

# Siberia Gripped by Extreme Cold, Power Outages

December 11, 2023



Abakan, Khakassia. [vk.com/incident\\_abk](https://vk.com/incident_abk)

Towns and villages across Siberia have been hit by a succession of power outages as freezing temperatures grip much of the region, Russian media outlets [reported](#) Monday.

Temperatures over the weekend fell to as low as minus 40 degrees Celsius in the Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk, and Tyumen regions, as well as the republics of Buryatia and Khakassia — all of them 2,500 kilometers or more east of Moscow.

One person [reportedly](#) died after inhaling smoke from a diesel generator in the Krasnoyarsk region, where several towns were left without heating over the weekend, according to Sibir.Realii.

Irkutsk region Governor Igor Kobzev [said](#) Monday that authorities in the town of Tulun, with a population of some 45,000 people, were responding to a boiler accident that left an unspecified number of households without heating.

“Temporary accommodation centers are ready in case the situation deteriorates,” Kobzev wrote on the messaging app Telegram.

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Meanwhile, residents in a closed military town outside the city of Tyumen were left without heating for [four days](#) after a central heating system failure, local media reported.

Outside the Buryat capital of Ulan-Ude, residents [recorded](#) video addresses for President Vladimir Putin ahead of his annual call-in show, complaining about requests from local authorities to [reduce](#) their energy consumption.

In the republic of Khakassia, similar addresses were recorded by villagers who were forced to [take shelter](#) at an airport for warmth, blaming regional authorities for ignoring their plight.

“We’re freezing, Vladimir Vladimirovich [Putin]. Please help, you’re our only hope,” one of the residents of the village of Kalinino said in a video.

“We can’t heat our food, keep warm, take a bath, go to the bathroom,” she continued.

Khakassia Governor Valentin Konovalov [blamed](#) crypto miners for power

for causing an emergency with electricity supplies in a district that accounts for one-third of the region’s population of 530,000.

He ordered weekly inspections in the Ust-Abaknsky district to cut off supplies for excess energy consumers.

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