barge to Florida. The Gulf Coast refineries export approximately 20% of production to foreign countries. This provides a significant “export buffer,” allowing refiners to shift fuel production away from exports to make up for shortages in domestic markets. The map below highlights the petroleum supply chain in the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama Gulf Coast regions.



PORTS

- **Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP)** is the only U.S. port capable of receiving very large crude carriers (VLCCs). As of October 30, the COTP has declared LOOP open. LOOP and Clovelly Hub's next shipment is scheduled for November 2.
- The U.S. Coast Guard has set the following conditions for ports and waterways as a result of Hurricane Zeta. Listed in the table are select ports that receive petroleum products.

Status of Gulf Coast Ports as of 9:00 AM EDT 10/31/2020			
Port	Inbound Petroleum* (b/d)	Status	Date Stamp
Alabama			
Mobile, AL	191,000	Open with Restrictions. Draft restrictions of 41 feet.	10/30
Mississippi			
Pascagoula, MS	131,000	Closed. Port Status Zulu (Shore-based facilities open and Inner Harbor Movements Authorized)	10/30
Louisiana			
Baton Rouge, LA	83,000	Open.	10/29
Gramercy, LA	110,000	Open.	10/29
New Orleans, LA	201,000	Open.	10/29
Morgan City, LA	208,000	Open.	10/29
Lake Charles, LA	394,000	Open with Restrictions. Port Status Whiskey.	10/26
Texas			
Port Arthur, TX	358,000	Open with Restrictions. Port Status Whiskey.	10/26

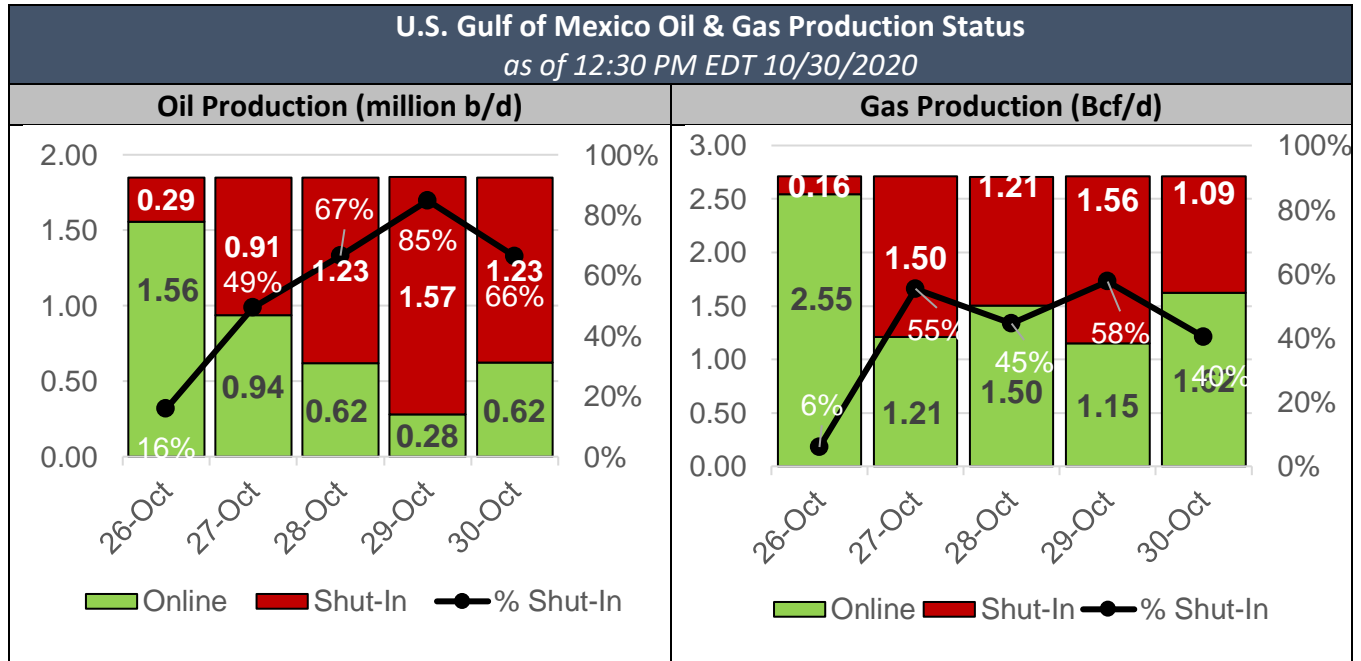
*Crude oil and product foreign imports and domestic movements in 2018.

Source: Receipt data from EIA Company Level Imports, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center

- **The Calcasieu Waterway** has been assigned the port condition of Recovery as of October 28. The waterway remains open with restrictions.

OFFSHORE PRODUCTION

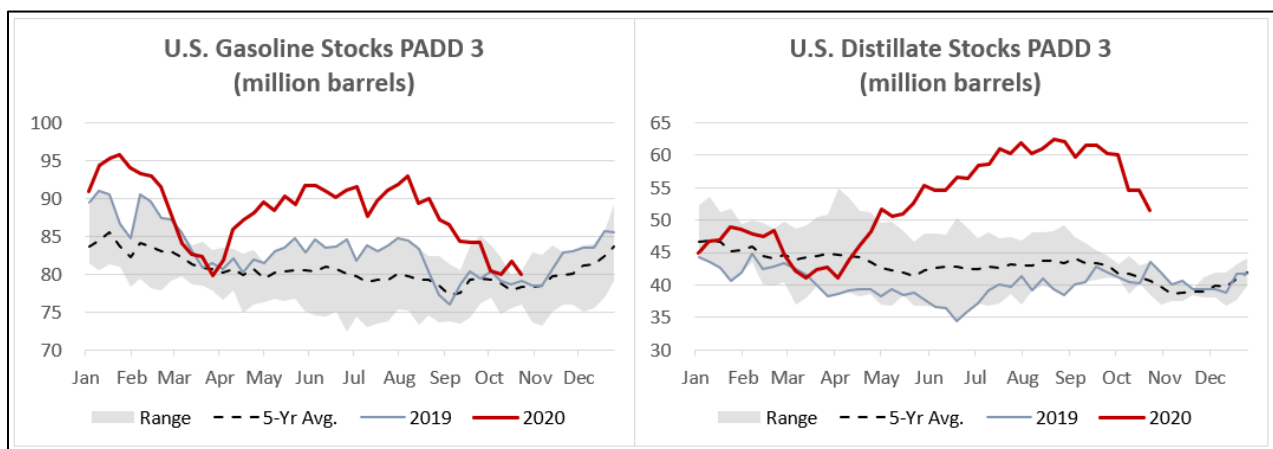
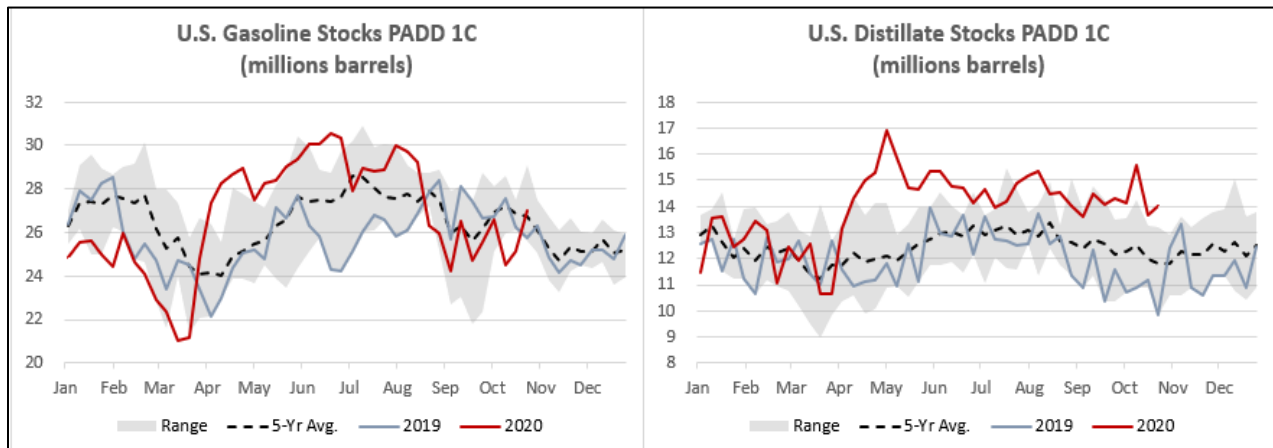
- As of 12:30 PM EDT, October 30, 1.23 million barrels per day (b/d) (66.3%) of the oil production and 1.09 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) (40.23%) of the natural gas production in the federally administered areas of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico remain shut-in, according to estimates by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE).
- In addition, BSEE reports that 153 out of 643 manned platforms remain evacuated; 2 out of 10 non-dynamically positioned rigs remain evacuated; and 2 out of 16 dynamically positioned rigs remain moved out of their normal location.



Source: [BSEE](#)

FUEL STOCKS

- As of October 23, the Southeast U.S. (PADD 1C) had 27.0 million barrels of total gasoline stocks (1% higher than the 5-year seasonal average), according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA). The Southeast had 14.0 million barrels of total distillate stocks (19% higher than the 5-year seasonal average), according to EIA.
- As of October 23, the Gulf Coast (PADD 3) had 80.0 million barrels of total gasoline stocks (2% higher than the 5-year seasonal average), according to EIA. The Gulf Coast had 51.4 million barrels of total distillate stocks (27% higher than the 5-year seasonal average), according to EIA.
- Overall U.S. stocks for transportation fuels (gasoline, jet fuel, and diesel) stood at 419.8 million barrels as of October 23, approximately 6.0% above the 5-year average for the time of year. Gasoline stocks and distillate stocks are 2.4% and 16.7% above their respective seasonal 5-year averages, while jet fuel stocks are 9.2% below their respective 5-year average.



EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS & WAIVERS

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

To provide vital supplies and transportation services to a disaster area in the United States, emergency declarations may be issued by the President, Governors of States, or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). These declarations trigger the temporary suspension of certain Federal safety regulations, including Hours of Service for motor carriers and drivers engaged in specific aspects of the emergency relief effort. See [49 CFR 390.23](#) for the actual emergency regulation.

Emergency Declarations and HOS Waivers <i>as of 9:00 AM EDT 10/31/2020</i>				
State/Territory	Details	Effective Dates		Status
		Start	End	
Louisiana	State of Emergency	10/26	11/24	Active
	Presidential Emergency Declaration	10/26	Until rescinded	Active
Alabama	State of Emergency	10/27	Until rescinded	Active
Mississippi	State of Emergency	10/27	Until rescinded	Active
	Presidential Emergency Declaration	10/27	Until rescinded	Active
AL, FL, LA, MS, & TX	FMCSA Hours of Service Waiver for Hurricane Delta	10/7	11/6	Active

Sources: State government, White House, and FMCSA websites.

WAIVERS

- PHMSA Waiver of Hazardous Materials Regulations:** On October 30, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued an emergency waiver order declaring an emergency in Louisiana and Mississippi in relation to Hurricane Zeta. The waiver relaxes certain requirements for the transportation of hazardous materials and is intended to support the U.S. Coast Guard and EPA in their response to Zeta. The order is valid for 30 days.