



NEWS RELEASE

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Grid Operator Rolls Out Summer Preparedness Tools

(Folsom, CA) As summer begins, the California Independent System Operator (California ISO) is rolling out new web tools to let consumers know when and how much conservation is needed. The new web page also features improvements in the way the public can use www.caiso.com to track power grid conditions in real time.

The “Today’s Outlook” section now includes a *Conserve-o-Meter*—a clear and concise gauge that pinpoints how much conservation is needed. More details about Alerts Warnings and Emergencies (AWE) are also available. The ISO may issue an AWE notice if energy reserves get tight or if a power plant or transmission line suddenly trips out of service. The new system differentiates between Northern and Southern California.

Save-A-Watt

The ISO is also sponsoring the *Save-A-Watt: Voluntary Load Reduction Program (VLRP)*. California businesses that sign up for the program agree to respond to a Stage One Emergency by turning off lights, raising the thermostat or taking other conservation measures. The program is designed to reduce demand on the ISO system, with minimal impact on business and the economy. More on the VLRP can also be found at www.caiso.com.

Working with the Governor’s office as well as several state agencies and statewide utilities, the ISO has developed a Summer Action Plan that includes speeding transmission enhancement projects into service, developing a variety of demand reduction programs, deferring power plant retirements and adding generating capacity.

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Hot Day Simulation

Another effort underway to prepare for this summer is a Hot Day Grid Simulation. A final report on the grid test is expected out next week after the California ISO and market participants complete analysis of the data that was collected during the simulation. Approximately 40 ISO Market Participants submitted schedules to the ISO simulating both an average hot summer day, and a “one-in-ten” west wide extended heat wave. The ISO then ran these schedules through a computerized model of the grid. The software model results will indicate if and where transmission constraints might exist based on the submitted schedules.

The California ISO is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation charged with managing the flow of electricity along California’s open-market wholesale power grid. The mission of the California ISO is to safeguard the reliable delivery of electricity, and ensure equal access to a 25,000 circuit miles of “electron highway”. As the impartial operator of the wholesale power grid in the state, the California ISO conducts a small portion of the bulk power markets. These markets are used to allocate space on the transmission lines, maintain operating reserves and match supply with demand in real time.

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