

Process for Participating Load Program (Ancillary Services / Supplemental Energy)

The California Independent System Operator (ISO) maintains a Demand responsiveness program identified as the Participating Load Program (Ancillary Services / Supplemental Energy). The program allows loads to participate as price-responsive demand in the ISO Non-Spinning Reserves, Replacement Reserves, and Supplemental Energy markets. This document is prepared to outline the necessary steps for Loads to participate in these ISO markets and will serve to provide Web addresses for documents providing further details.

It is important to understand the definition of a load aggregator. Load aggregators, for the purpose of this program, may be a single Load, a municipality or other governmental entity, an Energy Service Provider (ESP), a Scheduling Coordinator (SC), a Utility Distribution Company (UDC), or any other entity representing single or multiple Loads for the purpose of providing Demand reduction service to the ISO.

Step 1

Loads wanting to become involved in the ISO Participating Load Program should first communicate with their ESP, SC, UDC, or Municipal Utility and arrange with a load management company or load aggregator to facilitate their participation.

Step 2

Individual and aggregated Loads 1 MW and above can provide Ancillary Services (Non-Spinning Reserve, Replacement Reserve) and Supplemental Energy. The technical standards for participating in these markets are described in the [Participating Load Technical Standard](#).

The basic metering requirements for providing Supplemental Energy, Non-Spin and Replacement Reserves is that resources have an interval meter approved by the Local Regulatory Authority.

In addition to the interval metering, telemetry is required for resources providing Non-Spin and Replacement Reserves. There are no telemetry requirements for providing Supplemental Energy. Load resources must meet the operational requirements described in the [Participating Load Technical Standard](#). The telemetry requirements for resources providing Non-Spin and Replacement Reserves consist of using Data Processing Gateway (DPG) technology.

Once the Load aggregator has begun the process of installing the interval meters (or if they are already installed), contact the Load's SC's ISO Client Representative. Arrangements will be made to assign the specified aggregated Load a resource ID that will be used for identifying and scheduling the Load. The Load aggregator must specify an ISO certified SC that will be assigned the designated resource ID to their scheduling portfolio.

Step 3

A [Participating Load Agreement](#) (PLA) is executed between the ISO and the Load aggregator providing Non-Spin, Replacement Reserves, or Supplemental Energy, however, the Load is scheduled into the ISO markets and financially settled through an ISO certified SC. The PLA is prepared by the ISO and mailed to the Load aggregator for signature. The PLA is sent back to the ISO by the Load aggregator for final execution and filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The Load aggregator is required to prepare and submit an implementation plan to the ISO as described in the PLA.

Step 4

Once the Load aggregator feels they have met the technical requirements for providing Non-Spin and Replacement Reserves the next step would be to prepare for performing the required [Participating Load Acceptance Test](#) (PLAT). The PLAT is conducted to validate connectivity stability.

Ancillary Service Testing is required of the Load resource providing Non-Spin and Replacement Reserves to become certified to participate in the ISO Ancillary Services markets. The testing procedure is described in the [ISO Operating Procedure G-213](#).

This process is contingent upon system conditions as no testing can be conducted during a “No Touch Day.” If systems conditions allow, testing can generally be scheduled and completed within a three-week time frame.

Step 5

Load resources are scheduled into the ISO Non-Spin, Replacement, and Supplemental Energy markets through a certified SC. Dispatches to reduce Load participating in the markets are made by the ISO to the SC. Notifications are made through the ISO’s [Automated Dispatching System](#) (ADS), and therefore, this system must be in place. Load aggregators may request view only ADS capability.

Step 6

Meter data is submitted to the ISO by the SC Load aggregator forty- five days after the actual operation day; unless the ISO reads the meter. Information on ISO Settlement Quality Meter Data may also be found on the ISO [Metering](#) Website.

Preliminary financial settlement statements are issued to the SC 38 business days after the operation day and final invoices are issued 56 business days after the operation day as indicated on the ISO Payment Calendar.

The financial settlements to the SCs for providing Non-Spin, Replacement, and Supplemental Energy are described in the ISO Settlement Guide.