



California ISO

Decision on the energy management system upgrade project

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The ISO needs to upgrade the energy management system (EMS).

- The ISO's EMS is a mission critical grid operations decision system, that monitors and controls the bulk power grid of the ISO balancing area.
- Current EMS contains ISO specific functionalities, including many enhancements that support the ISO's operational needs.
- Current EMS hardware was procured in 2018 and is due for a refresh.
- The third-party software products need to be upgraded before June 2028 to maintain future security and compliance status.

EMS upgrade brings advantages to the ISO

- EMS runs on the latest hardware – better performance, robustness and security.
- EMS runs on the latest third-party software – with the capability to incrementally provide security patches.
- Aligns with the ISO strategy – ensuring mission critical systems perform reliably and efficiently while supporting future security and compliance protocols and standards.

EMS upgrade project funding

- Total cost of the project will be \$19.5 million, which covers the vendor contract and internal development costs.
- The project will be treated as a stand-alone project and therefore is not part of the annual project funding the Board approved at the December 2024 meeting.
- Capital reserves will be used to fund the project and therefore there is no impact to the annual revenue requirement or grid management charge rates.