

NETWORK DISRUPTION BINGO

☞ The Rules.

The network in question must be off for at least *two weeks*. Outages must be at list *city-wide* to count; if at *national* level, score double. Brownouts and intermittent network coverage don't qualify: off means off.

| Rank | Network | What you can look forward to | Points |
|------|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| 10 | Aviation | You can live without it, but it's a bit weird. The concept of 'islands' starts to make more sense. International companies feel the impacts immediately. Oh, and you're holidaying in Skegness. | 10 points |
| 9 | Waste collection | Big impact on morale, this one. Yeah, you can always bury the stuff in your garden or a local park, but your neighbourhood looks <i>depressing</i> , and smells worse. You start to see rats. | 20 points |
| 8 | Mobile phone | Okay, this is beyond a joke. Your <i>social life's</i> getting affected. You're late to meet friends, and all you can do is twiddle your thumbs. And a word to all of you who gave up those 'anachronistic' landlines: 'fail'. | 50 points |
| 7 | Public transport | It may be hard to envisage the road network going down, but rail, bus and metro? That's a different story. Now you can't get in to <i>work</i> . Maybe you won't get <i>paid</i> . Can't the <i>government</i> do something? | 300 points |
| 6 | Natural gas | Cooking –off. Heating – off. Energy intensive industries – off. <i>Hot water</i> – off. WTF! Bet you wish you'd invested in a couple of dozen kilos of butane <i>now</i> . Oh, it's winter? Red Cross emergency centre, here you come. | 600 points |
| 5 | Telecoms and internet | Never mind 'you can't into work': there <i>is</i> no work. No social life either. There's no <i>twitter</i> , for heaven's sake. It's quiet. Too quiet. You didn't know your neighbours? You do now. | 850 points |
| 4 | Electricity | Ooh, mama. Now you're in cascading failure territory: cellphones and internet are down too. You're up at 4, in bed by 8. There's a <i>reason</i> why electricity is the top post-conflict quick impact project, you realise. | 1000 points |
| 3 | Supermarket supply chains | It's getting a bit scary. People are using the words 'Max' and 'Mad', and not because they're off to rent a movie. Food riots and hoarding are well underway. Black markets appear. The army is deployed. Time to befriend a farmer. | 2500 points |
| 2 | Oil | The IEA's emergency mechanism kicks in. The clock's ticking: OECD stocks only total 52 days' worth. Supply chains – of all kinds, from international to local– start to wind down. It's shotgun and canned food time. | 5000 points |
| 1= | Global electronic money | The situation just went medieval. Barter economies crop up: the going rate is a diamond earring for 2 sacks of potatoes. Local currencies emerge too - but can you trust that people will still be willing to accept them in a week's time? | 10000 points |
| 1 = | Water | Not as 21 st century as electronic money, perhaps, but certainly as effective in its impact on your lifestyle. Wide-scale cholera outbreaks now a racing certainty. Time to start a hygiene regimen and abandon the city. | 10000 points |

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