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11% of Atchison County Without Power Sunday

(KAIR) -- Around 11 percent of Westar Energy customers were without power in Atchison for 45 minutes Sunday morning.

At its peak, 782 of seven thousand 86 Westar customers were listed on their web site without power for the county.

The power first went out at 8:58 and deactivated traffic lights at both 5th and 6th and Kansas Avenue in Atchison.

Atchison Police were stationed at the intersections until 9:25 when city crews placed four-way stop signs up.

However, minutes after the signs were put in place, a Lincoln SUV heading southbound on 5th Street struck the stop-sign and the driver was not injured.

Several police units were on the scene to re-direct traffic until the stop sign was repaired.

Power was restored at 9:43.

According to Westar Spokeswoman Gina Penzig, a cause to the outage is currently unknown and remains under investigation.

Many Signals Communications