

8/21/2003 Moran to Meet with Kansas Power Industry Officials

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Discussions to Focus on Electrical Service for Kansas Consumers

GREAT BEND - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that he will be meeting with electric and power company officials from across the state to discuss what is being done in Kansas to avoid a blackout similar to the one that hampered the northeastern U.S. late last week.

"Last week's blackout is a cause of much concern for the U.S. and for Kansas," Moran said. "While the Northeast works to get their electricity and systems operational, we need to look at the safeguards that Kansas has in place to prevent a similar occurrence."

Last week, the largest blackout in U.S. history left millions of Americans in the Northeast without power. The purpose of next week's meeting will be to examine what has been done to prevent a similar incident in Kansas, as well as make certain the state is doing all it can export surplus power to assist other parts of the country. In addition, Moran is seeking input on energy legislation facing Congress.

The meeting will include officials from Kansas Electric Power Cooperatives, Inc.; Kansas Electric Cooperatives; Midwest Energy of Hays; Westar Energy of Topeka; Kansas City Power and Light of Kansas City, Missouri; Sunflower Electric Power Corporation of Hays; Kansas Municipal Utilities of McPherson and other rural electric cooperatives. The meeting is planned for August 26th in Great Bend.

"These are the experts in electricity in Kansas and the people that light our homes," Moran concluded. "I look forward to meeting with these officials to see what steps they are taken to protect our state, and to get their ideas on the energy bill Congress is considering this fall."

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