

149 FERC ¶ 61,190
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

December 1, 2014

In Reply Refer to:
California Independent
System Operator Corporation
Docket No. ER14-2372-001

California Independent System
Operator Corporation
250 Outcropping Way
Folsom, CA 95630

Attn: Anna McKenna, Esq.

Reference: Petition for Limited Waiver

Dear Ms. McKenna:

1. On September 5, 2014, the Commission issued an order accepting for filing, effective September 22, 2014, tariff amendments filed by the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) to improve its outage management process, change the timeline for scheduling coordinators to submit planned outages, and expand the outage options available to scheduling coordinators for resource adequacy resources.¹ On October 2, 2014, the Commission issued an order extending the effective date of the accepted tariff amendments from September 22, 2014 to December 1, 2014 and granting a limited waiver of the tariff amendments that went into effect following the issuance of the September 5 Order.²

2. On November 17, 2014, CAISO filed a petition (November 17 Petition) to again modify the effective date of its outage management system tariff provisions that were accepted in the September 5 Order. In the November 17 Petition, CAISO requests that

¹ *Cal. Indep. Sys. Operator Corp.*, 148 FERC ¶ 61,168 (2014) (September 5 Order).

² *Cal. Indep. Sys. Operator Corp.*, 149 FERC ¶ 61,010 (2014) (October 2 Order).

the Commission permit the outage management system tariff provisions accepted as of December 1, 2014 to be implemented on a date prior to December 31, 2014. CAISO explains that affected market participants requested additional time to satisfy the requirements of the enhanced outage management system reflected in the tariff amendments. In addition, CAISO notes that it continues to improve the quality of the new outage management system and that the addition of at least two weeks to the implementation date will provide the necessary time to make important software improvements.³ According to CAISO, it has targeted December 15, 2014 as the new date for implementation of the outage management system and commits to submit an informational filing seven days in advance of the implementation of the tariff revisions, which should occur no later than December 31, 2014.⁴

3. CAISO argues that good cause exists to grant the waiver because it is of limited scope and duration as it would only result in a modest delay in the implementation of the new outage management system. CAISO states that the waiver would address a concrete problem that needs to be remedied to facilitate the ability of market participants to satisfy the requirements of the new outage management system reflected in the tariff revisions accepted in the September 5 Order. Lastly, CAISO contends that the waiver has no undesirable consequences because the existing tariff provisions related to outage management are in effect today and will remain so until the new tariff provisions and outage management system are implemented.⁵ CAISO notes that the waiver effectively continues the existing outage management process for a slightly longer period than the effective date accepted in the October 2 Order and should facilitate a smooth transition to the new system as quickly as possible.⁶

4. Notice of CAISO's filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 79 Fed. Reg. 70,171 (2014), with protests and interventions due on or before November 21, 2014. On November 21, 2014, Pacific Gas and Electric Company filed comments in support of the November 17 Petition.

³ November 17 Petition at 3.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.* at 4.

⁶ *Id.*

5. We will grant CAISO's unopposed motion to permit the tariff revisions the Commission accepted to be effective on December 1, 2014, to be implemented on either the date that CAISO informs the Commission that the new outage management system is operational or December 31, 2014, whichever comes first. We find that the additional amount of time requested by CAISO should alleviate any potential workarounds that market participants may require to utilize the new outage management system. Consistent with the factors the Commission considers in evaluating requests for waivers of tariff provisions,⁷ we agree with CAISO that the request for waiver is limited (i.e., it will last for no more than 30 days), will allow market participants to satisfy the requirements of the new outage management system, and no party will be harmed by the request. In making this determination, we note that no party has objected to CAISO's motion. For these reasons, we grant CAISO's waiver request as discussed herein and direct CAISO to notify the Commission within two days of the actual effective date of the tariff revisions accepted for filing in the September 5 Order.

By direction of the Commission.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

⁷ See, e.g., *New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*, 136 FERC ¶ 61,156, at PP 5, 7 (2011); *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*, 135 FERC ¶ 61,032, at P 12 (2011); *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*, 138 FERC ¶ 61,200, at P 5 (2012).