Wednesday, Aug. 31 – 5:30 p.m.

The California ISO has issued a Flex Alert for today, Aug. 31 from 4-9 p.m., due to high heat across the state and supply uncertainties. View the news release here.

The ISO then extended its Flex Alert effective tomorrow, Sept. 1, from 4-9 p.m. View that news release here.

More Flex Alerts are likely to be issued through the holiday weekend, as excessive heat is forecast to blanket most of California, and supplies are expected to be tight in the afternoon and evening, when solar production rolls off and demand remains high.

The ISO also issued an Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) Watch, effective 5 to 8 p.m. today, to access additional resources and prepare market participants and the public for potential energy shortages and the need to conserve. The ISO subsequently issued an EEA 1, effective 5 to 9 p.m., which encourages market participants to offer supplemental energy and ancillary services bids. View our Emergency Notifications fact sheet for more information.

Restricted Maintenance Operations (RMO) has been issued for Wednesday, Aug. 31, through Tuesday, Sept. 6 from noon to 10 p.m. due to high loads and temperatures across the state. During the RMO, market participants are cautioned to avoid scheduled maintenance to ensure all available generation and transmission lines are in service.

Consumer conservation will be critical to stabilizing the grid today and tomorrow.

- A Flex Alert is in effect today and tomorrow, from 4-9 p.m.
- Temperatures are currently on the rise in the California and the desert southwest.
- We are experiencing some of the highest load levels of the year.
- We are monitoring weather conditions in neighboring areas, which impacts our ability to import power from other grids.
- Overnight temperatures are staying high, which makes buildings and infrastructure retain heat and can cause people to run air conditioners more.
- During multiple days of heat, generators that have been running at top speed can fail or trip offline unexpectedly.
- We also have to expect the unexpected, meaning we need to be prepared for any unplanned event that could tighten energy supplies.
- We called Flex Alerts to ask consumers to reduce electricity use from 4-9 p.m. today and tomorrow.
- That is the most critical time on the grid, because solar production is going offline, but temperatures remain high.

The most important 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.
- Turn off all unnecessary lights from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Cook your meals earlier in the day to save energy and keep your home cooler.
• Avoid charging EVs from 4-9 p.m., if possible. Instead, charge them before 4 p.m. when solar production is abundant and electricity prices are likely lower.

We don’t anticipate any rotating power outages at this time.

These are the second and third Flex Alerts of the 2022 summer season; the first was Aug. 17. For a summary of past emergencies since 1998, including Flex Alerts, view the Grid Emergencies History Report on our Emergency Notifications page. The page also houses a report of peak load history, and the current active notices.

In past years, consumer conservation has helped avoid the need for rotating outages. Californians have typically been very responsive to Flex Alerts, and we are always thankful for their efforts and impressed with the impacts of voluntary conservation.

When Flex Alerts are called, reducing electricity use is crucial to preventing further emergency actions, including rotating power outages, to protect grid integrity.

Tuesday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m.

The California ISO issued a Heat Bulletin in advance of excessive heat and high forecasted loads beginning tomorrow and extending through Labor Day weekend. We also posted a video statement from our CEO Elliot Mainzer describing the upcoming heat wave, the impacts to the grid, and how consumers can get ready for likely Flex Alerts, especially on Sept. 4 and 5. These are both housed on our News page.

Here’s some information on the upcoming heat wave and impacts to the grid:
• The ISO is expecting above-normal temperatures and increased electrical demand across much of California and much of the Western states region beginning Thursday, Sept. 1, intensifying through the upcoming Labor Day weekend and extending to Wednesday, Sept. 7.
• Peak loads for Sunday and Monday are more than 48,000 MW, with Monday’s the highest at 48,225 MW.
• Temperatures in the Northern California region are forecast to be 10-20 degrees warmer than normal through Tuesday, Sept. 6. In Southern California, temperatures are expected to be 5-15 degrees warmer than normal.
• The western US is expecting the largest and most extensive warmup across the continuous West starting Wednesday, Aug. 31 and extending through next Tuesday, Sept. 6, with the hottest days being Sept. 4 & 5 for California and the desert Southwest, and Tuesday, Aug. 30 and Wednesday, Aug. 31 for the Pacific Northwest.
• We are carefully watching Monday, Sept. 5 and Tuesday, Sept. 6, because peak loads are expected to occur on those days.
• We are taking measures to bring on all available resources, and considering potential load relief actions, including Flex Alerts.
• We’re asking consumers to prepare for Flex Alerts: Top three actions from 4-9 p.m are to set thermostats to 78 degrees; avoid using large appliances; and turn out unnecessary
lights. Flex Alerts have been an effective way to lower electricity use and help the grid through the most stressed time on the grid.

- Visit FlexAlert.org for more conservation tips and to sign up for alerts.
- Restricted Maintenance Operations (RMO) has been issued for Wednesday, Aug. 31, through Tuesday, Sept. 6 from noon to 10 p.m. due to high loads and temperatures across the state. During the RMO, market participants are cautioned to avoid scheduled maintenance to ensure all available generation and transmission lines are in service. For more information on RMOs, visit our Emergency Notifications fact sheet.

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.

To sign up to receive our news releases, Daily Briefings, Flex Alerts, and Energy Matters newsletter, go to the Subscriptions and notifications webpage.

Wednesday, Aug. 17, 9 p.m.

No Flex Alert is planned for tomorrow, Thursday, Aug. 18. The power grid is currently stable, and there are no forecasts of supply deficiencies for tomorrow.

Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2 p.m.

The California ISO issued a Restricted Maintenance Operations (RMO) for Friday, Aug. 19, from noon to 10 p.m., due to anticipated high temperatures and loads. ISO market participants are cautioned to avoid taking grid assets offline for routine maintenance during this time, to ensure that all available generators and transmission lines are in service.

Wednesday, Aug. 17, 11 a.m.

- A Flex Alert is in effect today, from 4-9 p.m.
- While temperatures in some areas of the state are forecast lower than yesterday, heat is only one factor affecting power supplies.
- We are experiencing the highest load levels of the year.
- We have to watch weather in neighboring areas, which impacts our ability to import power from other grids.
- Temperatures are currently on the rise in the Pacific Northwest, where we often buy energy to supplement our supplies in the summer.
- Monsoonal cloud cover affects solar production in many areas of the western states.
SYSTEM CONDITIONS BULLETIN

- Overnight temperatures are staying high, which makes buildings and infrastructure retain heat and can cause people to run air conditioners more.
- During multiple days of heat, generators that have been running at top speed can fail or trip offline unexpectedly.
- We also have to expect the unexpected, meaning we need to be prepared for any unplanned event that could tighten energy supplies.
- Overall, we are in a fairly good position, except for drought effects on hydro supplies.
- We had some generation outages yesterday, and there’s some uncertainty about their availability today, so we called a Flex Alert to ask consumers to reduce electricity use from 4-9 p.m. today.
- That is the most critical time on the grid, because solar production is going offline, but temperatures remain high.
- The Flex Alert will give us some cushion. With consumers giving us a little help at that key time of the day, we don’t expect any additional emergencies to be declared today.
- We maintain reserves of energy just for those emergencies, but when we get too close to the margin, we ask consumers for help in giving us some cushion during the most critical time of the day.
- All demand response dispatched yesterday was economic based in the day-ahead market, not emergency demand response. These are energy conservation programs managed by the transmission owners or distribution system operators. They are triggered when supply conditions get tight or prices reach a predetermined level. The level is set by the distribution system operators.

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 6 p.m.

The California ISO issued a statewide Flex Alert, a call for voluntary conservation, for Wednesday, Aug. 17, from 4-9 p.m., due to above-normal temperatures pushing up energy demand and tightening available power supplies. View the news release on caiso.com: http://www.caiso.com/Documents/California-ISO-issues-Flex-Alert-for-tomorrow-Aug-17.pdf

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.
- Turn off all unnecessary lights from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

We don’t anticipate any rotating power outages at this time.

This is the first Flex Alert of the 2022 summer season. For a summary of past emergencies since 1998, including Flex Alerts, view the Grid Emergencies History Report on our Emergency...
Notifications page. The page also houses a report of peak load history, and the current active notices.

In past years, consumer conservation has helped avoid the need for rotating outages. Californians have typically been very responsive to Flex Alerts, and we are always thankful for their efforts and impressed with the impacts of voluntary conservation.

When Flex Alerts are called, reducing electricity use is crucial to preventing further emergency actions, including rotating power outages, to protect grid integrity.

With excessive heat warnings and heat advisories throughout the state this week, the California ISO is calling on consumers to get prepared by visiting FlexAlert.org to review conservation tips and sign up for Flex Alert notifications.

Due to the anticipated high loads, the California ISO also issued Restricted Maintenance Operations (RMO) for Monday, Aug. 15 through Thursday, Aug. 18, from noon to 10 p.m. to help ensure all generators and transmission lines are online and available.


We’re monitoring closely for any other changes, such as excessive heat, wildfires or generation or transmission outages that would impact supplies or the grid.

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.

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