

## Insights



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## **Distributed Energy And Grid Management: A High-Tech Opportunity**

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### **The Wake-up Call**

On Aug. 14, 2003, just after 4:10 p.m., large parts of the Northeastern and Midwestern U.S. and parts of Canada suffered one of the worst blackouts in history. Over 55 million people had no power. The good news was that this was a wake-up call for the sorry state of the North American transmission infrastructure, commonly referred to as the “grid,” described at the time as tantamount to running modern-day telephone communication through an operator switchboard.

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