

3,500 MidAmerican customers lose power in Des Moines

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Nearly 3,500 Des Moines residents were without power for at least an hour Wednesday afternoon.

Abby Bottenfield, a spokeswoman for MidAmerican Energy, said an equipment malfunction caused a pole fire about 4:30 p.m., leaving many residents in the Beaverdale neighborhood without power.

Power was restored to more than 2,200 of those customers by 5:30 p.m. and, an hour later, only a handful of homes were still affected while the company worked to replace the damaged pole.

The company is investigating why the equipment malfunctioned.