

Re: Power Surges

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics/2005-02/3482.html>

jimp_at_specsol-spam-sux.com

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Brett Aubrey <brett.aubrey@shaw.ca> wrote:

> <*jimp@specsol-spam-sux.com*> wrote in message
> news:cu8ks1\$nr6\$1@mail.specsol.com...

<snip>

> *This statement surprises me in that our power utility went through what
> would surely an expensive ad campaign suggesting a daily usage spike around
> 5:00PM to 8:00PM (IIRC), and requested users try to avoid or minimize usage
> during that time slot. Why would they go through that exercise other to
> minimize peak usage?*

Why was there an expensive ad campaign before the 1993 Super Bowl warning that more women are victims of domestic violence on Super Bowl Sunday than on any other day of the year when it is nothing more than urban legend.

<http://www.snopes.com/crime/statistics/superbowl.asp>

Evening spikes are normal as people get home, but total demand is normally decreasing as businesses close for the day.

> > *Even if it did, it would be a non-event since electrical distribution
> > systems are designed for the peak load.*

> *But if it's a reduction of (or an attempt not to increase) peak usage, then
> it is an "event" – i.e. if usage stays flat during the peak usage because
> people are running dishwashers and washer/dryers (for instance) later on,
> then systems can stay stable for longer.*

Maybe part of the facilities are down for repairs/maintenance and couldn't handle the normal peaks until they came back on line.

Maybe the power utility is a bunch of incompetent blunderers and didn't plan for population growth.

> > *No exploding transformers or melting lines.*
> >

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> > *You should notice on the graph that the available resources line is*
> > *always greater than actual demand.*
> >
> > *If the forecast get screwed up or you have unplanned outages in generation*
> > *facilities during peak periods, you get blackouts.*
> > --
> > *Jim Pennino*
> >
> > *Remove -spam-sux to reply.*

--
Jim Pennino
Remove -spam-sux to reply.