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Colombia: World Bank Sets Conditions On Next Installment Of Electricity Sector Loan

by John Neagle

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According to unidentified Colombian government officials cited by Xinhua on April 26, the World Bank has set a deadline for Colombia to cut power drains by at least 24% in the country's electricity distribution system. In 1988, losses resulting from technical problems and "unauthorized" use totaled 70 billion pesos. If Colombia fails to meet the deadline, delivery will be suspended of the second installment of a \$150 million loan earmarked for electricity generation and distribution. In this event, release of a \$300 million loan from Japan's Import-Export Bank for the same project would also be suspended.

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