



News Release

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Media Hotline | 888.516.6397

For more information, contact: Steven Greenlee | sgreenlee@caiso.com

California ISO Board OKs plan to fortify SoCal grid

2013-2014 Transmission Plan creates grid that is cleaner, effective and stronger

FOLSOM, Calif. – The California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) Board of Governors today approved grid infrastructure upgrades that focus on the reliability needs in southern California in the wake of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) early retirement in June 2013.

The 2013-2014 Transmission Plan recommends 30 grid solutions — three of which help to offset the SONGS retirement — and it emphasizes projects that minimize emissions and address the reduction of local gas-fired generation in response to state requirements regarding use of coastal water for cooling power plants. The comprehensive analysis behind the plan creates a more flexible grid that further enhances reliability, meets state environmental and energy goals as well as provides economic benefits to consumers.

“This year’s plan addresses southern California reliability concerns by better using existing transmission and putting into place devices that support voltage needs,” said Bob Foster, Chairman, ISO Board of Governors. “We also have the opportunity to build on this foundation in future plans that will leverage preferred resources such as renewables, demand response and storage to create a modern, clean and resilient grid.”

The 15-month long planning cycle includes the active participation of transmission owners, generation owners and other stakeholders, as well as close coordination with the California Energy Commission and California Public Utilities Commission.

The 2013-2014 Transmission Plan is located [here](#).

The ISO Board decision is located [here](#).

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250 Outcropping Way | Folsom, California 95630 | www.caiso.com

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The California ISO provides open and non-discriminatory access to one of the largest power grids in the world. The vast network of high-voltage transmission power lines is supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive grid planning. Partnering with about a hundred clients, the nonprofit public benefit corporation is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates for the benefit of consumers. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help meet a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.