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Downed Line Blamed for Hiawatha Area Power Outage

(KNZA)-A downed line is blamed for a power outage in the Hiawatha area late last night.

Gina Penzig, director of corporate communications for Westar Energy, says they had a line burn down resulting from the moisture in the area yesterday.

Penzig says sometimes when dust collects on the equipment and there is a light amount of moisture it creates a conduit. She says it will start to smolder and burn the line down.

Penzig says the power outage occurred around 10:30 last night and initial affected about 26-hundred customers.

She says crews were able to restore power to most of the customers within an hour, however there were a few who didn't have power restored until around 2 o'clock this morning.

Many Signals Communications