

Blackout Fears Rise as Extreme Heat Pushes Power Grid to the Brink in 17 States

Blackout concerns are growing across the central United States as extreme heat places unprecedented strain on the power grid.

According to the Daily Mail, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on Sunday authorized the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) to activate normally idle backup power sources serving parts of 17 states in an effort to keep electricity flowing during the ongoing heat wave.

The emergency order allows backup plants to generate additional electricity if demand threatens to overwhelm the grid. The DOE said the order will remain in effect through Aug. 3 to “mitigate the risk of blackouts.”

The Daily Mail reported that the authorization is “the final step before a Level 3 Energy Emergency Alert,” which could trigger rolling blackouts to prevent a broader grid failure.



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The order comes as roughly 40 million Americans face extreme heat warnings. The National Weather Service forecast heat indexes above 100 degrees across much of the affected region, with temperatures reaching 113 to 115 degrees in parts of Louisiana.

Former DOE official Kerry Duggan told the Daily Mail that “as we experience more frequent and longer-lasting heat waves, our ability to keep homes, businesses and critical facilities cool

depends on having a reliable and resilient electric grid.”

Energy Secretary Chris Wright said the administration is “tapping into an abundant supply of unused backup generation to maintain affordable, reliable, and secure power for hardworking American families and businesses.”

As dangerous temperatures continue, residents are encouraged to stay hydrated, limit outdoor activity during peak afternoon hours, check on elderly neighbors and vulnerable family members, and follow guidance from local officials.

Please join us in praying for God’s protection over those enduring these dangerous conditions, for the safety of utility workers and first responders, and that communities would be spared from widespread power outages during this intense heat.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man’s Commentary* and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.