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# Meteor lights up skies over St. Louis

A meteor flashed in the sky above the St. Louis area Tuesday, according to staff members of the McDonnell Planetarium in Forest Park.

"A bright fireball burned through the atmosphere and illuminated the sky and the surrounding area," said planetarium director Ronald R. Sutherland.

"It's possible that it was part of the meteor shower that occurs at this time of year from the constellation Hercules."

The meteor was seen about 1:10 a.m., Sutherland said. It shot across Indiana, Illinois, and the western corner of Kentucky but was visible in sections of southeast and eastern Missouri.

Seen only for a few seconds here, the meteor gave off a green color indicating it was composed of a mostly metallic substance, Sutherland said.

"Most meteors are as tiny as a pea or a bean," he said, "but this was more substantial — it gave off a fireball."

Sutherland said the meteor probably weighed several pounds.