

NEWS RELEASE

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CONSERVATION ALERT: Customers asked to conserve, prepare for rolling outages on O'ahu due to plant shutdown

HONOLULU, July 31, 2024 – Due to a shortage of generation capacity, Hawaiian Electric may be forced to turn off power to selected areas of O'ahu beginning at about 6 p.m.

Based on current demand forecasts, Hawaiian Electric will not have sufficient generation during the evening, when customer demand is highest. To balance the amount of generation and demand, customers should prepare for rotating outages in various parts of the island lasting approximately 30 minutes. The duration of any outages may vary depending on the amount of generation available at the time.

The situation is dynamic and Hawaiian Electric will provide regular updates on its social media channels.

The generation shortfall is the result of the unexpected loss of the largest independently-owned power plant on the island. At around 1 a.m., the 208-megawatt plant operated by Kalaeloa Partners suddenly went offline with the rupture of an underground pipe that is necessary for operations. Hawaiian Electric is working on restarting other generating units that have been undergoing maintenance and will rely solar energy systems, available wind power and battery energy storage systems to help make up the shortfall of generation during the day.

Hawaiian Electric is using companywide resources and working to return generating units to service as soon as possible. Customer conservation will also help. Kalaeloa Partners expects repairs to its plant may take three days. Until those repairs are complete, rotating outages during times of peak demand may be necessary and customers are being asked to reduce their use of electricity, especially during the evening.

If needed, the approximately 30-minute outages will rotate through the following areas in this order:

- Waipahu, sections of Pearl City, Kunia, Ewa Beach
- Waiawa, Crestview, Mililani, Kunia, Waimalu, Upper Kipapa areas
- Pearl City, Waimalu
- Majority of leeward areas
- Lower Kalihi, sections of Upper Kalihi
- Kaka'ako
- Sections of Kahala
- Sections of Kaimuki and Kapahulu
- Majority of Kaimuki, sections of Kapi'olani Boulevard and Waikiki

- University of Hawai'i Mānoa campus, Mānoa
- Nu'uanu and School Street area

Because of recent large outages, downtown, Chinatown and Hawai'i Kai aren't included in the outage rotation for July 31.

Customers – including hotels and large commercial customers are being asked to reduce their electricity use as much as possible, especially between 5 and 9 p.m. For residential customers, turning off air conditioners and unneeded lighting, shutting off water heaters and pumps, and shifting activities like cooking, showering, laundry, and dishwashing to the daytime, when solar is abundant, is also recommended. Customers are advised to turn off and unplug any unnecessary electrical equipment, especially sensitive electronics. If an outage occurs, this will prevent damage to the equipment from surges when power is restored.

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