

Re: New laws, ideas sought for future power outages

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 - *Date:* 13 Mar 2006 19:44:00 -0800
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Perhaps I don't grasp the entire problem, but I strongly believe that a major contributor to these types of power outages is due to the general lack of underground transmission lines and redundant subsystem feeds, issues that have an almost trivial solution given a little planning and resources application is provided.

Realize that here in the Northeast, most schools, all hospitals, and many municipal offices and even stores already have back-up generators, and in spite of our weather conditions, most have these emergency provisions have been collecting dust for over 20 or 30 years.

I have an emergency backup generator that I purchased when my youngest daughter was born in 1976. Back then it cost \$350 used. Today a unit of this capability sells for roughly \$2,000, not the \$100 quoted to William Thomas in your article, who like many politicians is totally out of touch with reality. We've used our generator only for two days since 1976, other than to run it quarterly under full load for tests. Jusas information, I purchased the generator when I lived in Farport, NY where the power went out frequently, often for days at a time. I now live in the suburban Boston area, where extended power outages are almost unknown.

The explanation of of why extended power outages are so common in New York State are obvious, but this is not the time or place to explain them, other than to say that you get the service that you pay for.

Harry C,

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