 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No.	5320
		Version No.	4.5
		Effective Date	1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None	

Table of Contents

Purpose	1
1. Responsibilities	1
2. Scope/Applicability	2
2.1. Background	2
2.2. Scope/ Applicability	3
3. Procedure Detail	3
3.1. Prerequisites	3
3.2. Submit Planned Trial Operation Schedule	4
3.3. Conduct Test	8
3.4. COM Outage Management	11
4. Supporting Information	11
Resource Performance Issues	11
Operationally Affected Parties	12
References	12
Definitions	12
Version History	13
5. Periodic Review Procedure	14
Review Criteria & Incorporation of Changes	14
Frequency	14
Appendix	14


Purpose

Defines the criteria, required process, and procedures that must be followed to facilitate Trial Operations and testing of generation resources prior to approval for commercial operation.

1. Responsibilities

California ISO (CAISO) New Resource Implementation (NRI)	Ensure a nondiscriminatory operations testing process. Coordinate resource implementation activities and maintain documents submitted by the Interconnection Customer (IC).
Interconnection Customer	Develop plans for Trial Operations and Coordinate with Scheduling Coordinator to submit planned test energy schedules to the CAISO for approval through webOMS.

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No.	5320
		Version No.	4.5
		Effective Date	1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None	


Scheduling Coordinator (SC)	<p>Coordinate with Resource Owner, PTO, and the CAISO as needed to plan, schedule, request outages through webOMS and conduct resource testing.</p> <p>Coordinate with CAISO Real-Time Operations prior to starting and completing testing.</p> <p>For pseudo-tie and new dynamic resources, submit a valid E-Tag before the hour and update it After-the-Fact (ATF).</p>
CAISO Operations Engineering Services	Coordinate the CAISO's review and approval process for resource pre-commercial testing requests.
Participating Transmission Owner (PTO)	Coordinate the review and approval process for resource pre-commercial testing requests that affect the PTO's transmission equipment.
CAISO Generation Dispatcher	<p>Work with Scheduling Coordinator.</p> <p>Approve initiation of test energy schedule in Real-Time.</p> <p>Manage Outage Card status.</p> <p>Monitor system for congestion and other issues.</p>
CAISO Transmission Dispatcher	<p>For pseudo-tie and new dynamic resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Scheduling Coordinator and applicable BA(s) • Ensure there is an Outage Card with the test schedule in it that matches the energy profile on the E-Tag. • Monitor E-Tag submittal • Issue an Exceptional Dispatch (ED) in IFM/RTN • Perform ATF check-out (for pseudo-tie resources only)
Applicable BA(s)	Ensure the pseudo-tie or dynamic resource data point is activated with the CAISO (and any other applicable BA for intermediary BAs) when Trial Operations begin.

2. Scope/Applicability

2.1. Background

To participate in CAISO markets, pre-commercial resources must make arrangements with the CAISO for executing Trial Operation, which may include, but is not limited to delivery of test energy. Trial Operation is defined in the CAISO Tariff as: "The period during which Interconnection Customer is engaged in on-site test operations and commissioning of a Generation Unit prior to Commercial Operation." The CAISO must be able to plan for the

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

Trial Operation outside of the normal market scheduling processes. The CAISO will not approve a unit testing request unless sufficient transmission capacity is available to support the test energy. If the CAISO, through operations engineering studies, determines that transmission capacity is not sufficient, testing will have to be rescheduled.

2.2. Scope/ Applicability

This operating procedure applies to all resources in Trial Operation, which have been approved by the CAISO for Initial Synchronization and have not achieved Commercial Operations designation. During this period, the Scheduling Coordinator (SC) shall maintain outage cards to reflect the availability of the resource for capacity approved for Commercial Operation.


Note: *The CAISO Generation Dispatcher or CAISO Transmission Dispatcher for pseudo-tie resources and Dynamic Schedules may issue a Test Energy ED if the MW amount being tested is ≥ 10 MW. Resources testing < 10 MW must still be coordinated with the CAISO, but the unit will not be issued an ED.*

3. Procedure Detail

3.1. Prerequisites


Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<p><u>A minimum of ten (10) calendar days prior to the first planned synchronization date:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that NRI bucket prerequisites have been met. This must be completed prior to submitting the NRI request to synchronize. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For a list of Prerequisites, please refer to the New Resource Implementation Checklist Bucket Deadline. - It is the Scheduling Coordinator's responsibility to consider the timing of Full Network Model builds, Master File freezes and time requirements for submission and approval of Generator Resource Data Templates (GRDTs) and Scheduling Coordinator association. The CAISO encourages new resources to engage the services of a Scheduling Coordinator as early as possible to assist the Interconnection Customer in ensuring CAISO Tariff compliance. 2. The Sync Approval email from the NRI group shall be sent to the IC and SC prior to the SC starting the test energy outage plan.

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

3.2. Submit Planned Trial Operation Schedule


Perform the following steps to develop and submit a Trial Operation schedule:

Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<p>1. At least ten (10) calendar days prior to the first planned resource synchronization date,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>To submit a request for Initial Sync:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Select the “Sync” Request in the RIMS User Interface.


CAISO New Resource Implementation (NRI)
<p>1. Sync Approval email notification will be sent to the IC and SC and will indicate that the Test Energy CSV file is available in the project folder in RIMS for the IC to download and send to the SC.</p>

Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<p>1. Submit an outage request through webOMS, using the Nature of Work of NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY.</p> <p><i>Note: This outage card should set the resource Availability to the MW amount that has been approved for testing by the NRI Group. The SC is responsible for updating this information if the COD changes and until final COD. This card will function as a “Parent” card for the resource during the pre-commercial process to ensure that correct availability for the resource is reflected during times when the resource is not actively performing online testing.</i></p> <p><u>Information to verify/provide on NRI Test Energy Template</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the communications system(s) used to communicate with the applicable control centers during the test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Power Plant Address ○ Power Plant Control Room Phone Number ○ Scheduling Coordinator ID ○ Scheduling Coordinator Contact Phone Number • A physical description of the Resource, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resource ID ○ Resource Name

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None


Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PTO/Transmission Operator (as identified in the interconnection agreement) ○ POD Description ○ Type of Generator (combustion turbine, hydraulic turbine, solar, wind, etc.) ○ Resource Capacity – PMax (in MW)

Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit the request to the applicable PTO, per their applicable outage procedures, to facilitate the test. (This request is for permission to parallel or synchronize the resource and initiate any associated outages, switching arrangements and/or configuration changes required to facilitate the test energy on transmission equipment controlled by the PTO). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a test schedule for the resource. ● Verify the information contained in the NRI Test Energy template. ● Submit test energy schedule for the unit being tested to your Scheduling Coordinator. 2. If the request is <u>not</u> approved by the CAISO and/or the PTO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Determine a new test date and time, <u>and</u> ● Resubmit the outage request, per Step 1 above. <p><i>Note: The SC and/or the Generator Operator (GOP) shall continue to communicate the above information to the applicable Participating Transmission Operator (PTO) to which the Resource is connected.</i></p>

Participating Transmission Owner (PTO)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If applicable, submit an outage request to the CAISO, per Operating Procedure 3210 Transmission Outages.

CAISO Operations Planning
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the planned test schedule <u>and</u> make a recommendation to approve or reschedule the planned test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If the planned test needs to be rescheduled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Include a discussion of limitations, guidance for correcting deficiencies and/or scheduling for alternate days/times. 2. If there are conflicts between units which have submitted planned test schedules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The outage process will accommodate and prioritize requests on a first-come, first-served basis, <u>and</u> consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outages for resources currently in Commercial Operation


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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

CAISO Operations Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immediacy of the Commercial Operation Date (COD), as contained in the Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) are higher priority. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GIA may be considered at the CAISO’s discretion. ▪ Requests for resources with capacity already in Commercial Operation for Market (COM) may be considered at the CAISO’s discretion. 3. CAISO Operations Planning will work with the resources involved to resolve conflicts <u>and</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve or deny request for test energy by updating the outage request. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If denied or rescheduled, notify NRI@CAISO.com.

Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<p>*NGR Resources: Please reference CAISO Operating Procedure 5320A Test Energy Process for NGR Resources.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new resource with approved COM should have a NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY Outage card which reflects currently available MW. 2. At least seven (7) calendar days prior to the first planned Trial Operation date (not including the submittal date and the date the test is requested to begin): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY card to reflect current COM value (if any), plus the test MW value. • Submit a Unit Testing outage request to the CAISO for the test energy schedule. 3. In addition to the required fields for an outage request, include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The expected MW output for each hour of testing. • Start and End times of the test. 4. Copy all the content from the NRI Test Energy template (resource information and the test plan) into the text section of the outage request. 5. Select the attributes for “Unit Testing”. 6. Include any known testing limitations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Emergency Return Time section of the Unit Testing card should reflect the time it takes to shut down or return the resource to its COM availability anytime during the test. <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Unit Testing card acts as a “Child” card for testing. The Unit Testing outage card provides the CAISO dispatcher with the information needed to Exceptionally Dispatch the unit and to make them aware of which resources can be backed down to COM, if needed, due to system conditions that prevent the testing. As such, it is important to note in the</i>


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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<p><i>Short Description field of the outage card as much detail as possible regarding the unit's test energy schedule.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Due to Operations Planning study requirements to determine whether the requested test energy can be accommodated, the duration of each test energy outage request can be no more than three (3) consecutive operating days. Testing more than three (3) consecutive operating days requires an additional test energy outage request for each additional three (3) consecutive operating days testing period or fraction thereof.</i> - <i>If the scheduled test cannot be performed within this time, a new outage request must be submitted.</i> <p>7. The example below demonstrates the actions the SC should take:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new resource with a currently approved COM value of 100 MW wishes to test above its COM value to 125 MW. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open the NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY card <u>and</u> ○ Update the resource's availability by the requested test energy amount of 25 MW. This increases the resource's availability to 125 MW. ○ Submit a Unit Testing outage card with unit availability set to the total of the currently approved COM, plus the Test Energy MW for the duration of the test period, in this case, 125 MW. ○ After the testing is completed, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ End the Unit Testing card <u>and</u> ▪ Adjust the unit availability back to the previous COM value of 100 MW on the New Generator Test Energy card. ○ In the example above, if the PMax contained in the Master File has a value of 200 MW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approved COM is 100 MW ▪ Outage card availability during testing = 125 MW ▪ Outage card availability during non-test periods = 100 MW

Participating Transmission Owner (PTO)
<p>1. If applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit an outage request to the CAISO, per Operating Procedure 3210 Transmission Outages.

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

3.3. Conduct Test


Perform the following actions to conduct a test:

Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least three (3) calendar days prior to the test date, if there is a need to change start or end dates, times, test duration, or the approved MW amount, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit an update to the request. <p><i>Note: If changes are submitted less than three (3) calendar days prior to the test date, the testing may need to be rescheduled if the change cannot be accommodated based on system conditions. CAISO Operations Planning Office business hours are Monday through Friday 0730 – 1530 Pacific Prevailing Time.</i></p> If within 24 hours of the test date, there is a need to change start or end dates, times, test duration, or the approved MW amount, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact the CAISO Generation Dispatcher, or for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources the CAISO Transmission Dispatcher to request permission to change the test plan. Depending on the nature of the request, the test may need to be rescheduled based on system conditions. At least ninety (90) minutes before the start of the test, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify the CAISO Generation Dispatcher, or for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources the CAISO Transmission Dispatcher via phone to confirm that the test can start as scheduled <u>and</u> submit an E-Tag using the next Scheduling Coordinator (SC) instructions below if necessary.

Interconnection Customer
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> If the test is proceeding as planned, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact the applicable PTO to coordinate any required switching orders on the desired test date. For pseudo-tie or dynamic resources, if the test is proceeding as planned, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact the applicable BA to coordinate any required switching orders on the desired test date.

Scheduling Coordinator (SC), Interconnection Customer
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> If the test must be postponed or if the test fails while in progress, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify the CAISO and PTO for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources, the applicable BA to determine a new test date and time. Resubmit test plan via an outage request (repeat process as needed starting at Section 3.2).

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

CAISO Generation Dispatcher, for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources the CAISO Transmission Dispatcher
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirm whether resource testing can be conducted as scheduled. 2. If “Yes,” do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the requested test MW amount is \geq <u>10 MW</u>, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create an Exceptional Dispatch for operations testing of the resource. 3. The ED Reason Code <u>must be</u> “SC Requested testing.” 4. Manage Outage Card status.

CAISO Transmission Dispatcher
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure there is a manual award for the physical tie side of the pseudo-tie or dynamic resource wheel (usually import side). 2. Ensure the applicable BA(s) are ready to activate the pseudo-tie or dynamic resource data point in EMS at least ninety (90) minutes before Trial Operations begins. 3. Coordinate the activation time of the pseudo-tie or dynamic resource data point in EMS with applicable BA(s) at least ninety (90) minutes before Trial Operations begin. 4. After the hour (for pseudo-tie resources only), <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check-out tie meter Actuals with adjacent BA <u>and</u> • Communicate to the Scheduling Coordinator (SC) the integrated MWh value.

Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a pseudo or dynamic transaction type E-Tag for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the hour, the MWh value in the energy profile should equal the test schedule in the Trial Operations webOMS card. The transmission profile should equal the highest expected MW output for each hour. • When the hour is over, the E-Tag should be updated to the integrated MWh value. 2. Conduct the test according to the approved test energy schedule for the resource. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The test should be monitored by the Scheduling Coordinator, PTO, the CAISO, and for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources the applicable BA(s). 3. As testing period ends, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the CAISO Generation Dispatcher, or for pseudo-tie or dynamic resources the CAISO Transmission Dispatcher, to confirm the testing is completed.

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None


Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. When the test is over, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End the Unit Testing outage card without changing availability (for Non-NGR Resources only). 5. Adjust the availability in the New Resource Test Energy outage card (if such a card exists) to the correct value. (I.e., either 0 MW or the approved COM MW, as applicable for the resource).

CAISO Generation Dispatcher
<u>For Non-NGR Resources Only:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Once the test has been completed, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terminate the outage <u>and</u> • Instruct the resource to return to its previously determined schedule.

Interconnection Customer
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact the applicable PTO for pseudo-tie, or dynamic resources the applicable BA(s), per their applicable outage procedures, to terminate the testing.

Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After the testing is completed, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End the Unit Testing card (for Non-NGR Resources only) <u>and</u> • Adjust the unit availability back to the previous COM value (if any) or 0 MW, on the NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY card. <p><i>Note: Follow the NRI process for declaring COM. After confirmation is received from NRI, then the NEW_GENERATOR_TEST_ENERGY parent card availability can be adjusted to a new COM MW availability.</i></p> 2. If the resource will have adjusted COM capacity after this test, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Section 3.4, Step 1. 3. If the resource will have COM capacity after this test, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Section 3.4, Step 1.

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No. 5320
		Version No. 4.5
		Effective Date 1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None

3.4. COM Outage Management

If the resource has pending or current Commercial Operation for Market (COM) MW capacity and additional test energy schedules, perform the following steps to manage the outage cards:

Scheduling Coordinator (SC)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If additional test energy scheduling is required, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit test plans via an outage request. • Repeat process as needed, starting at Section 3.2 and Section 3.3 for Scheduling Coordinator). 2. Repeat this procedure as needed through the Trial Operation period until all the requirements under the NRI process have been completed and Commercial Operation Date (COD) designation is established.

4. Supporting Information

Resource Performance Issues


If a resource fails to perform adequately in accordance with Section 3 of this operating procedure or fails to respond within 10 minutes of a verbal Operating Instruction from the CAISO Generation Dispatcher, the CAISO may block the resource from further trial operations and testing of generation.

Note: *This block will remain in place until a representative of the Participating Generator, and the Scheduling Coordinator completes the “Resource performance expectations of dispatch and operating instructions” training, which is available at the CAISO’s Learning Center (California ISO - Learning center (caiso.com)). Upon completion, an affidavit (i.e., a statement of facts) to provide attestations under penalty of perjury from the individual(s) that completed the course shall be provided. The resource may be asked to provide additional evidence of repairs or corrective actions to ensure the resource will perform adequately. CAISO Queue Management staff will contact the Interconnection Customer and Scheduling Coordinator to alert them of this occurrence and provide further instructions on the training/documentation needed within two (2) business days of the block being issued.*

Following receipt of such evidence, Operations Management will review if such actions are sufficient to release the resource or if more information is needed within two (2) business days.

Contact: QueueManagement@caiso.com

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No.	5320
		Version No.	4.5
		Effective Date	1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None	

Operationally Affected Parties

Shared with the Public.

References

Resources studied in the development of this procedure and that may influence some steps taken herein include but are not limited to:

CAISO Tariff	Appendix V - Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement - Article 6.
CAISO Operating Procedure	3210 Transmission Outages
NERC Requirements	INT-006-5 Evaluation of Interchange Transactions INT-009-3 Implementation of Interchange.
WECC Criterion	
Other References	Dynamic (and pseudo-tie) Transfers page (Please use the link here: http://www.caiso.com/participate/Pages/DynamicTransfers/Default.aspx)


Definitions

Unless the context is otherwise indicated, any word or expression defined in the Master Definitions Supplement to the CAISO Tariff shall have that meaning when capitalized in this Operating Procedure.

The following additional terms are capitalized in this Operating Procedure when used as defined below:

COD	Commercial Operation Date
COM	Commercial Operation for Market
GIA	Generator Interconnection Agreement - The form of Interconnection Agreement applicable to an Interconnection Request pertaining to a Generating Facility processed under the interconnection procedures set forth in Appendix Y. For a Large Generating Facility, a pro forma version of the Interconnection Agreement is set forth in Appendix CC. For a Small Generating Facility, a pro forma version of the Interconnection Agreement is set forth in Appendix T. [T]
IC	Interconnection Customer

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No.	5320
		Version No.	4.5
		Effective Date	1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None	

MPAI	Market Participant Asset Implementation
POD	Point of Delivery
Resource ID	Identification characters assigned by the CAISO to Generating Units, Loads, Participating Loads, System Units, Proxy Demand Resources, System Resources, pseudo-tie resources, dynamic resources, and Physical Scheduling Plants.
NGR Resource	A resource designated as a Non-Generator Resource
Non-NGR Resource	A resource that is not designated as a Non-Generator Resource

Version History

Version	Change	Date
4.1	Referenced dynamic type schedules in all applicable sections. Removed and corrected some “step” references. Updated references to WebOMS.	7/24/20
4.2	Periodic Review: Updated to CAISO where applicable. Updated NERC Requirements, including removal of INT-004 due to retirement. Removed version history prior to five years and minor edits in Section 5 for procedures consistency.	2/01/23
4.3	Responsibilities: Defined first instance of CAISO and ATF. Section 2.2: Minor edit to Note. Section 3.2: Updated Note under Scheduling Coordinator Item #1. Section 4: Added sub section for Resource Performance Issues. Updated from Generation or Transmission “Desk” to “Dispatcher.” Minor formatting and grammar edits. Removed history prior to five years.	10/10/24
4.4	Minor edits for clarification in Section 3.3 to more accurately reflect the necessity of SCs to call for testing approval, even if they are not a dynamic or pseudo-tie. Other minor formatting and grammar and removed history prior to five years.	10/09/25
4.5	Periodic Review: Minor formatting and punctuation edits only, no content changes.	1/29/26

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 California ISO	Operating Procedure	Procedure No.	5320
		Version No.	4.5
		Effective Date	1/29/26
Resource Trial Operations and Test Energy Process		Distribution Restriction: None	

5. Periodic Review Procedure

Review Criteria & Incorporation of Changes

There are no specific criteria for reviewing or changing this document, follow instructions in CAISO Operating Procedure 5510.

Frequency

Every three (3) Years.

Appendix

5320A Test Energy Process for NGR Resources