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Kazan Blackout Hits 80,000

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An explosion at the Leninskaya power station in Kazan, apparently caused by a malfunctioning transformer, left 80,000 residents, as well as a hospital and three kindergartens, without electricity early Tuesday, Interfax reported.

Power supply to the hospital and the kindergartens was restored in 20 minutes, but it took more than 10 hours to do the same with all 232 apartment buildings hit by the blackout, the Tatarstan branch of the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

No one was injured during the incident, but the walls of the three-story station building were destroyed. Restoring the station will take about a month, a Kazan City Hall source said. ◙

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