

# Prepare For a Grid-Down Scenario

November 4, 2013 by [Bob Livingston](#)

*Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: I am providing this as a “just in case, FYI”. I have no idea as to whether the “drill” will become the real things or not. But this article is accurate about the disastrous consequences associated with a long term power outage, if and when it occurs.*



On Nov. 13-14, America’s major electricity generating companies along with the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and government agencies in Canada and Mexico will conduct a drill to test system responses to cyberattacks and physical attacks on the North American electrical grid that cause its widespread failure.

The drill is called [GridEx II](#), and it moves the threat of a total electrical blackout that sends the country back into the 19<sup>th</sup> century from the stuff of science fiction and/or tinfoil hattery to the mainstream. According to [The New York Times](#), the drill is designed to practice for a crisis unlike anything the real grid has ever seen, and more than 150 companies and organizations have signed up to participate.

“This is different from a hurricane that hits X, Y and Z counties in the Southeast and they have a loss of power for three or four days,” said the official in charge of the drill, Brian M. Harrell of the [North American Electric Reliability Corporation](#), known as NERC. “We really want to go beyond that.”

One goal of the drill... is to explore how governments would react as the loss of the grid crippled the supply chain for everyday necessities.

Should the grid collapse, those with medical conditions requiring machines to keep them alive or stable could be in trouble quickly, but most people could easily survive without power for two or three days. It’s not unusual for major storms to knock out power for that long. But longer-term power outages turn into desperate situations as water and food run low and/or generators run out of fuel. Google Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy to see how some people fared during long-term localized outages.

A nationwide outage would quickly become catastrophic. Communications would be down; water and sewer wouldn’t function; the supply chain would stop, causing grocery shelves to be rendered bare within hours; and the banking system would crash. Government services, often overwhelmed with localized outages, would be completely inadequate.

Within days, the weak and infirm would be dead from dehydration. Those living hand-to-mouth or subsisting on government handouts would become desperate, and rioting and looting would become rampant. Look to recent food stamp riots and headlines following Black Friday shopping madness incidents for a look at how quickly people turn into animals when they feel they are being deprived or unfairly treated over even the most trivial of things. If the grid stays down for weeks or longer, civilization as we understand it will break down completely as more people become thirsty, hungry and increasingly desperate.

Government functionaries and electric company talking heads have said for many years that the electrical grid is vulnerable to terrorist attack. One of the GridEx II scenarios has a person breaking into a substation as if to steal copper but instead uploading a virus that shuts down the system. But the grid is also in danger from an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) weapon attack or even ...

*To read this article in its entirety, go to:*

<http://personalliberty.com/2013/11/04/prepare-for-a-grid-down-scenario/>