



POWER OUTAGES

Southern Oregon, USA
18 October 2008

Nampa, Idaho, USA
8 January 2008

St. Katherine Jamaica
9 January 2008

blackout

Watch

Analysis of system power outages can help us learn and avoid similar events in the future. If you have information on any blackouts, please e-mail to:

<http://editor@pacw.org>

■ A widespread outage that interrupted power transmission to about 30 thousand Pacific Power customers in Southern Oregon, USA, was caused by switch failure inside the Vilas Road substation, triggering failures at six other substations. Power was restored within an hour.

■ A fault at the major transformer (T2) at the Taman Tshun Ngan substation in Sandakan, Malaysia, caused a major blackout in various part of the municipality at 7.50pm. Power in most areas was restored in about two hours.

■ A blackout after a power trip at about 3.30pm at the Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) substation in Juru, Malaysia resulted in an outage that affected most of Penang Island in about 90 minutes.

■ Failure in two power stations - in Baghdad and Basra, Iraq, knocked out electricity across the Iraqi capital. It resulted in loss of about 400 MW at Al-Quds station and 150 MW in Khor Al-Zubair station.

■ A faulty device that tripped a transformer in the Clarkson substation in Western Australia, as well as blown fuses, were blamed

Albania,
Greece, Kosovo,
Montenegro
16 January
2008

Baghdad, Basra
Iraq,
29 December
2008

Iloilo
Philippines
31 December
2007

Juru,
Malaysia
20 November
2007

Sandakan,
Malaysia
9 November
2007

Zambia,
19, 21, January
2008

Zimbabwe,
19 January
2008

Clarkson,
Australia,
29 December
2007

for blackouts that started on Christmas Eve and affected about 15,000 households. Western Power said this had nothing to do with scorching temperatures.

■ A blackout struck Iloilo City, Philippines, at 11:57 p.m. and dampened the excitement of city residents as they prepared to welcome the New Year. Some officials speculated that it was caused by firecracker hitting a line.

■ A cat that entered an electrical substation, caused a short that blew

out 9 feeder lines, causing a power outage that blacked out more than 12,000 consumers in Nampa, Idaho, USA. Service was restored in about 3 hours to most customers.

■ A system shutdown in Jamaica was initiated by the collapse of a utility pole on the 138KV transmission line connecting the Duhapey Park, St. Andrew, substation to the Tredegar Park station in St. Catherine. This led to the collapse of a circuit breaker, which further led to the shutdown of the Old Harbour Power Station.

■ In southern Albania, a near 45 minutes blackout was caused by a problem at a substation. The Zemblak-Kardia transmission interconnector with Greece tripped causing other substations and power connections in Montenegro and Kosovo to trip as well.

■ Zambia was hit with two nationwide blackouts in three days.

A blackout occurred on Saturday 19th and it took about eight hours to restore power. On Monday evening a second nationwide blackout occurred around 7.30pm and it took 4 to restore power. The country's power authority said there had been a "high voltage" occurrence on the network but gave no further explanation as they are still investigating. It is unclear if the second outage was not connected to regional problems with electricity supply.

■ A major blackout caused by a failure on the transmission grid, occurred in Zimbabwe. It affected the capital Harare, e.g. Bulawayo, Mutare, Victoria Falls and Kariba, suffered power cuts. Power was restored gradually, but parts of Harare were said to be without electricity almost 24 hours later. Zimbabwe has been experiencing power supply problems for awhile.

*Time and
location of the
System & Power
Disturbances in
2008*