Ancillary Services Focus Group

Stakeholder Focus Group

June 25, 2025

Housekeeping reminders

- This call is being recorded for informational and convenience purposes only. Any related transcriptions should not be reprinted without ISO's permission.

- The meeting is structured to stimulate dialogue and engage different perspectives.

- Please keep comments professional and respectful.

- Please try and be brief and refrain from repeating what has already been said so that we can manage the time efficiently.

Instructions for raising your hand to ask a question

- Open the Participant and Chat panels from the bottom right.

- If you are connected to audio through your computer or used the "call me" option, select the raise hand icon ✋ located at the bottom of the participant panel.

    -Note: *3 only works if you dialed into the meeting.

- Please remember to state your name and affiliation

    before making your comment.

- If you need technical assistance during the meeting, please send a chat to the event producer.

- You may also send your question via chat to either Yelena Kopylov-Alford or to all panelists.

Today's Agenda

Time	Topic	Presenter
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome and introductions	Yelena Kopylov-Alford
9:05 – 9:10	Today's Focus Group goals	Isabella Mahein
9:10 – 9:20	Review of stakeholder feedback on May 5th Focus Group	Isabella Mahein
9:20 – 9:45	Alternative proposal	Isabella Mahein Kelsey Ajax
9:45 – 10:15	Open discussion	All
10:15 – 10:30	Next steps	Yelena Kopylov-Alford

Goals of Today's Focus Group

The Focus Group structure is meant to embrace flexibility to allow organic and robust conversation on a specific topic with the goal of driving towards a solution collaboratively.

1. **Review stakeholder feedback themes from the May 5 Focus Group session**

2. **Discuss alternative proposal to address testing requirements for AS certified fleet**

Background and Issue Identification

- Under Tariff Section 8.10, the ISO shall periodically conduct announced tests of resources providing Ancillary Services.
  - The frequency of testing shall be within such time frames as are reasonable under all the circumstances.

Problem Statement: Under current available market mechanisms, the ISO faces challenges ensuring testing of 100% of its resources certified to provide Ancillary Services within such time frames as are reasonable under all the circumstances. This has led to a need to evaluate *additional* ways to validate that AS resources can appropriately respond to and provide their certified AS amounts.

Feedback Themes from Focus Group #2

- The added value of signing the attestation is unclear, and the risks may outweigh the benefits.

- Proposed changes should be made through a formal stakeholder or Business Practice Manual (BPM) process.

- Additional training on current resource performance and Ancillary Services expectations is preferred over requiring attestations.

- Resource performance testing should be conducted by CAISO to ensure reliability, not shifted to Scheduling Coordinators and Resource Owners.

- Concerns exist about excessive costs for re-testing.

- More clarity is needed on repercussions for non-compliance or failure to submit the attestation.

ISO responses to stakeholder comments:

https://www.caiso.com/documents/ancillary-services-focus-group-3-response-to-stakeholder-comments.docx

Alternative Proposal

- The ISO will continue conducting Ancillary Services testing and performance audits under Tariff Sections 8.9 and 8.10.

- Amend the Compliance Monitoring and Market Operations BPMs through Proposed Revision Requests (PRRs) expanding on the scope of the ISO's ancillary services testing program. The ISO intends to update Operating Procedure 5370 to reflect these BPM revisions.
  - Goals:
    1. Increase transparency of the frequency and performance of ancillary services tests
    2. Clarify the ISO's expectations that all Ancillary Service Providers shall check, monitor and/or test their system and related equipment routinely to assure availability of the committed Ancillary Services as required in Tariff Section 8.9.

- The ISO may initiate a data request as necessary to verify how the resource owner is checking, monitoring, and/or testing their system and related equipment as required in Tariff Section 8.9 if:
    1. The ISO is unable to test the resource within a specific timeframe
    2. The ISO has concerns with a resource's ability to provide Ancillary Services and is unable to verify through means listed in the Market Operations and Compliance Monitoring BPMs.

Current Testing Frequency

- Frequency
  - RTCD Performance audits are conducted following every RTCD
  - Monthly Regulation Audits are conducted for all resources having a minimum of five (5) qualifying intervals in the month being audited.
  - Unannounced AS Compliance tests
    - Under normal conditions the following conditions will result in a resource being placed on the list for the applicable product.
      - Certification for the first time or completion of a recertification test
      - Failure of a performance audit or performance verification
      - Lack of valid passing performance audit or performance verification within two (2) years

Proposed Language

- If at the end of three (3) years, CAISO is unable to test using the above methodologies, CAISO will evaluate the need for a data request based on current operational performance and ongoing outages.

- This data request will be to verify how the resource owner is checking, monitoring, and/or testing their system and related equipment as required in Tariff Section 8.9. At any time the SC may request a re-certification test to verify capabilities.

Open Discussion

California ISO

NEXT STEPS

California ISO

AS Focus Group Schedule

Date	Development
June 25, 2025	Focus group meeting #3
July 9, 2025	Comments due
July 2025 – September 2025	BPM Proposed Revision Request Process

Dates are tentative and subject to change.

Next Steps

- Please submit comments on and meeting discussion to ASnotifications@caiso.com due by end of day **July 9, 2025**

- If you have any questions, please contact isostakeholderaffairs@caiso.com

California ISO

Stakeholder Meetings

All public stakeholder meetings are also listed on the ISO calendar:

- Monday, June 16th – Market Surveillance Committee General Session
  - 9:00am - 10:00am PT (link)
- Tuesday, June 17th – Demand and Distributed Energy Market Integration Working Group
  - 9:00am - 1:00pm PT (link)
- Tuesday, June 17th – Technical User Group
  - 10:00am - 11:00am PT (link, developer account required)
- Tuesday, June 17th – WEM Regional Issues Forum
  - 1:00pm - 5:00pm PT (link)
- Wednesday, June 18th – Summary of Cluster 15 Intake Scoring Results
  - 10:00am - 12:00pm PT (link)
- Wednesday, June 18th – Settlement User Group
  - 10:00am - 11:00am PT (link, meeting number: 961 854 046)
- Wednesday, June 18th – WEM Governing Body General Session
  - 1:00pm – 3:30pm PT (link)
- Wednesday, June 18th – Resource Adequacy Customer Partnership Group
  - 2:00pm – 3:00pm PT (link)
- Thursday, June 19th – Joint ISO Board of Governors and WEM Governing Body General Session
  - 10:00am – 12:00pm PT (link)

Comment Submission Deadlines

- Tuesday, June 17th – BPM Proposed Revision Requests PRR's 1620-1631
- Tuesday, June 17th – Resource Adequacy Modeling and Program Design Track 3
- Friday, June 20th – Extended Day-Ahead Market Congestion Revenue Allocation Draft Tariff Language

This Week at the ISO continued

Trainings

The ISO encourages market participants to review the new training page on the [Market Participant Portal](#). In addition to the [Training Center](#), this new training page provides Scheduling Coordinators with a centralized location for accessing computer-based training videos (to learn more, please view the [High-Level Overview](#) video).

- None scheduled this week

Market Simulations

Please refer to our [Release Schedule](#) for the most recent updates of initiatives scheduled for MAP- and Production- stage market sims.

- Thursday, June 19th – [DAME, EDAM, and EDAM CAISO Balancing Authority PR Market Simulation Meeting](#)
  - 1:00pm - 2:00pm PT (Email marketsim@caiso.com for registration)
- Thursday, June 19th – [Market Simulation Forum](#)
  - 2:00pm – 3:00pm PT ([link](#))

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https://www.caiso.com/about/news/energy-matters-blog

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