



## NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL

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### August 14, 2003 Power Outages – Announcement

Starting at about 4:15 PM EDT, major losses of electric load occurred in the northeastern U.S. and Canada in the Eastern Interconnection. No cause is known at present, but the outages do not appear to be the result of a terrorist attack.

The areas most affected center around the Great Lakes plus New York City, northern New Jersey and parts of New England. We do not know if these blackouts are related for sure, but it is likely.

The following load was lost (approximate numbers):

PJM Interconnection – 4,200 MW  
Midwest ISO – 13,000 MW  
Hydro Quebec – 100 MW  
Ontario IMO – 20,000 MW  
ISO New England – 2,500 MW  
New York ISO – 22,000 MW

Total – 61,800 MW Lost (approximate)

Total Restored as 7:30 p.m. EDT

PJM – 800 MW  
HQ – 40 MW  
ISO NE – 500 MW

Total 1340 MW Restored

In Ohio, Perry Nuclear plant went off-line. Major transmission lines were out of service at the time of the disruption. It appears that ten nuclear plants went offline, probably as a result of fluctuations in frequency.

Although the event was felt throughout the entire Eastern Interconnection, the south and midwestern US were not affected.

NERC is having regular conference calls among the NERC reliability coordinators and will provide additional information as we know more.

We do not know the cause of the disturbances at present but will continue to evaluate the situation throughout the evening.

8/14/2003 8:02 PM