

Backup Power

Helping Ensure Network Availability



Site #43154, 203' lattice tower, Oakville, WA

Mobile device users expect their wireless networks to be up and keeping them connected 24/7. Service disruptions caused by power outages can happen anywhere at any time, making backup power at communications sites a priority. Reasons for outages can vary:

- Weather events and natural disasters can disrupt utility service—from localized to regional outages.
- Vandalism and theft at utility substations can knock out power to wide service areas.
- The U.S. power distribution grid is aging and stretched to capacity. Equipment failures and high-energy demands cause regular brownouts and blackouts across the country.

American Tower Backup Power Solution in 2020:

90,000+

Hours of power provided due to outages

99.999% Available up time

93.5%

Sites activated—our generators are strategically located in high-traffic areas vulnerable to outages

LEARN MORE

To further discuss how our Backup Power program helps to ensure network availability or if you have any questions:

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Our Solution

The American Tower Backup Power solution provides customers on-site backup generators to keep their site-mounted communications equipment online during power outages. As a nationwide tower company offering a shared backup power solution, our program has the scale, performance, and efficiency to ensure sites have power—no matter the circumstances.

Scale

American Tower recognized the importance of network resiliency and developed this solution from the ground up. Since the program's inception in 2010, we've developed solutions to provide backup power coverage to customers of all sizes.

- 4,600+ sites with backup power generators nationwide.
- Power can be sized to fit customers' needs.
- Our generators have provided 420,000+ hours of power due to outages, since the program's inception.

Efficiency

Improving site resiliency is crucial to ensuring network availability, but requires a significant amount of resources, including installing, monitoring, refueling, and storm preparedness. Our proven solution provides a turnkey service and frees resources, so carriers can focus on other business priorities.

- The American Tower Network Operations Center (NOC) monitors sites 24/7.
- Generators can deliver for up to 100 hours before refueling is required.
- Remote monitoring of generators keeps us informed of current conditions and status, with real-time data.
- Refueling is automatically triggered when 60% tank capacity is reached.
- Thorough preventive maintenance protocols ensure our generators are ready for service when sites experience a power outage.
- Weekly automated testing ensures operations and performance at all times. Scheduled load-bank testing simulates operational load and evaluates capacity to deliver power.
- Storm preparedness protocols ensure equipment is operational and ready. Fueling, service, and repair are dispatched immediately when required.

Performance

Reliability and uptime are the highest priority when it comes to providing backup power at communications sites. With regular service, scheduled maintenance, and remote testing and monitoring, we've created a reliable solution, and our statistics speak for themselves.

Our shared Backup Power solution prevents customers from needing to purchase and install generators, frees up their internal resources, reduces the number of generators on-site—and the subsequent services and repairs—and leaves the burden of hardening sites to an experienced provider.