

149 FERC ¶ 61,010
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

October 2, 2014

In Reply Refer to:
California Independent
System Operator Corporation
Docket No. ER14-2372-000

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

Attn: Beth Ann Burns, Esq.

Reference: Motion to Modify Effective Date of Tariff Amendment, Request for Shortened Response Time, and Request for Limited Waiver

Dear Ms. Burns:

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 In its initial proposal, CAISO requested the September 22, 2014 effective date to have sufficient time to integrate the new outage management system into its other systems prior to the expected October 1, 2014 implementation of the new energy imbalance market and proposed network modeling enhancements.²
2. On September 11, 2014, CAISO filed a motion (September 11 Motion) to modify the effective date of its outage management system tariff provisions that were accepted in

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

² CAISO July 7, 2014 Transmittal Letter at 30.

the September 5 Order. In the September 11 Motion, CAISO requests that the Commission extend the effective date of the outage management system tariff provisions from September 22, 2014 to December 1, 2014. CAISO explains that affected market participants need additional time to modify the outage management systems that will communicate with CAISO's new outage management system, and additional time is also needed to train the approximately 2,000 users of CAISO's new outage management system.³ According to CAISO, it continues to provide technical support and training on the new outage management system and processes to support a December 1, 2014 implementation date.⁴

3. If the Commission does not grant the motion to extend the effective date by September 19, 2014, CAISO requests a limited waiver of the requirements in the outage management system tariff provisions from September 22, 2014 through the date of an order granting the motion.⁵ CAISO argues that good cause exists to grant the waiver as it is of limited scope and duration because it would only last until the Commission issues an order granting the motion seeking a modification of the subject tariff provisions. CAISO states that the waiver would address the concrete problem associated with requiring scheduling coordinators for transmission facilities and resources to submit outage information in the manner and format required under the outage management system tariff provisions before the market participants' and CAISO's outage management systems are available and market participants have sufficiently trained the personnel who will use the system.⁶ CAISO states that the waiver would also avoid potential compliance and settlement issues if scheduling coordinators for resource adequacy resources were required to request maintenance and forced outages under the revised outage options, which the existing system would not recognize and could treat as unavailable capacity subject to charges under the standard capacity product. Lastly, CAISO states that no third party will be harmed by the requested waiver.⁷

4. Notice of CAISO's filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 79 Fed. Reg. 56,353 (2014), with protests and interventions due on or before September 17, 2014.

³ September 11 Motion at 2-3.

⁴ *Id.* at 3.

⁵ *Id.* at 4-5.

⁶ *Id.* at 5.

⁷ *Id.* at 5-6.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison Company filed timely comments in support of the motion.

5. We will grant CAISO's unopposed motion to extend the effective date of the outage management provisions from September 22, 2014 to December 1, 2014, and grant limited waiver of the provisions to the extent they went into effect for a short period prior to issuance of this order. We find that CAISO's willingness to work with market participants to delay the outage management system tariff provisions will allow market participants more time to modify their software and outage procedures to effectively communicate with CAISO's outage management system thereby reducing and/or eliminating the potential for double entry of outages in CAISO's system. We also find the additional time will help market participants train personnel, prior to implementation of the new outage management system. In addition, waiver of the outage management system tariff provisions will avoid potential compliance and settlement issues for resource adequacy resource owners. We agree that the request for waiver is limited (i.e., from September 22, 2014 to the date of issuance of this order) and no party will be harmed by the request. In making this determination, we note that no party has objected to CAISO's motion.⁸ For these reasons, we grant CAISO's request as discussed herein.

By direction of the Commission.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

⁸ 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).