

**CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS
OF THE ENERGY CRISIS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
DESAFÍOS Y OPORTUNIDADES: UN ANÁLISIS MULTIDIMENSIONAL DE LA CRISIS
ENERGÉTICA EN LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA**

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ABSTRACT

Keywords:

electrical networks, sustainable system, wellbeing, quality of service, energy efficiency.

The present investigation presents an analysis of the current state of the electricity distribution network in the Dominican Republic, revealing a state of crisis mainly due to technical and financial factors that maintain the instability in the power supply. The main findings of the report by the Regional Centre for Sustainable Economic Strategies (CREES), based on data from the Ministry of Energy and Mines, indicate that the Electricity Distribution Companies (EDE) of the Dominican Republic recorded total energy losses of 41.7% until May 2025 (Daily List, 2025, August 20). These losses are made up of 38.3% of unbilled energy and 3.4% of unbilled energy (Daily List, 2025, 20 August). This is reflected in a tax burden with subsidies of more than 1,769 million dollars for 2024, which were implemented to solve operational deficiencies and not in strategic investments such as the exploitation of new technologies for better community service (CREES, 2025). The present work reflects a technical crisis reflected in obsolete infrastructure, a financial crisis to be remedied and not to solve in full the electrical problem facing the Dominican Republic and as a consequence of the previous crises reflects a governance crisis in which it is evident the replacement of strategic planning with surface solutions and that Consequently, the declaration of national emergency was made by Decree 517-25 in September 2025 (Invertix, 2025, consulted on 8 September). This diagnosis is a tool for key decision makers and stakeholders to justify and design viable and sustainable rehabilitation proposals for the Dominican Republic.

RESUMEN

Palabras clave:

La presente investigación presenta el análisis del estado actual de la red de distribución eléctrica en República Dominicana, revelando un estado de crisis principalmente por factores técnicos y financieros

redes eléctricas, sistema sostenible, bienestar, calidad del servicio, eficiencia energética.

que mantienen la inestabilidad en el suministro eléctrico. Los resultados se obtuvieron mediante el análisis de recursos bibliográficos, reportes e informes de instituciones gubernamentales públicas y privadas durante los periodos de 2020 y septiembre de 2025. Los principales resultados obtenidos del informe del Centro Regional de Estrategias Económicas Sostenibles (CREES), basado en datos del Ministerio de Energía y Minas, indican que las Empresas Distribuidoras de Electricidad (EDE) de la República Dominicana registraron pérdidas totales de energía del 41.7% hasta mayo de 2025 (Listín Diario, 2025, 20 de agosto). Estas pérdidas se componen de un 38,3% de energía no facturada y un 3,4% de energía facturada pero no cobrada (Listín Diario, 2025, 20 de agosto). Lo anterior reflejado en una carga fiscal con subsidios de más de 1.769 millones de dólares para el 2024, que fueron implementados para solventar deficiencias operativas y no en inversiones estratégicas como el aprovechamiento de nuevas tecnologías para un mejor servicio a la comunidad (CREES, 2025). El presente trabajo presenta una crisis técnica reflejada en infraestructura obsoleta, una crisis financiera en consecuencia por remediar y no por resolver de lleno la problemática eléctrica que enfrenta la República Dominicana y como consecuencia de las crisis anteriores se refleja una crisis de gobernanza en la que se evidencia el reemplazo de la planificación estratégica con soluciones superficiales y que, se ha realizado la declaratoria de emergencia nacional mediante el Decreto 517-25 en septiembre de 2025 (Invertix, 2025, 8 de septiembre). Este diagnóstico es un instrumento para los principales tomadores de decisiones para justificar y diseñar propuestas de rehabilitación viables y sostenibles para República Dominicana.

Introduction

According to the World Bank Group's report on cleaner and more diversified energy sources (2024), universal access to a stable, reliable, and affordable electricity supply is an essential pillar of economic development, industrial competitiveness, and improved quality of life in any nation. Consequently, the development of a robust electricity system with a balance between supply and demand, as well as a stable energy supply, is critical to building investor confidence and fostering a competitive and sustainable economic environment (OLADE, 2023).

The Dominican Republic shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. This island, considered the second-largest in the Greater Antilles archipelago, has a total area of 77,914 km², of which 48,442 km² is Dominican territory. The country has a coastline of 1,500 km and is geographically located between 18°20' north latitude and 68°30' west longitude. Its natural boundaries include: the Atlantic Ocean to the north, the Caribbean Sea to the south, the Mona Channel to the east, and the Republic of Haiti to the west (OHADAC, 2023, August 2025). In the case of the Dominican Republic, the resilience and efficiency of the electricity system are crucial to ensuring continued growth in gross domestic product (GDP) and to strengthening productivity in strategic sectors, ranging from micro and small businesses to large industrial corporations (Mercado, 2021, August 2025).

One of the most pressing challenges in the Dominican Republic is the instability of the electrical grid, which is characterized by extreme fluctuations in power supply. These variations, caused by geographic and political factors, pose significant risks, ranging from power surges that threaten real estate to prolonged power outages that can last for days (IDB, 2023). The root of the problem lies in the poor condition of the electrical infrastructure, whose obsolescence causes voltage fluctuations due to a lack of proper grounding, as well as physical damage to property caused by deteriorating utility poles and conductor supports. This situation not only jeopardizes public safety but also increases the risk of lawsuits against the authorities for mismanagement of the electrical system.

Another important issue is that power grids are vulnerable to illegal connections, which result in significant financial losses for electricity distribution companies (EDES), since only a fraction of the distributed energy is billed. To mitigate this financial impact, the EDES are implementing rationing plans, resulting in power outages of up to 12 hours a day in some areas, which exacerbates social unrest and limits economic development (Prensa Latina, 2025, September 2025).

As a result of the above, Citrus Circuit 701 stands out as a prime example of the crisis. Their networks, installed decades ago (1896, Milton Morrison, 2018) by the residents themselves, lack the technical capacity to meet current demand. The outdated infrastructure forces users to rely on voltage regulators to operate basic household appliances, while exposed wires, damaged insulation, and recurring failures point to an imminent collapse. Given this reality, there is an urgent need for a comprehensive assessment that will enable the design of a sustainable rehabilitation strategy focused on improving the system's resilience, energy efficiency, and safety.

This study presents an assessment of the current state of the energy sector in the Dominican Republic, with the aim of providing a tool that can serve as both a basis for justification and an incentive to develop strategies for the rehabilitation of power lines for the benefit of the entire nation. The assessment concludes that the sector faces

structural obstacles that jeopardize its long-term sustainability and profitability, as evidenced by technical and commercial inefficiencies, chronic financial fragility, and governance deficiencies.

Records from the National Energy Commission (2025), the Dominican energy sector has proven capable of sustaining foreign direct investment (FDI), as it has absorbed 25.7% of the total \$2,892.8 million received by the country, which has been directed toward clean energy projects (National Energy Commission, 2025, September 2025). However, this stands in contrast to the critical and persistent shortcomings in energy distribution, which have led to mistrust among users and continue to jeopardize the financial sustainability of the country's energy system (United Nations, Climate Action, 2023, August 2025).

The main objective of this research is to assess the current state of energy shortages in the Dominican Republic, specifically in the community of Básima, in order to encourage key decision-makers—such as the Ministers of Energy and Mines—to develop comprehensive tools that promote innovative programs to improve the quality of electricity service and ensure a stable supply. The analysis presented here is objective and is based on evidence from institutions, reports, and published technical manuals, which provide a solid foundation for future renovations or strategies to improve energy efficiency in the Dominican Republic.

Method

This article is classified as a critical-selective systematic review, as it integrates key evidence on issues in electrical grids in local contexts (Vera, 2009) from a holistic perspective. Although there are previous studies that address the central topic, this paper stands out for synthesizing relevant findings on power line failures in a specific community, with a focus on the case of Básima. To reach the above conclusion, it was necessary to integrate official data from the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM), which provides the most up-to-date figures on generation, demand, and distribution system losses through July 2025 (Energy and Mines, 2025, September 2025). Based on the above data, it was possible to numerically quantify the current state of the energy crisis in the Dominican Republic.

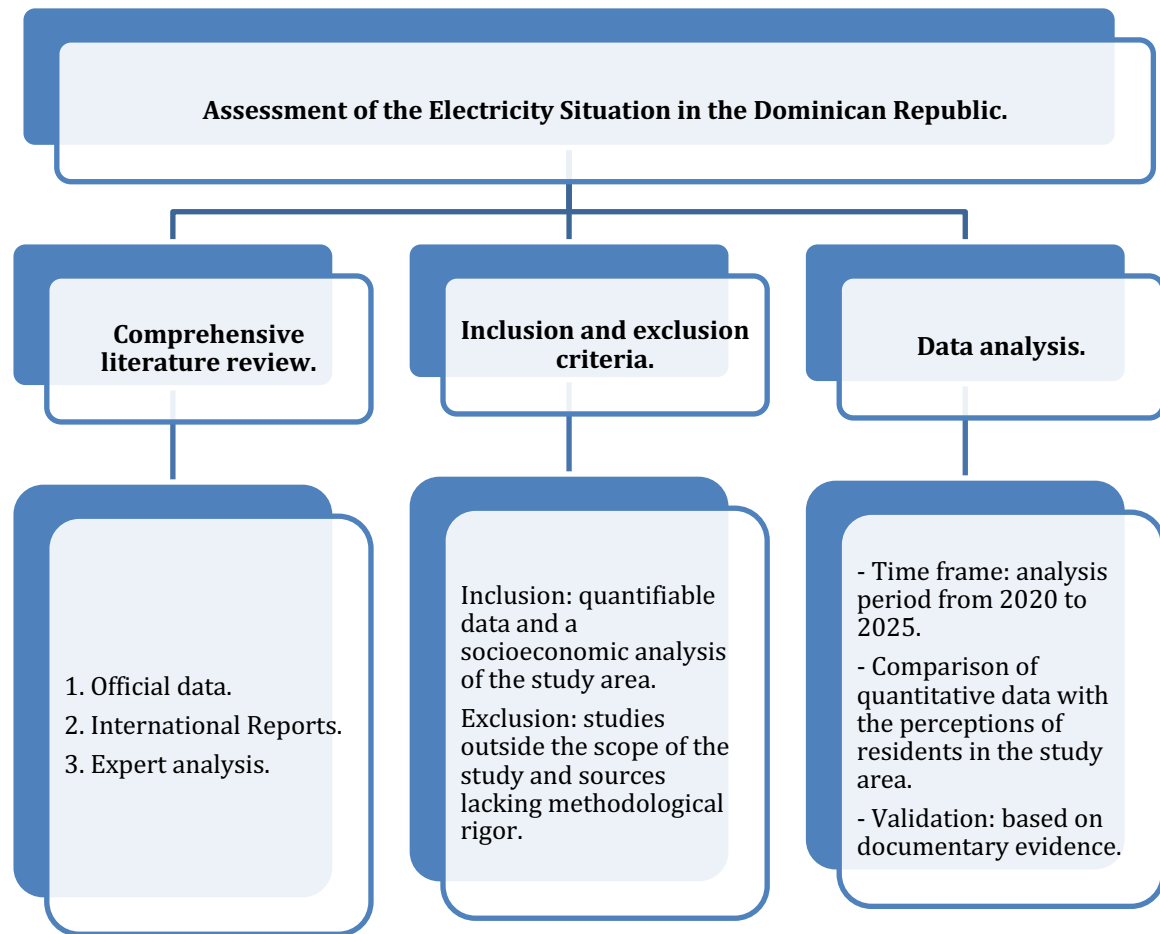
It is important to note that an analysis was also conducted based on reports from international organizations, such as those published by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which have financed projects in the country and, in those reports, validate the projections and challenges facing the country in its energy transition (IDB Group, 2025).

To develop a critical perspective on the causes of the energy crisis, poor or non-existent planning, and inefficient management, reports from specialized centers such as the Regional Center for Sustainable Economic Strategies (CREES) and the Technological Institute of Santo Domingo (INTEC) were also analyzed, as were the opinions of public experts from prestigious media outlets such as *Diario Libre* and *El Dinero* (INTEC, 2015, August 2025).

By integrating these three main sources of information (Figure 1), this study presents a critical and comprehensive perspective that highlights technical instability, financial fragility, and governance deficits, with the aim of providing insights into and further examining the system's structural vulnerabilities.

Figure 1

Methodology used to assess the electrical service in the study area.



To review the resources identified, selection and exclusion criteria were applied, such as the year of the incident, the type of electricity service provided, and the geographic area under study. To explain the inclusion criteria in greater detail, they refer to documents containing quantifiable data (operating costs, efficiency metrics) and information that reflects the socioeconomic reality of the Dominican Republic. Another inclusion criterion is the analysis of time-series data, with priority given to sources published between 2000 and 2025 in order to capture historical and current trends. The exclusion criteria selected were studies focused on locations not related to the geographic or demographic context of interest, and sources lacking methodological rigor or practical applicability.

The diagnosis was validated through a critical analysis of the documented findings.

Characterization of the Study Area

The Dominican Republic occupies two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, the second-largest island in the Greater Antilles archipelago after Cuba. It is bordered to the north by the Atlantic Ocean (586 km), to the south by the Caribbean Sea (545 km), to the east by the Mona Channel, which separates it from Puerto Rico, and to the west by Haiti, with a land border of 376 km (Figure 2). Its population (2025) is 11.5 million; its population density is: 225 (inhabitants per km²) with a total of 6.5 million tourists (worldometers.info, 2025, September 2025). Major cities: Santo Domingo (population 5.2 million), Santiago de los Caballeros (population 1.4 million), San Francisco de Macorís (population 338,900), and Barahona (population 138,470). The predominant language is Spanish, and English is widely spoken. Near the border with Haiti, people speak Haitian

Creole, a dialect of French. Its currency: Dominican peso (DOP). Exchange rate (approximate): 1 euro = 58 Dominican pesos; 1 U.S. dollar = 55 pesos (General Directorate of Communication, Public Diplomacy, and Networks, 2022).

Figure 2

Location of the Dominican Republic



Note. Taken from https://mapcarta.com/es/19369472#google_vignette, 2024.

Major Cities Analyzed

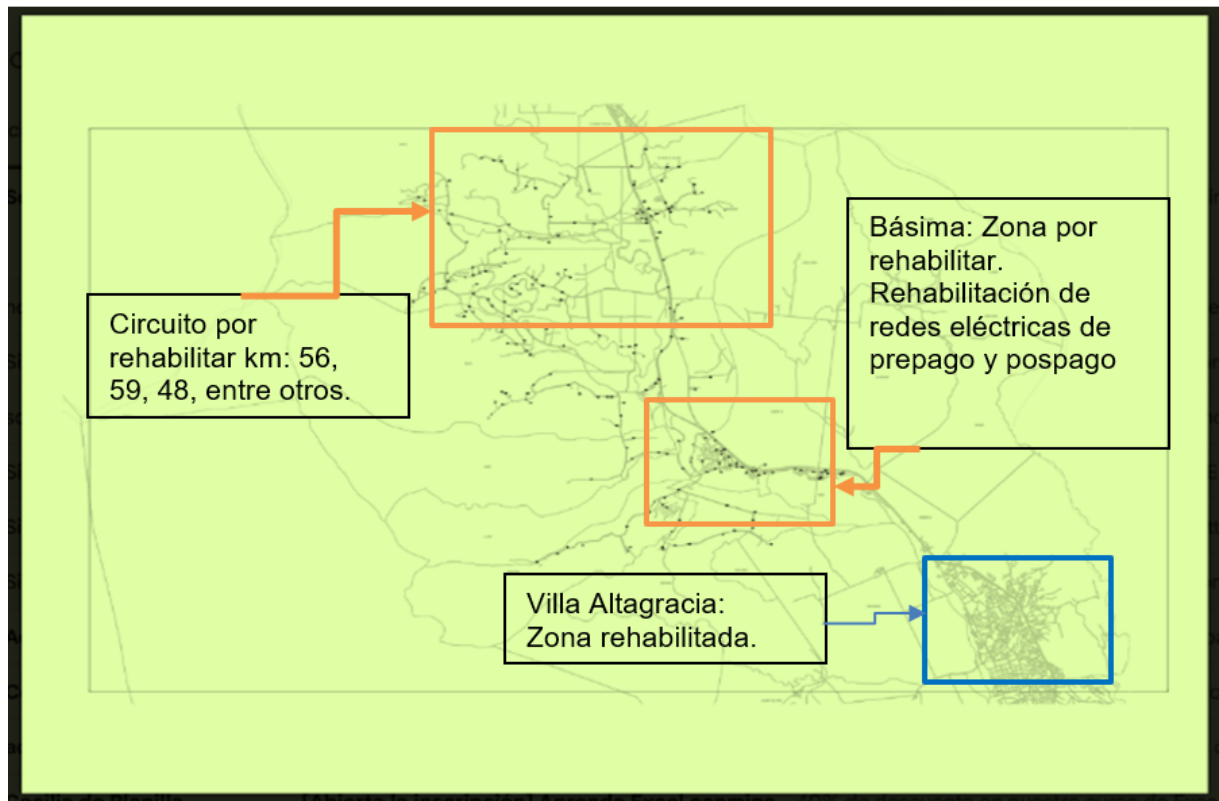
Very basic

Básima is a rural community located in the municipality of San José del Puerto, Villa Altagracia, in the province of San Cristóbal, in the northern region of the country; it is situated in a mountainous area, surrounded by natural landscapes and the lush vegetation typical of the central mountainous region of the Dominican Republic. Básima's economy is primarily based on agriculture, with crops such as coffee, cacao, plantains, and vegetables. It also has livestock operations and other small local businesses.

Básima is connected to other parts of the province of San Cristóbal, but because of its rural location, access roads can be difficult, especially during the rainy season. Transportation is often limited to two-wheel-drive vehicles or trucks. Culturally speaking, the traditions and customs of the residents of Básima are tied to rural life, with religious festivals and community events typical of mountainous regions.

Figure 3 shows the study area covered by this research. The document was generated based on surveys conducted by the author and illustrates the spatial distribution of power lines. It is proposed that the image quality be improved and that a Geographic Information System (GIS) be used to properly analyze the strategies and results expected from this research.

Figure 3
Distribution of Básima, Dominican Republic



Results

The analysis of the cross-referenced data reveals an inefficient electricity system in the Dominican Republic, primarily due to poor stability and quality of supply resulting from mismanagement and ineffective administration in providing service to the entire country. The following sections will describe the main expected results, concluding with our own perspective on the current assessment of the analyzed energy situation.

Stability of the Electricity Supply

According to Zoraima Cuello (Vanguardia del Pueblo, September 2025), the electricity sector in the Dominican Republic has been weakened by improvisation, a lack of continuity in established plans, and failure to fulfill the national commitments already made in the electricity pact. The chaotic situation is primarily affecting households, businesses, and industries, exposing the vulnerability of the National Interconnected Electric System (SENI) (Invertix, 2025, September 8). As a result, the Executive Branch issued Decree 517-25 on September 8, 2025, declaring a national state of emergency in the electricity sector for one year (Invertix, 2025, September 8).

The statement notes that the crisis had been denied because the scale of the problem was not understood and because the (Vanguardia del Pueblo, 2025, September 2025) were downplayed. However, this measure was prompted by insufficient power generation capacity, as a record high of 4,038 MW was reached in August 2025 (Invertix, 2025, September 8). This increase in demand was caused by a heat wave and the resulting rise in the use of air conditioning systems, which exceeded the operational capacity of the electrical grid—already weakened by the temporary unavailability of several power

plants undergoing maintenance and by the delay in adding an additional 600 MW intended to strengthen the grid (Invertix, 2025, September 8).

Expert analysts such as engineer José Luis Moreno San Juan, director of the Energy Institute at the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo (UASD), note that the current crisis is the result of “delays in investment” and the “lack of expansion plans that are carried out regardless of which government is in power” (CDN, 2025). Furthermore, Jaime Aristy Escuder, a mathematical economist at the University of Barcelona, pointed out that the authorities ignored experts’ recommendations to increase power generation by 150 MW per year in order to avoid critical outages; instead, they issued calls for bids with extended delivery deadlines and contracted inefficient power plants (Diario Libre, 2025).

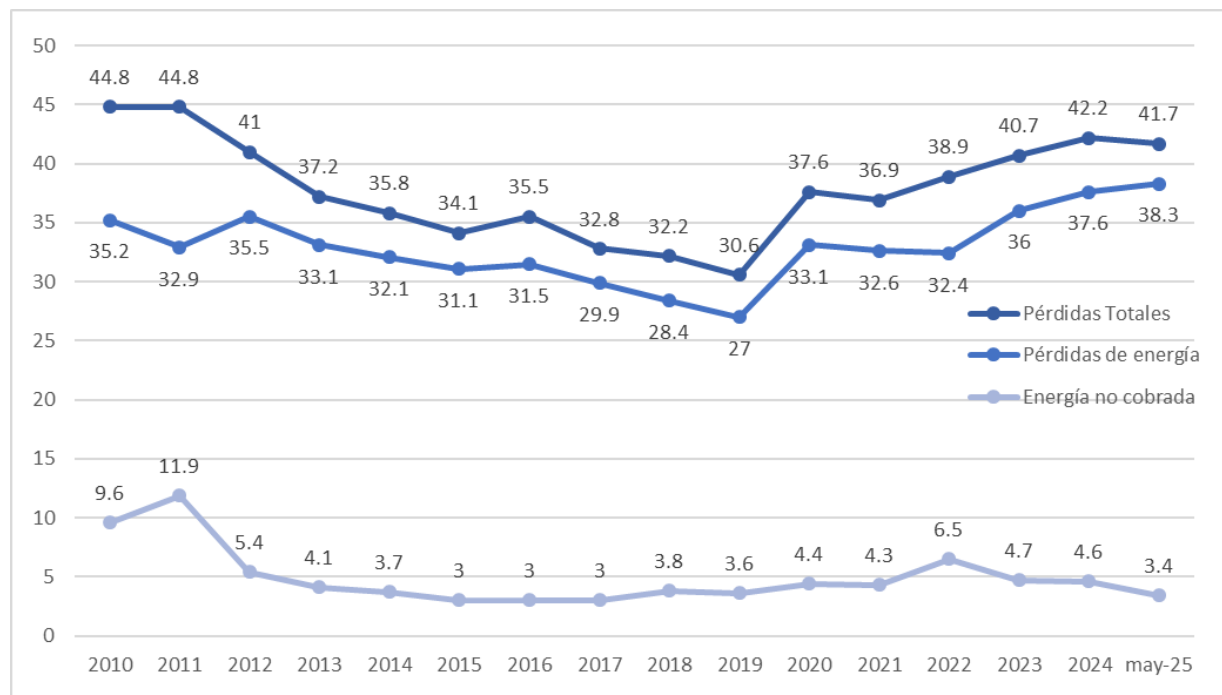
Therefore, the declaration of a state of emergency was predictable and directly linked to poor governance in the sector. Furthermore, the need to provide rapid solutions—such as contracting power plants—has caused the energy system to operate at its limits, leading to instability and system failures.

Quantification of Energy Losses in the Grid

The issue of energy losses in the Dominican Republic’s distribution system is persistent, and according to the findings, it is on an alarming upward trend. To corroborate this, reports from the Ministry of Energy and Mines indicate that energy losses stood at 37.4% in January (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2025), rose to 40.4% in April (Diario Libre, 2025), and surged to 41.7% in May 2025 (Listín Diario, 2025). According to the Regional Center for Sustainable Economic Strategies (CREES), nearly 4 out of every 10 kWh generated and supplied to the energy system are neither billed nor collected (CREES, 2025).

After analyzing the reports from the Ministry of Energy and Mines and CREES, two types of losses were identified: technical and non-technical. The first ones are caused by heat dissipation in old transformers, overloaded transmission lines, and poor infrastructure. Igor Melo, an engineer specializing in the diagnosis of electrical energy losses, has referred to this type of loss as an “energy toll” because they operate and record data using obsolete hardware (Bridge 360, 2025).

The volatility of these losses directly affects users who do pay for electricity. Voltage drops and power surges damage industrial machinery, bring production to a standstill, and drive up electricity bills (Bridge 360, 2025). The following chart shows the trend in energy losses in the Dominican Republic from 2010 through May 2025. It illustrates the rapid deterioration in the efficiency of the electric power system, with energy losses reaching 41.7% in May 2025. Figure 4 also includes energy losses plus billed but uncollected energy.

Figure 4*Power Distribution Losses in the Dominican Republic in the First Months of 2025*

Note. Adapted from CREES, 2025, using data from the Ministry of Energy and Mines' May Energy Sector Performance Report.

Losses in the electricity sector should not be viewed solely as an indicator of operational inefficiency, but rather as the structural factor that explains the system's persistent financial deficit. Unbilled or wasted energy creates a significant revenue shortfall for electricity distribution companies (EDEs), which is repeatedly offset through fiscal transfers. Persistently high levels of losses undermine incentives to modernize business management and technical infrastructure, perpetuating dependence on state subsidies and reinforcing a pattern of chronic inefficiency. In this regard, the vicious cycle linking losses, deficits, and subsidies is the main obstacle to the economic and institutional sustainability of the electricity system.

Financial Condition and Market Distortions

The structural inefficiency of the electricity distribution system has led to a growing and increasingly unsustainable fiscal burden for the Dominican government. In 2024, government transfers intended to cover the operating deficit of the Electricity Distribution Companies (EDE) reached a record high of 1,769 million dollars (CREES, 2025). Far from being a strategic investment aimed at modernizing or expanding the system, this subsidy represents a reallocation of fiscal resources that, in practice, subsidizes both technical and non-technical losses as well as the distributors' inability to cover their operating costs through their own revenues (CREES, 2025).

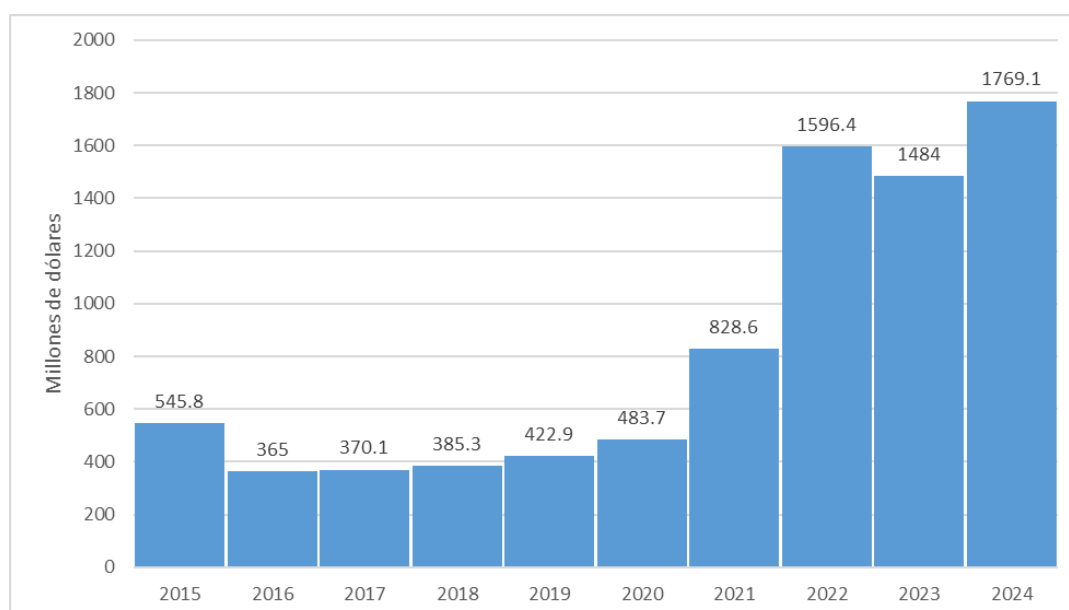
The financial fragility of the Dominican electricity system has been exacerbated by the adoption of fast-track contracting mechanisms. Decree 517-25, by declaring a state of emergency in the sector, authorizes the use of exceptional procurement procedures to expedite the purchase of equipment, which allows for the bypassing of standard bidding processes in situations that require immediate action (Invertix, 2025). While this measure aims to address the urgent need to mitigate power outages, comparative literature on public policy shows that relaxing contractual frameworks in emergency contexts—as has

occurred in Latin American and African countries in the infrastructure and health sectors—is often associated with risks of corruption, cost overruns, and lower quality in procurement (Diario Libre, 2025). In this regard, various sectors have warned that the effectiveness of these procedures depends on their integration with robust oversight and accountability mechanisms; without them, the exceptional nature of these procedures could reinforce discretionary practices and further erode the system’s sustainability (Diario Libre, 2025).

Exception-based procurement processes not only result in higher fiscal costs for the government, but also introduce market distortions by prioritizing short-term solutions at the expense of strategic planning. The long-standing lack of investment and expansion in the electricity infrastructure led to the crisis of 2025, creating an environment in which high-cost stopgap measures—such as contracting emergency power plants—are presented as “unavoidable” to prevent a collapse of the power supply (Aristy Escuder, 2025). This pattern traps the government in a reactive cycle that perpetuates the sector’s financial fragility and shifts the burden of structural inefficiency onto taxpayers. Figure 5 shows the magnitude of the fiscal burden associated with this management model, revealing an increase of more than 280 million dollars from 2023 to 2024 and indicating that the service is inefficient.

Figure 5

Trends in Transfers to the Electricity Sector in the Dominican Republic



Note. Compiled using data from the General Directorate of the Budget (DIGEPRES) and the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic, adapted from CREES, 2025.

Key Components of the Energy Sector

The energy mix in the Dominican Republic has historically been characterized by a heavy reliance on fossil fuels, which in 2025 still account for more than 70% of electricity generation (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2025). Within this mix, natural gas is the main source (42%), followed by coal (24%) and fuel oil (4%). Despite this significant dependence, the government has expressed its commitment to an energy transition aimed at increasing the share of renewable energy sources to 25% of total electricity generation by 2025 (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2025). In this context, solar and wind energy projects have played a central role in diversifying the energy mix, with projections estimating that solar energy’s share will increase from 8% to 17% and wind

energy's share from 6% to 7% (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2025). However, the controversy surrounding the Punta Catalina Thermal Power Plant (CTPC)—which is the country's largest coal-fired power generation facility—argues that its advanced fluidized-bed technology makes it more efficient and less polluting than the older plants from the 1980s (UASD, 2023). For example, its CO₂ emissions (789 grams per kWh) are below the international guideline (807–907 grams per kWh), and its contribution to total global emissions is negligible (less than 0.2%) (UASD, 2023).

Some evidence against it, such as that compiled by the International Institute for Law and the Environment (IIDMA) (2022), calls for its immediate closure due to the severity of its environmental and human health impacts (IIDMA, 2022). These studies project an increase in premature deaths and illnesses among the most vulnerable populations, with an estimated economic cost of up to \$7.5 million USD per year in the Dominican Republic alone (IIDMA, 2022).

The coexistence of the push toward renewable energy and the continued operational reliance on a highly controversial power plant such as Punta Catalina demonstrates that the so-called energy transition in the Dominican Republic is, in practice, a process of gradual diversification rather than a structural transformation of the system. The continued predominant use of fossil fuels stands as a critical obstacle to long-term sustainability and undermines the internal coherence of national energy policy.

Governance and Noncompliance with the Electricity Pact

The current crisis in the Dominican electricity sector cannot be understood without considering the problems associated with its governance. The National Pact for Electricity Sector Reform (2021) was conceived as a government agreement intended to transcend political cycles and ensure regulatory predictability, legal certainty, and the sustainability of the system through 2030 (CES, 2021). However, the oversight reports prepared by the Economic and Social Council (CES) reveal systemic noncompliance, the magnitude of which plays a decisive role in explaining the crisis currently affecting the sector.

Although the 2024 oversight report indicates an overall compliance rate of 88.6% for the 167 commitments made by the 11 signatory actors (Nación Logística, 2024), a detailed examination of the obligations assigned to the Executive Branch reveals a critical failure to comply. Of the nine strategic commitments under its purview, only one has been fulfilled, three are in progress, and five have not even been started, which amounts to an 89% failure to meet the most critical objectives for the structural reform of the electricity sector.

This systematic failure reflects a lack of political will to carry out the fundamental reforms that the Electricity Pact set out to ensure. Failure to meet the deadlines for reducing losses, modernizing infrastructure, and strengthening institutions has precipitated the technical and financial collapse that the Pact itself sought to prevent. In this regard, the 2025 power outage crisis is not a random event, but rather the foreseeable consequence of a failure in governance linked to the abandonment of agreed-upon commitments. The declaration of a state of emergency, rather than a solution, appears to be an expression of a model that prioritizes short-term palliative measures over the development of a sustainable, long-term energy policy.

Electrical System Inspection in Bálsima, Dominican Republic

The circuits designated as priorities for rehabilitation are in critical condition, with direct impacts on the population's quality of life and social stability. According to data

from the 2023 Management Report of the Distribution Companies (EDEs), 68% of users in underserved areas receive less than 14 hours of power per day, a situation exacerbated by:

- Recurring outages due to demand management (up to 10 hours a day during peak season).
- Unplanned outages due to infrastructure deterioration (exposed cables, overloaded transformers).
- Media and social pressure, with an average of 15 reports per week in the press and on social media regarding electrical hazards.

This situation calls for immediate action to restore basic 24-hour service, mitigate security risks, and rebuild public trust. As outlined in the “Improvement of Medium- and Low-Voltage Networks” initiative, which the Dominican government should classify as a national priority, this project aims to protect citizens by eliminating the risks of electrocution and fires caused by network failures.

Energy companies and suppliers are expected to demonstrate operational excellence that will ensure a reduction in technical losses from 22% to 12% over the next five years. The purpose of this is to ensure service continuity ($\geq 99\%$ availability in the areas where work is being carried out).

Within the electricity distribution companies (EDEs) and for the benefit of customers, establish financial sustainability by reducing non-technical losses (currently 34% of distributed energy) through anti-fraud technology and the optimization of operating costs with automated networks. This initiative is in line with the 2025–2040 National Energy Transition Plan, which includes an investment of USD 1.2 billion to modernize 8,000 km of power grids.

Discussion and Conclusions

The electricity distribution system in the Dominican Republic is facing a deep crisis resulting from a combination of technical, financial, and governance issues. The technical crisis is reflected in an outdated infrastructure that causes significant energy losses. This not only affects the quality and stability of the service, but also has a direct impact on the sector's finances. This technical shortcoming is fueling the financial crisis. The system operates with a chronic deficit that the government covers with massive subsidies. However, instead of allocating those funds to modernize the network, they are used to maintain an unsustainable model, thereby perpetuating the problem.

The governance crisis is at the root of the problem. The failure to comply with the Electricity Pact has replaced long-term strategic planning with reactive emergency solutions. This lack of vision and leadership has prevented the necessary reforms from being implemented.

Temporary or stopgap measures are not enough to restore the system. The solution requires a profound and systemic reform that addresses the underlying causes. The path toward a sustainable and profitable electricity sector involves implementing the postponed reforms—particularly those under the Electricity Pact—as well as reducing energy losses to acceptable levels and restructuring the sector's finances to relieve the government of the burden of subsidies.

Only through bold and transparent reform will the Dominican electricity system be able to overcome the crisis and move toward a sustainable development model. Electricity service in the Dominican Republic has improved in recent decades; however, it still faces significant challenges related to aging infrastructure, energy losses, theft,

frequent outages, and production capacity during periods of high demand. Nevertheless, efforts toward modernization, growth, and the transition to renewable energy point to a promising path toward a more robust and sustainable grid. It is essential to address structural challenges and strengthen infrastructure in order to improve the quality of service nationwide.

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