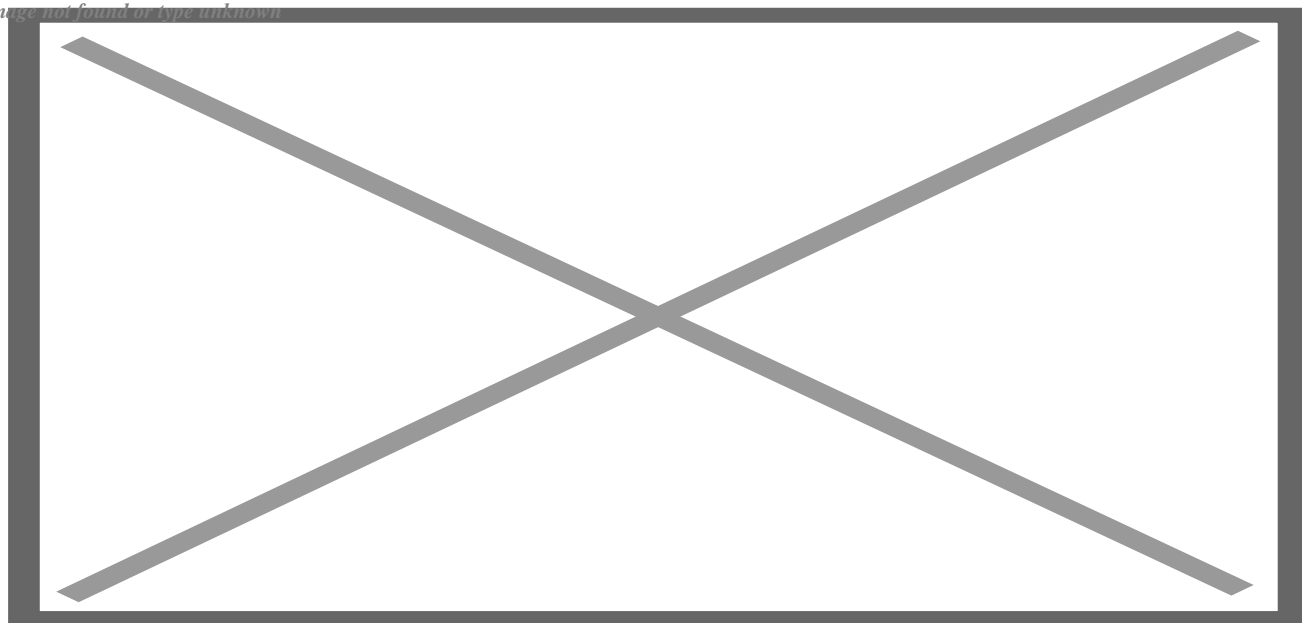


Cuba prioritizes basic services in the face of power disconnection

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Havana, December 4 (RHC) -- Cuba is prioritizing the operation of basic services to the population, in the face of the disconnection of the National Electric System (SEN) early Wednesday morning after the unexpected shutdown of one of its thermoelectric plants.

According to the Electric Union, a dozen hospitals and 35 circuits in Havana are energized as a result of the work to reactivate SEN.

These circuits are located in the municipalities of Guanabacoa, Boyeros, Habana del Este, Centro Habana, Cerro and Marianao.

According to the Ministry of Energy and Mines, distributed generation islands are already operating throughout the country, and several generating units are ready to start up, while microsystems are activated to guarantee the pumping of water and other basic services.

These micro-islands are currently generating 220 megawatts.

Likewise, in the city of Matanzas, the circuits of the Faustino Pérez Hospital, the communications repeater and the television antenna of La Cumbre, located on top of a hill, the highest point of the neighborhood of the same name, are in service.

Villa Clara, for its part, built two circuits with a group of diesel engines from the industrial zone of the city of Santa Clara.

The central zone of the country is fed by the generation of the Hanabanilla hydroelectric plant, which will be linked to the engines of the Cienfuegos refinery to reach Energías Varadero, the entity that regulates frequency.

Given this step, it will be possible to reach with energy for the start-up of the Antonio Guiteras Thermoelectric Plant (CTE) in Matanzas, in the evening tonight, experts informed Cubadebate.

In the eastern region, the Moa engines are being started to start the CTE Felton (Holguín) and Renté (Santiago de Cuba), while unit 5 of Nuevitas, Camagüey, will begin to start up to supply energy to the center.

Specialists explained on national television that the recovery of the SEN is a gradual process, with the purpose of avoiding a new disconnection that slows down its restoration. (PL)

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