

From the Planners' Bookshelf...

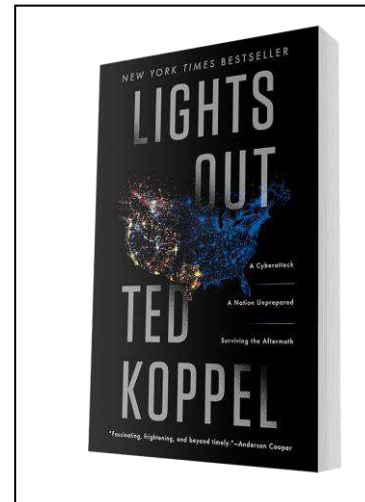
Lights Out: A Cyberattack, A Nation Unprepared, Surviving the Aftermath

by [Ted Koppel](#), Crown Publishing Group, NY, 2015.

Implications for Small Cities and Towns.

Electricity is the essential infrastructure in America's economy and society. Small cities and towns have it within their power to establish plans, processes and systems to create a degree of energy self-sufficiency and sustainability for their residents and businesses. While conservation is a big part of the city's ultimate system, alternative means for generating power independent of the regional and national grid is the key.

Lights Out tells us about the potential problem, local planning will tell each community about the solutions. The general opinion is that access to energy is beyond the purview of small cities and towns, but it need not be. Alternative energy sources, co-generation, micro-generation plants and other options and combinations are becoming available. The challenge is to believe this is a problem with a local solution.



Summary from Amazon, excerpt.

“In this *New York Times* bestselling investigation, Ted Koppel reveals that a major cyberattack on America’s power grid is not only possible but likely, that it would be devastating, and that the United States is shockingly unprepared.

“Imagine a blackout lasting not days, but weeks or months. Tens of millions of people over several states are affected. For those without access to a generator, there is no running water, no sewage, no refrigeration or light. Food and medical supplies are dwindling. Devices we rely on have gone dark. Banks no longer function, looting is widespread, and law and order are being tested as never before.

“And yet, as Koppel makes clear, the federal government, while well prepared for natural disasters, has no plan for the aftermath of an attack on the power grid. The current Secretary of Homeland Security suggests keeping a battery-powered radio.”

Reviews.

In this tour de force of investigative reporting, Ted Koppel reveals that a devastating cyberattack on America’s power grid is not only possible but likely and that the United States is shockingly unprepared.

“This is not science fiction. Hats off to Ted Koppel for putting us all on alert.” –TOM BROKAW

“Without a single bullet, bomb, or missile, a foreign enemy can now launch a devastating attack on the United States... I hope he's wrong about the danger but fear he's right on the mark.” – ERIC SCHLOSSER, author of 'Command and Control' and 'Fast Food Nation'.