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Colombia: Costs Of Electricity Rationing

by Barbara Khol
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On May 13 in Cali, deputy energy minister Alejandro Martinez told reporters that according to a recent report by the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), electricity rationing is costing Colombia US$140 million per month. Projected GDP for 1992 has been reduced by 0.5%. Since March, the government has applied electricity rationing throughout the country. Blackouts range from nine to 15 hours per day. Martinez said over 20 megawatts of electricity will be purchased from Venezuela and Ecuador in the next few months to alleviate the power shortage. Daily newspaper El Tiempo reported on May 5 that power rationing will continue through year-end. [Basic data from El Tiempo (Colombia), 05/05/92; Spanish news service EFE, 05/13/92]

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