
 California ISO	Board Policy	Revision Date Version No.	09/ 15 /20 21 1.5
Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance		Policy Adopted	12/18/2015



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This Charter establishes the EIM Governing Body, its responsibilities and procedures. In addition, this Charter establishes two other components of the overall governance structure for the EIM: a Body of Regulators and a Regional Issues Forum.

This Charter is intended as a component of the governance framework within which the Board of Governors directs the affairs of the ISO.

1. Membership & Qualifications

1.1 Membership:

1.1.1 A full EIM Governing Body shall have five members.

1.1.2 Members must be independent of ISO market participants and stakeholders, and otherwise comply with the Code of Conduct and Ethical Principles as it applies to Governors of the ISO.

1.1.3 Members must execute a written services agreement with the ISO, as provided in the ISO bylaws.

1.2 Selection:


Members of the EIM Governing Body will be selected pursuant to the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body.

1.3 Terms of Office:

Except for the first terms of the initial members of the EIM Governing Body, all terms will be three years. The EIM Governing Body may extend the term of a sitting member whose term is expiring by up to 60 days if requested by the Nominating Committee pursuant to Section 3.4 of the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body. The first terms of the initial members will be established by the Board of Governors so that terms are staggered. Members may serve a maximum of three terms, excluding any term that is less than three years.

1.4 Resignation and Vacancies:

A resignation shall be effective upon receipt of written notice by the Chair of the EIM Governing Body, the President or the Corporate Secretary, unless the notice specifies a later time of effectiveness. If a vacancy occurs and eighteen months or more will remain of the term of the departing member, a replacement member shall be selected to fill the vacancy pursuant to the Policy for Selection of the EIM Governing Body. If a vacancy occurs and less than eighteen months remain of the term of the departing member, the EIM Governing Body may, in its sole discretion, request that a replacement member shall be selected to fill the vacancy pursuant to the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body. If the EIM Governing Body does not direct that a replacement member shall be selected, then the seat of the departing member will be filled after his or her term would have expired. A member selected as a replacement shall serve the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

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2. Mission and Responsibilities

2.1 Mission: The EIM Governing Body shall promote, protect and expand the success of the EIM for the benefit of its participants as a whole, with due consideration of the interests of all participants in the ISO’s real-time market, including both participants transacting in the ISO’s balancing authority area and participants transacting in EIM balancing authority areas (meaning the balancing authority areas of EIM entities, collectively).

The EIM Governing Body shall make decisions and recommendations that will:


- Help control costs to ensure that favorable cost/benefit ratios are maintained for the benefit of market participants;
- Protect the ISO market, including the EIM, its participants, and consumers against the exercise of market power or manipulation and otherwise further just and reasonable market outcomes;
- Facilitate and maintain compliance with other applicable legal requirements, including but not limited to environmental regulations and states’ renewable energy goals;
- Allow EIM Entities to withdraw from the EIM prior to any action that would cause or create an exit fee; and
- Allow options to expand the functionality of the ISO market to provide additional services.

2.2 Areas of Responsibility / Delegation of Authority:

2.2.1 Decisions and Recommendations about Market Rule Changes

Through the ISO bylaws, the Board of Governors has delegated certain authority to the EIM Governing Body to approve or reject proposed amendments to the Tariff. The Board has also authorized the EIM Governing Body to provide it with advisory input on certain other market rules, as follows:

- “Primary-Joint authority”: The EIM Governing Body will have primary joint authority with the Board of Governors to approve or reject a proposal ~~to~~ change or establish ~~to~~ a market/tariff rule applicable to the EIM Entity balancing authority areas, EIM Entities, or other market participants within the EIM Entity balancing authority areas, in their capacity as participants in EIM. The scope of this joint authority excludes, without limitation, any proposals to change or establish tariff rule(s) applicable only to the CAISO balancing authority area or to the CAISO-controlled grid. ~~if either~~
 - ~~the market rule is EIM-specific insofar as it applies uniquely to EIM balancing authority areas, or differently to EIM balancing authority areas than to other areas within the ISO’s real-time market, or~~

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~~the market rule is generally applicable to the entire real-time market and an issue that is specific to the EIM balancing authority areas is the primary driver for the proposed change.~~

- “Advisory authority”: The EIM Governing Body ~~will have~~ may provide advisory ~~authority input~~ over ~~any proposals to change or establish other tariff~~ rules that ~~govern participation in the ISO’s entire real-time market, including rules that specifically govern would apply to~~ the real-time market ~~but are not within the scope of joint authority or rules that generally apply to any participation in ISO markets.~~

The role of the EIM Governing Body will differ depending on which of these two classifications applies to the proposed changes. As a policy initiative progresses, ISO staff will label the various elements of policy initiatives as falling within one of the ~~following four~~ two categories above, according to a guidance document and process to be approved by the Board of Governors.

2.2.2 Dispute Resolution regarding Proposed Tariff Changes within Joint Authority

If a proposed tariff rule that falls within the joint authority of the EIM Governing Body is not approved by both the EIM Governing Body and the Board, then

- At the first meeting when the proposed tariff rule is not approved, the members of the Board of Governors and the EIM Governing Body that did not support the proposed tariff rule should articulate the concerns behind their positions in order to assist management in identifying changes to the proposal that could make it acceptable. The Board of Governors and EIM Governing Body may also use time during that meeting to discuss how the proposal could be changed to address the areas of disagreement, and encourage stakeholders to comment on this issue.
- After the first meeting, the proposal would be returned to ISO staff for further stakeholder proceedings to consider potential alternatives to the original proposal. If an initiative is then brought back to the Board of Governors and EIM Governing Body for joint approval a second time, and not approved again, the two bodies may jointly provide direction to management about how to proceed with the initiative.
- Alternatively, the Board alone may authorize a FERC filing if, and only if, all of the following conditions are met:
 - (i) The Board, by unanimous vote, makes a finding that the two bodies have reached an impasse and that exigent

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circumstances exist such that a tariff amendment is critical to preserve reliability or to protect market integrity. Unless the circumstance is so time critical as to require immediate action, this finding may be made only after management has presented an initiative to both bodies a second time in an effort to propose a tariff change that both bodies can approve. In such a time-critical circumstance where there is not sufficient time to develop and vote on a revised proposal, the Board may by unanimous vote approve a filing on an expedited basis without completing the second attempt to find an acceptable proposal. The Board must set forth the basis for any and all of its findings justifying exigent or time critical circumstances in writing.

- (ii) If the Board authorizes such a filing, the FERC filing shall include any written opinion or other statement the Governing Body may decide to offer regarding the proposed tariff amendment.
- (iii) The Governing Body would have the option to retain outside counsel to assist in preparing any written opinion or statement on the proposed tariff amendment that it decides to include in the filing.

2.2.3 Dispute Resolution Procedure regarding Decisional Classification

If either the Chair of the Governing Board or the Chair of the EIM Governing Body notifies the Corporate Secretary that he or she objects to an initial determination by ISO ~~employees-staff~~ about how to categorize a policy initiative that proposes to amend or modify the ISO Tariff, the Corporate Secretary will ~~schedule~~ add the issue to the agenda of a joint meeting of the Governing Board and the EIM Governing Body, or schedule a special meeting as necessary to decide the issue. The joint meeting will be governed by the rules and policies that govern meetings of the Board of Governors except as follows:

- (i) A quorum must be present from both the Governing Board and the EIM Governing Body, and
- (ii) The joint bodies will determine how to classify the proposed amendment or modification. The act of the joint bodies will be determined by the affirmative vote of a majority of the combined members of both bodies who are participating in the joint meeting. If either the Board of Governors or the EIM Governing Body does not have five members seated at the time of a vote on decisional classification, the votes of the members of that body will be weighted so that the body has five total votes. If the vote is a tie, the matter shall be decided by the vote of the Chair of the Governing Board.

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2.2.3—Exigent Circumstances

~~2.2.3.1 For any policy initiative that falls entirely within the primary authority of the EIM Governing Body, the Governing Board shall be deemed to have approved an amendment or modification to the Tariff if both of the following conditions are satisfied:~~

- ~~(i) the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff will be effective for no longer than 90 days; and~~
- ~~(ii) in approving the amendment or modification to the Tariff, the EIM Governing Body finds that exigent circumstances exist such that any further delay necessary to obtain the approval of the Governing Board could jeopardize the reliability of the transmission system or risk material manipulation of the market.~~

~~2.2.3.2 For any hybrid policy initiative that includes both a component that would fall within the EIM governing body’s primary authority and a component that would fall within its advisory authority, the EIM Governing Body shall be deemed to have approved the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff if both of the following conditions are satisfied:~~


- ~~(i) the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff will be effective for no longer than 90 days; and~~
- ~~(ii) in approving the amendment or modification to the Tariff, the Governing Board finds that exigent circumstances exist such that any further delay necessary to obtain the approval of the EIM Governing Body could jeopardize the reliability of the transmission system or risk material manipulation of the market.~~

2.3 Re-Evaluating EIM Governance

No later than June 2026, the EIM Governing Body will initiate a review of EIM governance in light of accumulated experience and changed circumstances.

3. Market Analysis

3.1 Approval of Market Surveillance Committee Nominations

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The ISO Board will not approve the nomination of any person to the Market Surveillance Committee, pursuant to Tariff Appendix O, Section 4.4, unless the EIM Governing Body has also jointly approved the nomination.

3.2 DMM Oversight Committee


The EIM Governing Body will select one of its members to be a non-voting participant at the DMM Oversight Committee of the ISO Board. Participation in those meetings will be subject to any confidentiality requirements of the subject matter discussed, which shall be specifically identified, such as personnel matters.

3.3 Governing Body Market Expert.

The EIM Governing Body is authorized to retain by written contract a market expert, as it deems necessary to discharge its responsibility. This expert's role must be consistent with the EIM Governing Body's mission to promote the success of EIM for all market participants as set forth in Section 2.1 of this Charter and shall not include market monitoring. The role of and need for the market expert will be re-evaluated after an appropriate period of time at the discretion of the Governing Body, based on experience.

4. Administration of the EIM Governing Body

- 4.1 The ISO will assign a full-time staff member to serve the administrative needs of the EIM Governing Body and to ensure that other ISO personnel provide any support needed by the EIM Governing Body.
- 4.2 In discharging its responsibilities, the EIM Governing Body may inquire into any matter it considers appropriate and relevant to its mission, and may have access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the ISO. The EIM Governing Body should report to the Governing Board if it believes that the ISO has failed to provide adequate resources to support the EIM Governing Body's fulfillment of its responsibilities.
- 4.3 The EIM Governing Body shall select a Chair from among its Members who will preside over meetings, serve as the primary contact with ISO management, and enlist the necessary assistance of other members of the EIM Governing Body in accomplishing the responsibilities assigned to the EIM Governing Body.
- 4.4 A quorum for any meeting of the EIM Governing Body shall be two-thirds of the members then in office. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business notwithstanding the withdrawal of members, provided that any action taken is approved by the required number of members, as specified in these bylaws. Two-thirds of the members then present, whether or not constituting a quorum, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place.

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- 4.5 The affirmative vote of a majority of the members then in office shall be the act of the EIM Governing Body. Each member shall have one vote. Members who have recused themselves on a particular matter will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a sufficient vote exists for purposes of actions taken by the EIM Governing Body on that matter.
- 4.6 The EIM Governing Body may fix its own time and place of meetings. Meetings may be called by the Chair of the governing body at such dates, time and places as the EIM Governing Body shall determine. The regularly scheduled meetings of the EIM Governing Body shall be established in advance for each calendar year.
- 4.7 Special meetings of the EIM Governing Body may be called at any time by the President, the Chair or a majority of the members of the EIM Governing Body then in office.
- 4.8 Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the ISO’s Open Meeting Policy, as if the EIM Governing Body were the Board of Governors. In addition, to ensure open access to the meetings as well as adequate notice to both the public and members of the EIM Governing Body, meetings will be governed by Article III Section 7.3, 8 through 10 and 17 of the ISO bylaws as if the term “Governing Board” in those sections referred to the EIM Governing Body and the term “Governor” or “Governors” referred to members of the EIM Governing Body.
- 4.9 Minutes shall be kept of each meeting, and shall be maintained as a record of the ISO.

5. Secretary

The Corporate Secretary or his or her designee will serve as the Secretary to the EIM Governing Body.


6. Body of Regulators

- 6.1 ISO staff shall facilitate periodic meetings by a Body of Regulators.

6.1.1 Membership: The Body of Regulators will consist of one commissioner from each of the state public utilities commissions in which a load-serving utility participates in the ISO real-time market, including both the ISO balancing authority area and EIM balancing authority areas. Each state public utilities commission will select its own representative to the body. When necessary, a state public utilities commission may select a representative who is not a commissioner.

6.1.2 Purposes:

6.1.2.1 Nominating committee: The Body of Regulators may select a voting member of the Nominating Committee for the EIM Governing Body, as provided in the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body.

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6.1.2.2 Inform regulators: Through its meetings, the Body of Regulators with assistance from ISO staff will inform regulators about the EIM, the EIM Governing Body and related ISO developments that may be relevant to their jurisdictional responsibilities.

6.1.2.3 Advice and input: The Body of Regulators should provide advice to the EIM Governing Body upon request, and otherwise provide input to the EIM Governing Body.

6.1.3 The Body of Regulators should conduct periodic meetings. In order to reduce travel costs and facilitate attendance, meetings may be held in conjunction with the meetings of other groups that members may attend, such as the Western Interstate Energy Board.

6.2 Self-Governing: The Body of Regulators may establish its own rules, procedures or practices to govern meetings. Membership in the Body of Regulators does not restrict members from taking any position before FERC or in any other forum concerning matters related to the ISO or the EIM.

7. Regional Issues Forum


7.1 A Regional Issues Forum will meet at least three times annually, as determined by the stakeholder liaisons who organize the meetings.

7.1.1 Purpose: The Regional Issue Forum will discuss issues related to EIM. The Regional Issues Forum may discuss items that are already in an ongoing ISO stakeholder process. In such instances, the function of the Forum will be to facilitate discussion or to provide educational or informational content and not to serve as a means for duplicating or circumventing the formal ISO stakeholder process. Such discussions should not be considered to be a part of any such formal stakeholder process. The Forum may share opinions on issues regarding EIM and relevant topics, or address topics suggested by the ISO. The forums may produce documents or opinions for the benefit of the EIM Governing Body or the ISO. The Forum is expected to establish its own procedures and methods of operation.

7.1.2 Open meetings and availability of materials: The meetings of the Forum will be open to all members of the public. All materials used in or generated by the meetings shall be made available to the public.

7.1.3 Meetings organized by stakeholder liaisons: Meetings will be organized by liaisons, who will facilitate input and participation from their respective sectors on the topics and content of the meeting in order to ensure that a diversity of input is heard. Liaisons will be selected as described below in Section 6.2. Liaisons and the organizations they are affiliated with will be responsible for all costs associated with organizing and traveling to meetings.

7.2 Selection of Liaisons: Liaisons of this Regional Issues Forum shall be self-selected by each of the sectors described below in a manner similar to how stakeholder sectors select representatives to evaluate candidates for the ISO

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Board of Governors, and how they selected nominees to the EIM Transitional Committee. The following sectors may select two liaisons each:

- EIM entities (as defined in the Tariff);
- ISO participating transmission owners (as defined in the tariff);
- Consumer-owned utilities located within an EIM balancing authority area that are not included in another sector;
- Public interest groups and consumer advocate groups that are actively involved in energy issues within the EIM footprint; and
- Independent power producers and marketers who engage in transactions within the EIM footprint.

In addition, federal power marketing administrations may select one liaison.

- 7.3 Report at Meetings of Governing Body: At each meeting the EIM Governing Body, there shall be an agenda item for the Chair of the Regional Issues Forum to report on the Forum’s activities.

8. ISO Support for the Body of Regulators and the Regional Issues Forum


- 8.1 The ISO will identify a staff liaison for the Body of Regulators, who will provide the body with assistance and support to perform its functions, as appropriate and necessary. Such assistance will include facilitation of meetings, if requested by the Body of Regulators, education and information about the EIM and the activities of the EIM Governing Body, and reimburse travel expenses incurred by one representative from each state commission to attend meetings, to the extent reimbursement is requested and permitted under applicable state ethics rules.
- 8.2 The ISO shall assist the Regional Issues Forum liaisons in communicating with stakeholders and coordinating meetings, including meetings that the liaisons choose to hold at ISO facilities. The ISO will not be responsible for preparing reports or other written work product for the Regional Issues Forum. ISO staff may choose to respond to any written work product generated by the forum and will be available to work collaboratively with liaisons.

9. Modifications of this Charter

Substantive changes to this Charter must be approved by the Board of Governors.

Any proposed substantive changes will be presented first to the EIM Governing Body for its advisory input to the Board of Governors. Any changes to Sections 6 or 7 that the EIM Governing Body advises the Board to approve will be placed initially on the Board’s consent agenda.

[The Board of Governors may change Section 2.2 only under the same conditions that apply to amending Article IV of the ISO corporate bylaws, as detailed in Article IX, Section 3 \(b\) and \(c\) of the bylaws.](#)

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Management will review this charter on an annual basis and recommend any updates in accordance with the procedures in this Section.