

Outage report Heat wave of August 2020

During the August 17, 2020, briefing to its Board of Governors, the ISO noted the loss of a generating unit on August 14 and unexpected ramp down of another unit on August 15.

The ISO has received numerous questions regarding the identity of those resources. Out of an abundance of caution to ensure system security and data confidentiality, the ISO did not immediately release resource-specific outage information. After legal and operational review, the ISO is providing the background information about the two units referred to during the Board of Governors meeting and data on all units that were on partial or full outage at any point in time during the intense heat wave of Aug. 13-16.

Information regarding the two units that were specifically referenced in the ISO's public presentation to the Board of Governors on August 17 is provided below:

August 14: The Blythe Energy Center in Riverside County, a unit with full capacity of 494 megawatts (MW), went offline at 2:57 p.m. due to plant trouble. At the time it went out of service, it was generating 475 MW.

August 15: The Panoche Energy Center in the Fresno County city of Firebaugh unexpectedly ramped down its generation from about 394 MW to about 146 MW at 6:13 p.m., resulting in a loss of about 248 MW. This was not an outage, but a ramp down for a brief period of time from the CAISO dispatch. The ISO has been informed by the scheduling coordinator that the unit ramped down quickly because of an erroneous dispatch from the scheduling coordinator to the plant.

A snapshot of outage data is posted to the ISO website at 8:30 a.m. each day.

To provide a complete picture of all resource outages that took place Aug. 13-16, the ISO is providing the following [outage data](#).

View the [outage data](#) during the heat wave of September 5-7.