



Whither Wilma?

Posted by [Heading Out](#) on October 23, 2005 - 8:30pm

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

Tags: [hurricane wilma](#), [north sea](#), [peak oil](#) [[list all tags](#)]

While I do not have the technical expertise of my colleagues to post this as an ongoing animation on this site, you can find the thermal images showing the progress of Wilma [here](#).

THE CENTER OF WILMA IS FORECAST TO BE NEAR THE SOUTHWESTERN COAST OF THE FLORIDA PENINSULA EARLY MONDAY MORNING. HOWEVER...WILMA IS A LARGE SYSTEM AND TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS WILL REACH THE FLORIDA KEYS AND FLORIDA PENINSULA WELL BEFORE THE EYE MAKES LANDFALL.

DATA FROM AIR FORCE AND NOAA HURRICANE HUNTER AIRCRAFT THIS EVENING INDICATE MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS HAVE NOW INCREASED TO NEAR 110 MPH...175 KM/HR...WITH HIGHER GUSTS. WILMA IS A STRONG CATEGORY TWO HURRICANE ON THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE. ADDITIONAL STRENGTHENING IS POSSIBLE TONIGHT AND EARLY MONDAY... AND WILMA COULD BE NEAR CATEGORY THREE...MAJOR HURRICANE... STRENGTH AS IT NEARS THE SOUTHWESTERN FLORIDA COAST MONDAY MORNING.

HURRICANE FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 85 MILES...140 KM... FROM THE CENTER...AND TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 230 MILES...370 KM. A WIND GUST TO 85 MPH WAS RECENTLY REPORTED IN HAVANA CUBA... AND A GUST TO 55 MPH WAS REPORTED AT DRY TORTUGAS. SUSTAINED TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS ARE OCCURRING OVER THE YUCATAN CHANNEL AND WESTERN CUBA... AND THESE WINDS SHOULD REACH THE LOWER FLORIDA KEYS BY MIDNIGHT... AND SPREAD EASTWARD TO THE MIDDLE KEYS AND THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COAST BY SUNRISE MONDAY MORNING.

UPDATED

And meanwhile the [MMS](#) reported on Friday that

These evacuations are equivalent to 25.76% of 819 manned platforms and 11.94% of 134 rigs currently operating in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM).

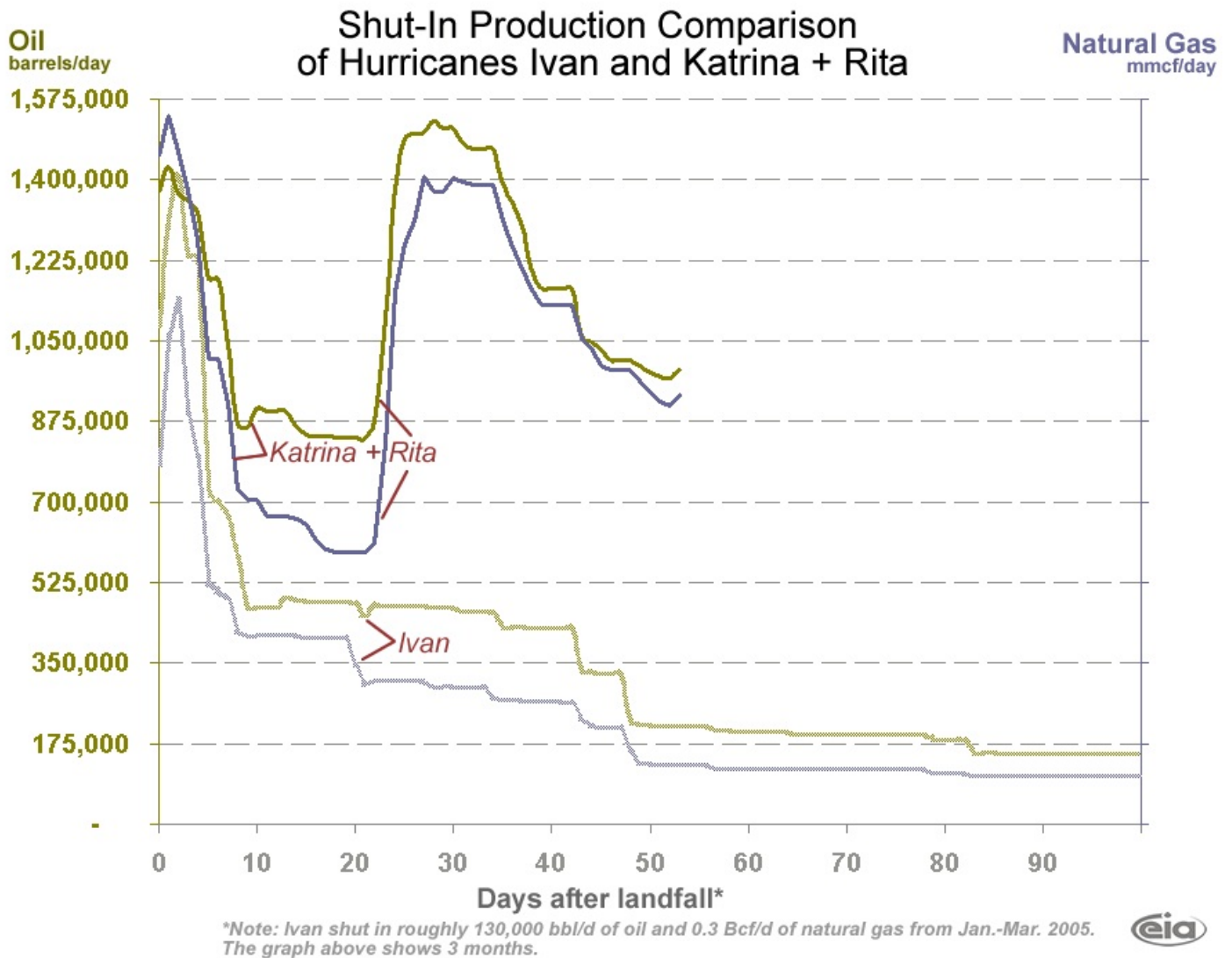
Today's shut-in oil production is 986,805 BOPD. This shut-in oil production is equivalent to 65.787% of the daily oil production in the GOM, which is currently approximately 1.5 million BOPD.

Today's shut-in gas production is 5,337 BCFPD. This shut-in gas production is equivalent to 53.37% of the daily gas production in the GOM, which is currently approximately 10 BCFPD.

The cumulative shut-in oil production for the period 8/26/05-10/21/05 is 64,547,816 bbls, which is equivalent to 11.79% of the yearly production of oil in the GOM (approximately 547.5 million barrels).

The cumulative shut-in gas production 8/26/05-10/21/05 is 326.521 BCF, which is equivalent to 8.946 % of the yearly production of gas in the GOM (approximately 3.65 TCF).

In this regard we seem to have reached a plateau in regard to improvements. UPDATED At ericy's suggestion I have included this graph from the [EIA](#), and this related to his comment on the likely level of the plateau.



This delay in getting repairs done is a fairly realistic occurrence, but does make one wonder about the EIA optimism as to when production will be back to normal (they have said Christmas). I mention that because the [Guardian](#) just carried a story blaming part of the decline in the British economy on the less than sterling performance of the British North Sea.

Analysts said the biggest drag on the economy came from a decline in oil and gas extraction due to repairs of platforms. The ONS said lower energy output drove a quarterly fall of 6.8% in mining and quarrying, the sharpest drop in three years.

It is interesting that they don't use the word depletion, and that, by implication, when the repairs are done production, and thus the British Economy, can be expected to rebound. Does the left hand know what ...



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