



OFF-PREMISES POWER FAILURE: A COSTLY (& DARK) EXPOSURE

Will insurance cover spoiled food after a power outage? The answer depends on the source of the outage and your insurance coverage.



Food Spoilage After a Power Failure

- Meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, milk and other perishable foods that have not been properly refrigerated or frozen can cause illness when eaten.
- Each item needs to be evaluated individually. If there is any doubt about the safety, the item should be thrown out.

Insurance Considerations

- Many standard commercial insurance policies exclude losses stemming from off-site power outages or damage to overhead power lines.
- If a power outage in your area impacts your store, you may not have coverage.
- An endorsement can expand protection to include coverage for damages caused by off-premises events and to include both spoilage of perishables and loss of income.

If a Power Outage Occurs



- Call the utility company immediately. Make sure the number is posted clearly.
- Reduce the risk of spoilage by keeping doors to refrigerators, freezers and walk-in coolers closed. Also consider adding dry ice or relocating perishable food if necessary.
- Power outages and surges can damage appliances. See your instruction manuals for information on how to reduce damage.
- Identify spoiled products and document the spoilage with photos before disposal.
- Take photos of the damaged product.
- Contact your insurer immediately.

Joe Scarpello:

jscarpello@riskpointins.com

253.444.5584

CONTACT US TODAY!



RISKPOINT
INSURANCE ADVISORS

Melissa Johnson:

mjohnson@riskpointins.com

253.444.5654