Friday, June 25, 2021, 8:30 a.m. UPDATE

The California ISO is not currently projecting any grid impacts from high heat forecast in the Pacific Northwest this weekend. We are monitoring weather conditions closely, and in case we need to call a Flex Alert, we urge Californians to stay prepared and help protect the grid by conserving energy at certain times. Visit FlexAlert.org to learn more about conservation and to sign up for notifications.

For the most up-to-date developments on summer grid conditions, follow us on Twitter at @California_ISO, or visit our News page. For real-time information on the grid’s status, visit Today’s Outlook.

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- The California ISO will update this bulletin as needed. For breaking news and grid updates, follow us on Twitter at @California_ISO, and at @FlexAlert.
- View system conditions in real time at Today’s Outlook.
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Friday, June 18, 2021, 12:30 p.m. UPDATE

The California ISO issued a Flex Alert for today, Friday, June 18, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., due to high heat. Read the news release. The power grid continues to be stable, and electricity supplies are forecast to meet demand.

Thursday, June 17, 2021, 2:00 p.m. UPDATE

The California ISO issued a grid Warning this afternoon, which allows the ISO to activate Demand Response programs to reduce demand.

Thursday, June 17, 2021, 10:30 a.m. UPDATE

The hottest day of the week is expected today, with excessive heat warnings and heat advisories in effect throughout the state, and record-breaking temperatures forecast in parts of the state and the Southwest US.
While the power grid operator is not anticipating rotating power outages, it has issued a Flex Alert for 5 to 10 p.m. today, Thursday, June 17, due to high heat increasing stress on the grid in the late afternoon. Read the news release.

The ISO also held a press conference on June 16, with CEO Elliot Mainzer and COO Mark Rothleder.

In general, our summer assessment showed our electricity supplies to be in better shape than last year, but the power grid is still susceptible to stress during extreme heat waves that extend across the West, because that could cut off import supplies and make energy scarce at certain times. In this heat event, while record-breaking temperatures are forecast in parts of California, Arizona and Nevada, the excessive heat seems to be limited to the southwest desert areas. Portland and Seattle, which were hit by last year’s heat wave, are not experiencing excessive heat this time.

So we have a few things going in our favor this week: more capacity on the system, our market redesigns and policy changes since last August, greater communication and coordination among our utilities, regulators, and neighboring states and grids, and the heat in this event is not as widespread.

That being said, conditions on a power grid can change quickly and we can’t rule out an unexpected event triggering a Flex Alert.

For the most up-to-date news on grid conditions, follow us on Twitter on @California_ISO.

The Flex Alert is a call to Californians to reduce electricity use during the hours of 5 to 10 p.m. It’s the most critical time for the power grid, because solar production is ramping down, while electricity demand can remain high during these extreme heat events. That’s why consumer conservation efforts during that time of the day will be key to preventing rotating power outages.

The main things that consumers can do from 5 to 10 p.m. to help the grid is:

- Set thermostats to 78 degrees or higher, if your health permits
- Avoid use of major appliances
- Turn off unnecessary lights.

There are some very important things that consumers can do earlier in the day to help the grid:

- Pre-cool your home.
- Use major appliances, such as the dishwasher and washer/dryer.
- Charge electronic devices.
- Charge electric vehicles.

The ISO encourages Californians to visit FlexAlert.org and review ways to conserve, and sign up for Flex Alert notifications.
In preparation of summer 2021 and beyond, the ISO has made positive strides that will be helpful during the hot months, including:

- Added additional power supply, much of it in battery storage to absorb extra solar during the course of the day and inject it back into the grid;
- Making sure the generation fleet, natural gas plants and other resources are being maintained and planned to be operationally healthy during peak summer condition to the maximum extent possible;
- Working closely with transmission providers in adjacent regions where we import electricity from to make sure transmission lines are in good shape and we can import from the Pacific Northwest and other regions of the West;
- Improvements to ISO market based on lessons learned from last year to make sure we are producing prices that reflect scarcity so we can get imports from adjacent regions, and to make sure we have clear idea of supply and demand balance;
- Significant push to make sure our Flex Alerts and communications are strong, staying ahead of the public notification curve with heat wave bulletins and providing consumers with advance notice when we think we are going into stressed grid conditions;
- But we still have residual risk from another West-wide heat wave, especially since hydro supplies are forecast to be significantly low due to the drought.

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Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 4:30 p.m. UPDATE

The California ISO has issued a Flex Alert for tomorrow, Thursday, June 17, from 5 to 10 p.m., due to high heat throughout the state and parts of neighboring states. The ISO is encouraging Californians to reduce electricity use during the hours of 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Read the full news release.

Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 11:30 a.m. UPDATE
Following the close of our market yesterday, we are projecting adequate energy supplies to meet demand today. The grid is stable today, and there’s no expectation of rotating power outages at this time.

While we are forecasting enough reserves to cover demand for tomorrow evening, we’re asking Californians to remain vigilant in case we need to call a Flex Alert for tomorrow. Grid conditions are being closely monitored and can change quickly. We will be relying on Californians to be partners in protecting grid reliability in this heat event and throughout the summer, when needed.

On those days when we are expecting high demand and tight supplies, we will issue a Flex Alert, a call for voluntary conservation from 4 to 9 p.m. If that happens, we’ll be encouraging Californians to reduce electricity use during the hours of 4 to 9 p.m. It’s the most critical time for the power grid, because solar production is ramping down, while electricity demand can remain high during these extreme heat events.

That’s why consumer conservation efforts during that time of the day will be key to preventing rotating power outages.

The main things that consumers can do from 4 to 9 to help the grid is:

- Set thermostats to 78 degrees or higher, if your health permits
- Avoid use of major appliances
- Turn off unnecessary lights.

There are some very important things that consumers can do earlier in the day to help the grid:

- Pre-cool your home.
- Use major appliances, such as the dishwasher and washer/dryer.
- Charge electronic devices.
- Charge electric vehicles.

The ISO encourages Californians to visit FlexAlert.org and review ways to conserve energy, and sign up for Flex Alert notifications.

Follow us on Twitter for the latest changes in grid conditions, and go to the News webpage of caiso.com for updates.

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Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 4:30 p.m. UPDATE

Day-ahead market closed, and the ISO is expecting adequate energy supplies to meet tomorrow’s projected demand. No #FlexAlert planned for today. Grid conditions are being closely monitored and can change quickly. Consumers urged to stay ready if conservation needed.

Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 1:30 p.m. UPDATE

The California ISO today posted a Heat Bulletin regarding excessive heat warnings throughout California this week and potential grid impacts.

Based on what we’re seeing now, we don’t expect any rotating power outages for this week. Supplies will be tight in the evenings for the next several days, but our market is expected to make up any difference between demand and supply, and we currently predict enough reserves on hand to cover demand.

As with any hot weather like this, we’re asking the public to be ready for a Flex Alert to be called. If that happens, we’ll be encouraging Californians to reduce electricity use during the hours of 4 to 9 p.m. It’s the most critical time for the power grid, because solar production is ramping down, while electricity demand can remain high during these extreme heat events.

That’s why consumer conservation efforts during that time of the day will be key to preventing rotating power outages.

The main things that consumers can do from 4 to 9 to help the grid is:

- Set thermostats to 78 degrees or higher, if your health permits
- Avoid use of major appliances
- Turn off unnecessary lights.

There are some very important things that consumers can do earlier in the day to help the grid:

- Pre-cool your home.
- Use major appliances, such as the dishwasher and washer/dryer.
- Charge electronic devices.
- Charge electric vehicles.
The ISO encourages Californians to visit FlexAlert.org and review ways to conserve energy, and sign up for Flex Alert notifications.

**Monday, June 14, 2021, 1:30 p.m. UPDATE**

The California ISO is closely monitoring weather conditions in preparation for excessive heat warnings in many parts of the state.

While we don’t anticipate rotating power outages at this time, we are headed into record-breaking high heat territory for certain areas beginning today through Friday, and we may call a Flex Alert if needed.

We are working to give the public as much advance notice as possible that high heat could lead to a Flex Alert later this week, while raising awareness about the benefits of energy conservation during Flex Alerts. Californians have typically been very responsive to Flex Alerts, and we are always impressed and thankful for their efforts.

Last year, we believe that consumer conservation saved us from subsequent and longer rotating outages, both in August and September.

With record-breaking heat approaching in some areas this week, now is a good time for consumers to get prepared by visiting FlexAlert.org to review conservation tips and sign up for Flex Alert notifications.

If a Flex Alert is called, reducing electricity use will be crucial to preventing further emergency actions, including rotating power outages, to protect grid integrity.

The top three actions we’re encouraging consumers to take are:

- Pre-cool your homes before 4 p.m. and then set the thermostat to 78 degrees or higher from 4 to 9 p.m., if health permits.
- Defer use of major appliances from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Run your dishwasher and washing machine earlier or later.
- Charge devices and electric vehicles before 4 p.m.

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