

News Release

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Statewide Flex Alert issued for Friday, calling for energy conservation

Power grid operator predicts high heat and increased demand for electricity

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator (ISO) has issued a statewide Flex Alert, a call for voluntary electricity conservation, from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 14.

With high temperatures in the forecast, the power grid operator is predicting an increase in electricity demand, primarily from residential air conditioning use.

The National Weather Service has issued [excessive heat watches and warnings](#) for portions of California and the Southwest US. California will be experiencing near-record or record-breaking heat, up to 10-20 degrees above normal in some areas. Above-normal temperatures for the West, including California, are expected to last through the weekend and into late next week.

Prolonged heat over several consecutive days is expected to drive electricity demand higher, as nighttime temperatures are also forecast to be above average. Remnants of tropical system “Elida” will bring cloud cover to areas of California through this event, reducing solar generation, which leads to tighter energy supplies.

Consumers are urged to conserve electricity, especially during the late afternoon and early evening, when the grid is most stressed due to higher demand and solar energy production falling. Consumers are also asked to turn off unnecessary lights, use major appliances before 3 p.m. and after 10 p.m., and set air conditioner thermostats to 78 degrees or higher.

These conservation measures can help the power grid during a time of tight demand and supply, and avoid power interruptions. Reduced energy use during a Flex Alert can prevent further emergency measures, including rotating power outages.

The ISO will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary. For information on Flex Alerts, and to get more electricity conservation tips, visit the ISO’s [Flex Alert website](#).

Conservation Tips

- Set thermostat at 78° or higher
- Cool with fans and draw drapes

- Turn off unnecessary lights and appliances
- Use major appliances in morning or late evening

Flex Alerts

A Flex Alert is issued by the ISO when the electricity grid is under stress because of generation or transmission outages, or from persistent hot temperatures. [Glossary of terms and acronyms](#)

Click [here](#) to learn more about System Alerts, Warnings and Emergencies. Follow grid conditions in real time at [ISO's Today's Outlook](#), or download the free ISO Today mobile app.

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The California Independent System Operator (ISO) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation dedicated, with its partners, to continuous improvement and secure operation of a reliable grid operated for the benefit of consumers. It provides comprehensive grid planning, open and nondiscriminatory access to one of the largest networks of high-voltage transmission power lines in the world, and operates a \$9 billion competitive electricity market. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help provide a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.

The Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governing Body is the governing authority designed by regional stakeholders with delegated authority from the ISO Board of Governors to resolve rules specific to participation in the Western EIM.