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CFE System Failure Causes Nationwide Power Outage in Belize

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) is working to restore power supply to the entire country after the Company suffered an interruption in supply around 4:45 this evening when BEL's main supplier of electricity, Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) in Mexico, experienced a system failure at its Xulha Substation.

BEL responded to the loss of power by using its own generation facilities; the Gas Turbine; local diesel generators and the Mollejon hydroelectric plant.

Power was restored to all of Belize City by 5:30 p.m. and BEL is now supplying 75% of the country with power from the local generation facilities. BEL has commenced a schedule rotating power outages until power supply is restored from CFE.

CFE has indicated that the problem at its substation should be resolved later tonight. The Mexican utility typically supplies BEL with more than half of its power via the 115KV transmission line.

END