

As more of the public receive their telephone service from IP networks and fiber optic service these lines provide no service in a power failure. There is supposed to be a battery backup but it does not work, in many cases because the batteries are drained. The service providers have made no attempt to remedy this situation, indeed many neighbors on the same service are not even told that there is a battery backup and there are no procedures to replace depleted batteries. Many have learned this year, with all of the severe storms, is that if you don't have a cell phone in power outages you have no service. What ever happened to the concept of life line POTS?