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Lessons Learned from a Site-Wide Power Outage

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On January 19th, 2010, a series of powerful thunderstorms knocked out all power to the SLAC site (and surrounding areas). While the SLAC Facilities personnel worked to restore power to the computer center and the rest of the site, Computing Division planned for restoring services. This included setting priorities for such things as business systems needed to prepare the payroll and servers needed by the Fermi Gamma-Ray Space Telescope to process their data in a timely manner. I will describe problems that arose, what solutions were found, and what lessons were learned to minimize the impact of futures and streamline recovery from them.

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