



# VICTORY PARTNERS

MIDDLE MARKET INSIGHT

What Business Owners Need To Know

**INVESTIGATION**  
SHOWS DETONATIONS  
AT NORD STREAM 1 AND  
2 PIPELINES

## Nord Stream Investigation

- As a result of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine and the ensuing standoff, which has cut off supplies of the fuel, Europe, that formerly relied on Russia for around 40% of its gas, is experiencing an energy crisis.
- The security service further stated that the gas pipes had sustained significant damage and that it had taken some samples from the scene for analysis. It said the evidence, "has strengthened the suspicions of gross sabotage."
- Due to Danish and Swedish officials sealing off the area on Monday, the operators of the pipelines owned by Russian and European partners reported this week that they were unable to check the damaged portions. On Thursday, Sweden's Prosecution Authority said the location where gas spilled into the water for almost a week was no longer blocked off.

**RUSSIA**  
SAYS THE WERE NOT  
ASKED TO PARTICIPATE  
IN INVESTIGATION

## Britain Could Face 3-Hour Power Cuts This Winter

- Europe as a whole is preparing winter backup plans in case Russian gas deliveries are disrupted due to the conflict in Ukraine, which might result in rationing and reduced energy exports to other nations.
- Britain may not be able to obtain the gas it needs or the imports of electricity it regularly gets from nations like France, Belgium, and the Netherlands due to a scarcity of gas in Europe and maintenance problems with numerous French nuclear power facilities.
- According to the gas prognosis, Britain's ability to secure supply would depend on its gas prices remaining high enough to continue attracting exports from Europe and LNG from nations like Qatar and the United States.

**CUSTOMERS**  
COULD BE WITHOUT  
POWER FOR PRE-  
DEFINED PERIODS

**ANY**  
**SHORTFALL**  
IN GAS SUPPLIES IN  
EUROPE COULD HAVE  
AN IMPACT ON THE UK

## How Major US Stock Indexes Fared This Week

- After a wild two-day rise, stocks on Wall Street closed marginally down.
- "The S&P 500 ended 0.2% lower Wednesday after briefly heading into the green late in the day. Its early rally this week was the biggest since the spring of 2020, spurred in part by hopes a softening economy may convince central banks to take it easier on interest rate hikes."
- Such expectations might be premature, according to analysts. The Dow Jones Industrial Average and the Nasdaq, two other significant American indexes, both experienced declines. After the OPEC+ cartel announced output cuts, oil prices increased.

**S&P 500**  
FELL 7.65 POINTS, -0.2%.  
TO 3,783.28

**DOW JONES**  
FELL 42.45 POINTS, -0.1%.  
TO 30,273.87

**NASDAQ**  
FELL 27.77 POINTS, -  
0.2%. TO 11,148.64

**RUSSELL 2000**  
FELL 13.07 POINTS, -0.7%.  
TO 1,762.69

Sources: [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) | [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) | [www.apnews.com](http://www.apnews.com)