

## Lightning causes Channel 56 power outage

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DETROIT - WTVS Channel 56, Metro Detroit's public television station, was knocked off the air Saturday in many communities by an equipment failure, and officials were unsure when it would be back on the air.

Technical experts were trying to find the cause of the malfunction, said WTVS spokesman John O'Donnell.

"We ... will get back on the air as soon as possible," O'Donnell said.

Scores of viewers called the station when they were unable to tune in to the channel, O'Donnell said. Some Comcast customers were still able to get it, he said.

The technical problems started Nov. 5 when lightning struck transmission equipment.

"We noticed a deteriorating in the signal - it kept getting worse, and then it went off the air this (Saturday) morning," O'Donnell said.

WTVS has been on the air for 50 years and has about 1 million viewers a week, he said.