



Report regarding recent AT&T outage (implicit request for legislative ACTION, please, from your constituent)

1 message

Gordon Watts <gww1210@gmail.com> Thu, Feb 22, 2024 at 4:59 PM

To: web@virginiafoxx.com, Virginia.Foxx@mail.house.gov, Virginia.Foxx.Enews@mail.house.gov, bryan.mcvae@mail.house.gov, Foy, Taylor (Grassley) <Taylor_Foy@grassley.senate.gov>, Sanchez, Taylor (Rubio) <Taylor_Sanchez@rubio.senate.gov>, Logan_Turner@rubio.senate.gov, Mar@marcorubio.com, Team Marco <contact@marcorubio.com>, luis_laracuente@rickscott.senate.gov, Hodgdon, Alden (Rick Scott) <alden_hodgdon@rickscott.senate.gov>, voice <voice@theledger.com>, tampa@tampabay.com
Cc: alex.ives@mail.house.gov, carson.middleton@mail.house.gov, FLSchedReq15@mail.house.gov, Laurel.Lee@mail.house.gov, Grace.Bartlinski@mail.house.gov, LaurelLeePress@mail.house.gov, info@votelaurel.com, Laurel@votelaurel.com, laurelmllee@gmail.com, david.garcia2@mail.house.gov, Hannah.So@mail.house.gov, Megan.Deusenberry@mail.house.gov, Kevin.O'Keefe@mail.house.gov, kevin.jogerst@mail.house.gov, kevin.reilly@mail.house.gov, nicholas.adams@mail.house.gov, dana.garcia@mail.house.gov, Gww1210@aol.com <gww1210@aol.com>, gordon <Gordon@contractwithamerica2.com>

FROM: Gordon Wayne Watts

TO: My lawmakers, plus selected other trusted lawmakers to keep you in the loop

SUBJECT: Report regarding recent AT&T outage (implicit request for legislative ACTION, please, from your constituent)

DATE: Thursday, 22 February 2024

⚡ ⚠️ BREAKING-- AT&T EXPERIENCES MAJOR, NATIONWIDE OUTAGE-- MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION 🔍 SOLAR FLARES, CYBER-HACKING, AND SIM CARD REGISTRATION ISSUES EXPLORED AS POSSIBLE CAUSES

By Gordon Wayne Watts, Science Editor and Editor-in-Chief, THE REGISTER, Published: Thursday, 22 February 2024

As reported by CNN and many other major news outlets, AT&T went down nationwide early Thursday morning (22 February 2024), leaving many customers without phone, text, or Internet, and including temporary 911 outages in some parts of the southeastern United States.

"AT&T says massive outage is mostly resolved, as authorities probe what caused the system failure," by Catherine Thorbecke, Melissa Alonso, and Brian Fung, CNN, 8 minute read; Updated 3:08 PM (EST), Thursday, 22 February 2024, LINKS:

** <https://www.CNN.com/2024/02/22/tech/att-cell-service-outage/index.html>

** <https://Archive.vn/HvgHi>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240222191416/https://www.cnn.com/2024/02/22/tech/att-cell-service-outage/index.html>

** [[⚠️ Archives included in case grid goes down further, to hedge bets and give "backup pages" as a "spare," in case another "flat tire" occurs on the "Internet Highway."--SCIENCE EDITOR, GORDON WAYNE WATTS, THE REGISTER, & Natl Dir, CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: PART II®™]]

FOX also reported that the nationwide outage which hit AT&T customers nationwide also affected Verizon and T-Mobile users:

"Cellphone outage hits AT&T customers nationwide; Verizon and T-Mobile users also affected: AT&T service down in major cities across US," by Pilar Arias FOXBusiness, Published February 22, 2024 7:15am (EST) ; Updated February 22, 2024 1:03pm (EST), LINKS:

** <https://www.Google.com/amp/s/www.foxbusiness.com/lifestyle/cell-phone-outage-hits-att-customers-nationwide-verizon-tmobile-users-also-affected.amp>

** <https://www.FoxBusiness.com/lifestyle/cell-phone-outage-hits-att-customers-nationwide-verizon-tmobile-users-also-affected>

** <https://Archive.vn/d7stA>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240222170205/https://www.foxbusiness.com/lifestyle/cell-phone-outage-hits-att-customers-nationwide-verizon-tmobile-users-also-affected>

SPACE.COM also reported that two very powerful, X-CLASS, solar flares (the most powerful type) erupted from the sun as the cellphone outage peaked, and reported that it remained unclear whether the solar flares were related to the outage.

"Powerful twin solar flares erupt from sun as cell phone outages spike across US: It remains unclear if there is a connection between the two events.," by Brett Tingley, [SPACE.COM](https://www.Space.com), Published Thursday, 22 February 2024, LINKS:

** <https://www.Space.com/sun-2-solar-flares-february-22-2024-cell-phone-outages>

** <https://Archive.vn/g5dYL>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240222161755/https://www.Space.com/sun-2-solar-flares-february-22-2024-cell-phone-outages>

Solar Flares are widely known, among the scientific community, as a source of interference and damage to radio, satellite, and electronic equipment, as the "Protect the Grid" research/ advocacy resource at this link details:

** <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#grid>

** <https://Archive.vn/laznT#grid>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240110052842/https://contractwithamerica2.com/#grid>

A published scientific paper by REGISTER Science Editor, and Editor-in-Chief, Gordon Wayne Watts, explores the related phenomena in layman's terms, with scientific research to document the claims:

"Probability estimation of a catastrophic Carrington-like geomagnetic storm: Re-evaluated in new light of upcoming Maunder Minimum and recent decreases in geomagnetic field, after recent studies came to conflicting conclusions; Proposed solutions for citizens and lawmakers," by Gordon Wayne Watts, A.S. United Electronics Institute, Valedictorian; B.S. The Florida State University, Biological & Chemical Sciences, Double major with honours, ACADEMIA, Published 10-2-2019; Last updated 10-5-2019; LINKS:

** https://www.Academia.edu/40529432/WATTS_SolarFlarePAPER

PDF file format:

** <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/SolarFlarePAPER.pdf>

** <https://web.archive.org/web/20201017225700/https://gordonwatts.com/SolarFlarePAPER.pdf>

Web-Page (*.html) format:

** <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/SolarFlarePAPER.html>

** <https://Archive.vn/VnTI5>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20200518141112/https://gordonwatts.com/SolarFlarePAPER.html>

Further investigation by THE REGISTER seems to cast doubt on the "solar flare" theory regarding this particular AT&T outage:

First, as FOX previously reported, Verizon claimed that their network was operating normally and only had issues when their customers were calling or texting with customers served by another carrier, implying the problem was specific to AT&T's network. FOX BUSINESS' claims are supported by CNN, which, as referenced above, reported that "Although Verizon and T-Mobile customers reported some network outages, too, they appeared far less widespread. T-Mobile and Verizon said their networks were unaffected by AT&T's service outage and customers reporting outages may have been unable to reach customers who use AT&T."

Secondly, as WMAR reports, the solar flare affected the sunlit portion of the earth, not the night region, which was around 1:30am when the solar flare hit, and right before the appropriately 4am reports of outages beginning--also in the night region at 4am.

WMAR further reports that "cell phones run on a different signal than what the radiation was effecting," which implies that the effects, if any, would be small.

"Last night's solar flare did not cause the cell phone outage: The outage and solar flare coincidentally happened around the same time...," by Cesar Cornejo, WMAR--ABC (BALTIMORE), Posted at 11:06 AM, Feb 22, 2024 ; Last updated 12:04 PM, Feb 22, 2024, LINKS:

** <https://www.wmar2news.com/weather/weather-blogs/last-nights-solar-flare-did-not-cause-the-cell-phone-outage>

** <https://Archive.vn/I8mWX>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240222194207/https://www.wmar2news.com/weather/weather-blogs/last-nights-solar-flare-did-not-cause-the-cell-phone-outage>

Nonetheless, solar flares have previously been the cause of AT&T outages, as recent as 1972, as FOX 5 DC reports: "According to our sister-station in Orlando, the important distinction here is that AT&T was made up of landlines. The solar flare back in the 70s created a voltage on the physical lines."

The current network used by AT&T relies much less on landlines to transmit data, thus less vulnerable to solar flare damage or interference.

FOX 5 DC goes on to report that FOX 35 Meteorologist, Brooks Garner, believes the outage in question seemed to stem from a SIM card database registry issue, apparently unique to AT&T. Quoting this article, they go on to report: ""Now, it is possible the X_class flare had impacts to the voltage on some electronics, but since this is so specific to AT&T and not other carriers, it's likely not space weather related," said Brooks," a reasonable assessment according to our science researchers at THE REGISTER.

"AT&T outage? Here's what we know and when service could be back up," by FOX 5 DC Digital Team, Published Thursday, 22 February 2024, LINKS:

** <https://www.Fox5DC.com/news/att-national-outage-heres-what-we-know-and-when-service-could-be-back-up.amp>

** <https://Archive.vn/goOYC>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240222193512/https://www.fox5dc.com/news/att-national-outage-heres-what-we-know-and-when-service-could-be-back-up.amp>

As previously reported by CNN, the FBI and Department of Homeland Security are investigating this matter, and it is a developing story.

THE REGISTER recommends readers avail themselves of the scientific research linked above, both in order to know how to guide/direct state and federal lawmakers (to harden, protect, and secure our fragile power and telecommunications grid), as well as tips for "ordinary citizens" to survive/ thrive in a "grid down" scenario-- when lawmakers inevitably fail to protect the grid and fail us-- with tips for readers, including (but not limited to) use of Faraday Cages and Surge Protectors to protect vulnerable electronic equipment, archival data backup systems, food/water storage, and related guidelines, such as unplugging unused equipment as when lightening is a threat-- as well as forecasting solar events and creating guidelines and emergency plans for "black start" and "grid hardening" measures that will improve resiliency and recovery, and research, preparation, & review of emergency plans for EMP & solar geomagnetic event scenarios (like is done with hurricanes and earthquakes).

Links of interest:

** <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#grid>

** <https://Archive.vn/laznT#grid>

** <https://Web.Archive.org/web/20240110052842/https://contractwithamerica2.com/#grid>

Reviewed and approved by REG Science Editor, Gordon Wayne Watts, at 4:45 P.M. (EST), Thursday, 22 February 2024

///

On Sat, Feb 17, 2024, 6:54 PM Gordon Watts <gww1210@gmail.com> wrote:

Congresswoman Laurel Lee... where do you stand on this? ACP reauthorization bill with "honour": Education is important, but since education hinges upon Internet service, I Cc copy your esteemed colleague, Dr. Virginia Foxx, chair of House Ed/Workforce. (Side note, I mildly support Dr. Virginia Foxx, R-SC-05 and Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA), on their H.R.6585 - Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act, and *mildly* support her PARTISAN H.R.6951 - College Cost Reduction Act, but both bills fail to cut student loan originations subsidies and directly fund college by restoration of bankruptcy defense, which would force down lending-- and make direct funding a model:

Thus saving both taxpayers (a concern of Conservatives like me) and students (a valid attempt of Liberals).

Back on topic-- **[I ask for SUPPORT of these 2 bills:](#)**

H.R.6929 - Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024, 118th Congress (2023-2024)

S.3565 - Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024, 118th Congress (2023-2024)

The "Affordable Connectivity Program," which provides a monthly benefit that allows eligible low-income households to receive discounted internet service, stopped accepting new applications and enrollments on February 8th, 2024. The program also provides a one-time discount that may be used to purchase a connected device, such as a computer.

** <https://www.FCC.gov/acp>

Barring additional funding from Congress, April is expected to be the last month enrolled households will receive the full benefit.

** <https://www.FCC.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq>

What you can do?

Contact your lawmakers about these 2 bills:

H.R.6929 - Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024, 118th Congress (2023-2024)

S.3565 - Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024, 118th Congress (2023-2024)

Both bills enjoy bipartisan support from many lawmakers:

<https://www.Congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6929/cosponsors>

<https://www.Congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3565/cosponsors>

How to contact lawmakers:

<https://www.House.gov/representatives>

<https://www.House.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

<https://www.Senate.gov/senators/>

<https://www.Senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

<https://GordonWatts.com/#lawmakers>

<https://GordonWayneWatts.com/#lawmakers>

<https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#lawmakers>

We spend so much on unneeded pork and foreign entanglements; why not spend a little on our own country's needs. At \$7 billion, this is but a fraction of the \$33 trillions or so national debt, far less than one (1%) percent.

More info on cutting unneeded pork spending to free up funds for true needs:

<https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#pork>

<https://GordonWatts.com/n.index.html#pork>

<https://GordonWayneWatts.com/n.index.html#pork>

Central Florida is represented by Congressman Scott Franklin at 202-225-1252 and Congresswoman Laurel Lee at 202-225-5626 and U.S. SENATORS Marco Rubio (202-224-3041, Extension 4) and Rick Scott (202-224-5274). See links above for YOUR member of Congress and senators. If you care about these services, ask for support of this legislation. Speak up, or miss out.

It's your move.

Gordon Wayne Watts ///

Sent from my mobile Gmail app///

--

Gordon Wayne Watts, Natl Dir, CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: PART II®™, Registered Trademark ; <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com> ; Editor-in-Chief, The Register ; <https://GordonWatts.com> / <https://GordonWayneWatts.com>

BS, The Florida State University, double major with honours: Biological & Chemical Sciences, AS, United Electronics Institute, VALEDICTORIAN

* <https://GordonWatts.com/education>
* <https://GordonWayneWatts.com/education>
2046 Pleasant Acre Drive

Plant City, FL 33801-2113
Phone: (863) 687-6141 And: (863) 688-9880

— ///

On Thu, Mar 16, 2023, 3:18 PM Gordon Watts <gww1210@gmail.com> wrote:

Re: <https://FB.Watch/jj6fWH48JV/>

Or: https://Facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=150980044548706&id=100089101323558

Congresswoman Laurel Lee, and staff:

Cc: U.S. Senators Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, [etc.](#)

Cc: Lakeland Ledger, Tampa Times

Regarding your recent request for more border wall security on our Southern border, Congr. Lee:

Agree, but again, you can't afford this (border wall upgrade) without cutting <https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#pork> Liberal Pork spending, ok? *** If I'm the only one who tells you, Congresswoman Lee, and no one else (let's say I can't get 100 fellow-Constituents to call), is it no less true?

QUESTION: If you were an RMS TITANIC officer, and I told you that our ship of 2500 to 3500 crew and passengers had only enough life boats for like 1,100 people, would you, too, ignore me and good common sense (like those fruitloops who did precisely this when THEY were TITANIC officers)?

YES // NO

If yes, why would you repeat history and endanger lives.

If no, where is your walk to match your talk.

Link set 1:

<https://GordonWatts.com/#Gridlock>

<https://GordonWayneWatts.com/#Gridlock>

<https://Archive.vn/KaiZu#Gridlock>

<https://Web.Archive.org/web/20230228101829/https://gordonwatts.com/#Gridlock>

Link set 2

<https://ContractWithAmerica2.com/#pork>

<https://GordonWatts.com/n.index.html#pork>

<https://GordonWayneWatts.com/n.index.html#pork>

<https://Archive.vn/laznT#pork>

<https://Web.Archive.org/web/20230228101841/https://contractwithamerica2.com/#pork>

More talk, less walk, or your reputation will take a nosedive when the dollar collapses because you refused to heed my warnings.

P.S.: to recap, student debt, at over \$2 Trillion, with a T, is almost ten (10%) of total US debt, and the largest Liberal pork excess in the budget, ok? And you would be unwise to attempt to blame powerless high school students, and not fellow lawmakers (who AREN'T powerless) for this mess, and you'd be unwise to refuse to try and stop the liberal pork spender originations using MY taxpayer dollars. Again, only 2 things will accomplish the needed cuts: either 1, a miracle change of heart in hard-hearted lawmakers, or 2, ***the Conservative Free Market check-/-balance that availability of the threat of bankruptcy defense by student borrowers offers, which -- all experts agree -- would force the US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION to be less irresponsible and more responsible with MY taxpayer dollars.***

Student Debt bankruptcy legislation is not merely another option as a Tampa Bay Times letter to the editor said long ago (before THE TIMES became scared and refused to address this option), but rather the "Sine Qua Non" to addressing our budget crisis.

I'll add, THE LEDGER of Lakeland, Florida, used to publish my columns regularly, but is also now afraid to touch the 3RD rail taboo subject of Collegiate Debt bankruptcy legislation anymore.

I wish that would change for Florida's two flagship papers.

Are you even listening, Congresswoman Lee (and my other lawmakers in the cc line)? Do you even care?

We **WILL** crash the dollar without intervention. It's your move.

Gordon Wayne Watts, your U.S. Congr. Fla. Dist-15 Constituent

Gordon Wayne Watts, Natl Dir, CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: PART II®™, registered trademark

///

Sent from my mobile Gmail app///

Gordon Wayne Watts, editor-in-chief, The Register

www.GordonWayneWatts.com / www.GordonWatts.com

National Director,

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: PART II(TM)

<https://ContractWithAmerica2.com>

BS, The Florida State University, double major with honours: Biological & Chemical Sciences

AS, United Electronics Institute, VALEDICTORIAN

* <https://GordonWatts.com/education>

* <https://GordonWayneWatts.com/education>

2046 Pleasant Acre Drive

Plant City, FL 33801-2113

Home: (863) 687-6141 ; Cell: (863) 688-9880

__ ///

Sent from my mobile Gmail app///
