Platts Breaking News:

TRANSCANADA SAYS KEYSTONE CRUDE OIL PIPELINE DOWN

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The Keystone Pipeline has been shut after routine testing found an "anomaly" along the key crude pipeline, a TransCanada spokesman said Thursday.

The 591,000 b/d line is expected to be shut for about three days, spokesman James Millar said, adding there was no spill or leak involved.

Millar said the line was shut "as a precaution to perform preventative maintenance," after a "small anomaly" was discovered. The integrity of the line "remains sound," Millar added.

Because of the outage, TransCanada expects that some of the crude volumes due to be shipped in October may be delayed until November, he said.

Keystone ships crude from Hardisty, Alberta, to Wood River and Patoka, Illinois, and, through an extension, from Steele City, Nebraska, to the NYMEX contract delivery point in Cushing, Oklahoma.

The outage caused the Western Canadian Select differential fall $3.75/barrel in early trading Thursday, after it was heard to trade at NYMEX front calendar month average minus $19.50/b, its lowest level since early August.

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