Use-Limited Resource Guide Book

Version 4

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1. Introduction

This section of the guide book includes the following information:

- Introduction to Use-Limited Resources, process for registering a Use-Limited Resource and submission of use plans
- Reference information for requirements related to Use-Limited status

1.1 Purpose of Use-Limited Resource Registration Guide Book

This guide book, developed by CAISO, provides guidelines to Market Participants in requesting Use-Limited status for resources and requesting updates, including use plans and information about the template Scheduling Coordinators must use for submitting Use-Limited resource requests. In addition, this document contains reference information related to requirements of Use-Limited Resources.

1.2 Use-Limited Resources

As per Section 40.6.4 of the CAISO Tariff, a Use-Limited Resource is defined as a resource that due to design considerations, environmental restrictions on operations, cyclical requirements, such as the need to recharge or refill, or other non-economic reasons, is unable to operate continuously on a daily basis, but is able to operate for a minimum set of consecutive Trading Hours each Trading Day. Examples are hydro-electric resources and gas turbine resources with emissions limitations. Any resource which cannot generate for all hours of the day due to emission limitations from local air quality board etc is a Use-Limited Resource.

As per CAISO Tariff, a Non-Dispatchable Use-Limited Resource is a Use-limited Resource that cannot be increased or curtailed at the direction of the CAISO in the Real-time Dispatch of the CAISO Control Area to Supply or consume Energy. These resources cannot be committed and de-committed on a daily basis, due to their technology, design, or linkage to plant processes.
Examples are Nuclear plants, Qualifying Facilities (including those considered Combined Heat and Power or CHP units) and Wind generating units.

Use-Limited status affects the resource’s Residual Unit Commitment (RUC) status as described in section 6.1.3.3 in the Reliability Requirements BPM.

2. Registration of Use-Limited Resources

2.1 Registration Process for Use-Limited Resources

2.1.1 Hydro Generating Units

As per Section 40.6.4 of the CAISO Tariff, all Hydro Generating Units will automatically be registered by the CAISO as Use-Limited Resources as part of the new resource interconnection process.

2.1.2 Other resources

The registration template is in the form of a Microsoft Excel sheet and can be found by selecting “Market Operations” → “Network and Resource Modeling” from the main page of the CAISO website, under the heading Use-Limited Resources.

Scheduling Coordinators (SC) for Use-Limited Resources, other than for hydro generating units, must register their Use-Limited Resources with the CAISO. The registration application includes specific operating data and supporting documentation including:

1) Unit specific data, including resource ID as recorded in the CAISO Master File and Resource type (Nuclear, Steam, GT, etc.)

2) An explanation of why the unit is subject to operating limitations. The explanation should provide enough information for the CAISO to make a decision regarding the Use-limited nature of the resource. The explanation may include:

   a. Reasons for commitment limitations if any.
b. Limits (i.e. hours/month or hours/year) up to which the unit can generate due to emissions limitations. It may also include the contact data for the local Air Quality Management District.

The information in 1) and 2) should be provided in the first two worksheets of the registration template. In addition, a detailed explanation is not required for Resource Types which are identified in the Reliability Requirements BPM as being Use Limited (e.g. Wind, Solar, etc.)

3) Data to show historical attainable MWhs for each 24-hour period i.e. Daily Energy Limit during the past 12 months. In addition, to the extent there are multiple limitations on the unit, please list the particular reason for the energy limit on a given day. Filling this worksheet of the registration template is optional and should be filled out only to the extent a Market Participant needs to in order to completely describe the use limitation of the resource. Again, this worksheet is not required for solar units, wind units, etc which are identified as use limited in the Reliability Requirements BPM. CAISO recommends that the Scheduling Coordinators (SC) provide this information for Use-Limited Resources which have specific limitations like emissions etc.

Market participants must fill out the registration form and email it to use_limited_resource_registration@caiso.com.

Note: at the current time the CAISO is only requiring registration of Use-Limited resources for Generation. The CAISO may at a future date require registration of Use-Limited resources for RA capacity on the ties.

Within five Business Days, as per Section 40.6.4.1 of the CAISO Tariff, the CAISO will respond to the SCs as to whether or not the CAISO agrees that the facility is eligible to be a Use-Limited Resource.
2.2 Use of CAISO Scheduling and Logging Information (SLIC) application

The CAISO recommends SCs to register only those resources as Use-Limited which have major to severe restrictions. Minor restrictions or outages related to resources should be registered with the CAISO through the SLIC logging process. For example, a resource’s emissions restriction of 200 hours/year would qualify that resource for Use-Limited status; however a minor restriction would not. A resource with a seasonal limitation should be registered as a Use-Limited whereas a resource with a limitation for a week should be handled through the SLIC application.

3. Dispute resolution process

In an event that an SC disagrees with the CAISO’s decision on the Use-Limited status of the resource and challenges the decision, the dispute will be resolved per the Dispute Resolution process in Section 13 of the CAISO Tariff.

4. Change of status

SCs can change the status of their resources from being Use-Limited to not being Use-Limited as per their discretion. SCs are requested to provide an explanation of the reasons for the change of status. Once CAISO has been notified, the CAISO will make this change in accordance with the Master File update process.

5. Use Plan

SCs will provide to the CAISO a proposed annual use plan for the following year for each Use-Limited Resource that is a Resource Adequacy Resource for the following year. The proposed annual use plan delineates on a month-by-month basis the total MWhs of Generation, total run hours, expected daily supply capability (if greater than four hours) and the daily energy limit, operating constraints, and the timeframe for each constraint.

The template used for submitting the use plan can be found by selecting “Market & Operations” → “Network and Resource Modeling” from the main page of the CAISO website,
under the heading *Use-Limited Resources*. The deadline for submitting the use plan can be found in Exhibit A-1 of the BPM for Reliability Requirements.

More information about Use Plan is provided in Section 6.1.3.2 of the Business Process Manual (BPM) for Reliability Requirements and CAISO Tariff Section 40.6.4.2.