
IRAN CUTS GAS TO IRAQ, TURNING POWER CRISIS INTO POLITICAL LEVERAGE

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Iraq is grappling with a major energy shock after Iranian gas supplies, which account for up to 40 percent of the countrys power needs, were completely halted on Tuesday, the Iraqi Ministry of Electricity confirmed. The stoppage has immediately cut 4,000 to 4,500 megawatts from Iraqs electricity grid, leaving millions of citizens, particularly in central and southern regions, facing prolonged blackouts.

The Iranian side sent a telegram informing the Ministry of Electricity of the complete cessation of gas supplies due to unforeseen circumstances, an official statement said. The disruption stems from the shutdown of some power generation units and load shedding at others, exacerbating Iraqs chronic electricity deficit.

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