



Major Power Outage Hits Far East Russia

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Power disruptions leave the streets in the dark in Vladivostok. **Yuri Smityuk / TASS**

At least two regions in Russia's Far East faced blackouts on Friday after authorities held previously scheduled regionwide power outage drills.

People [reported](#) being stuck in traffic, at shopping malls and inside elevators in the regions of Khabarovsk and Primorye, where the city of Vladivostok is located.

Earlier, the Primorye region's Energy Ministry [announced](#) that it held a "scheduled emergency response exercise related to the shutdown of a high-voltage power line."

"As part of the drill, a situation room was assembled to establish cooperation to quickly restore power supply to consumers," the ministry said in a statement.

The Far Eastern Distribution Grid Company DRSK, which took part in the drills, [said](#) the outages were linked to "equipment failure" at one of the units of the Primorskaya thermal power plant.

Acting Primorye region Energy Minister Yelena Shish [called](#) the outage after the drill a

“coincidence” in comments to the Kremlin-linked Telegram news channel Shot.

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