

IMMEDIATE

# BLACKOUT

## Ordered By The Federal Government OPM Issues Order To Meet Critical Power Shortage

The electric power situation in North Carolina and the whole Southeast is critical. On the one hand, National Defense requirements have caused a 25 per cent increase in the use of power. On the other, below normal rainfall has reduced the stream flows and lowered the hydro-electric storage lakes.

To meet the record demand, in spite of scanty supplies of water. The town of Murphy has joined with other public and private power-producing agencies have depleted their storage supplies.

Unless the withdrawal of water from the reservoirs is stopped immediately the whole power supply of this area, including power for National Defense and essential civilian uses, will be endangered.

To effect an immediate reduction in the use of power, the Office of Production Management has issued the following order:

### OPM ORDER

The use of electric power for non-essential purposes is prohibited. This order is effective IMMEDIATELY.. Non-essential purposes mean specifically: sign lighting; show-window lighting; outline and ornamental lighting; outdoor lighting, flood lighting or field lighting for amusements or sports; and interior or exterior lighting for decorative or advertising purposes.

### EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 10

In addition to the total restrictions on non-essential lighting, which are already in force, the

OPM order provides that large industrial and commercial consumers, those using more than 10,000 kilowatt hours a month, will be required to reduce their consumption by 30 per cent. This order becomes effective November 10 unless heavy general rains over the Southeast should relieve the shortage of water.

The saving of electricity by homes is voluntary, but everyone is asked to help.

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The Town of Murphy Electrical Department urges all of our commercial customers to comply at once with the order discontinuing non-essential lighting, because a serious emergency exists.

### THIS SITUATION IS WORSE THAN IT WAS LAST SUMMER.

This power curtailment program differs from the one of last summer in that it is MANDATORY. It was put on that basis by the OPM for several reasons: the power shortage is South-wide; a central agency is needed to administer a program affecting several states and dozens of public and private power systems; the seriousness of the power shortage makes it necessary that IMMEDIATE, definite steps be taken, affecting everybody alike.

We are backing this to the limit ourselves because we know the necessity for it. We are confident that our customers will give their support also.

We ask your support because even a mandatory program will not work unless the People are behind it

# Town of Murphy Electrical Department