

Information on Intake and Scoring of Long Lead Time Projects for C16

The CPUC portfolio provides the specific technologies and busbar information that the ISO uses in the TPP process. A project seeking to claim LLT intake points needs to match one of the specific technology and POI combinations within the CPUC portfolio that the ISO included in the TPP studies to be eligible for LLT intake points. Regardless of whether there is existing capacity or the ISO needs to approve a new upgrade, the ISO reserves the amount of capacity at those POIs for the specific technology. Projects at the POI with the required technology compete with each other based on their scores, and if such a project is not scored high enough to be able to utilize the reserved capacity, it can compete for any non-reserved capacity at that POI with other projects that do not have LLT points.

Q&A

1. Will interconnection applications at POIs with TPD reservations shown in [Table 1-1 of the ISO's updated Board-approved 2025-2026 Transmission Plan](#) be accepted even if it shows zero in the C16 POI constraint matrix.
 - Yes, as long as the project's technology and POI align with the POI's capacity reservation criteria. Projects with capacity greater than the reserved amount will be considered for the POI, but no ADNUs will be considered in the interconnection studies to allow the MW greater than the reservation to become deliverable.
2. Will 150% be applied to the TPD reservation amounts?
 - No, the intake process will only accept projects seeking to utilize the reserved LLT capacity at a given POI up to the specific capacity amount that is reserved at that POI.
3. How is scoring implemented for projects at POIs with TPD reservations? If there is only one eligible project within the reserved MW, is it accepted regardless of score? Or does it need to compete with projects under shared constraints?
 - Projects with a technology that has capacity reserved for a specific POI, and any alternative interconnection points that are behind the same set of existing Area Deliverability Constraints (ADCs) as the reserved interconnection point, will only compete with other such projects for that reservation. Once the capacity reservation is fully utilized, any lower scoring projects not chosen will then compete with other projects at that POI for any unreserved capacity that may exist.

Example 1

- a. Reserved amount: 100 MW of pump hydro at POI
 - b. Total TPD available at POI (for cases where TPD at POI exceeds the reserved amount, using 150% to determine the total): 200 MW
- Cluster 16 submissions at POI
- c. Project 1: 300 MW pump hydro
 - d. Project 2: 100 MW battery

- e. Result: Project 1 is in, Project 2 is not

Example 2

- a. Reserved amount: 100 MW of pump hydro at POI
- b. Total TPD available at POI (for cases where TPD at POI exceeds the reserved amount, using 150% to determine the total): 200 MW

Cluster 16 submissions at POI

- c. Project 1: 150 MW pump hydro
- d. Project 2: 100 MW battery
- e. Result: Both Project 1 and Project 2 are in

- 4. Is there any flexibility in the definition of POIs eligible for the TPD reservations.
 - Alternative interconnection points, other than those identified in Table 1-1 of the ISO's updated Board-approved 2025-2026 Transmission Plan, will be considered in the Cluster 16 intake process for the specific resource types if they are behind the same set of existing Area Deliverability Constraints (ADCs) as the reserved interconnection point. If in subsequent TPP studies, Cluster studies or TPD allocation studies new ADCs are identified, then those new ADCs would also be considered during the TPD allocation process in determining which buses are eligible as alternative buses to the reserved interconnection point.
- 5. Please confirm that projects are not eligible for the merchant pathway when applying at a POI in a TPD zone that shows zero capacity.
 - That is correct. Merchant projects are only accepted in a Merchant zone.

The following are relevant ISO Tariff references.

ISO Appendix KK, Section 4.1.1 Scoring Criteria

- 3) An Interconnection Customer may receive up to 35 points for system need based on its ratio of sub-points to 100. The Interconnection Customer will receive 50 sub-points if the Generating Facility could be a Local Capacity Area Resource when the Interconnection Request is submitted, and the CAISO has projected a Local Capacity Area Resource Deficiency in that Local Capacity Area. The Interconnection Customer will receive 100 sub-points if the Generating Facility is designated by a Local Regulatory Authority as a long lead-time resource; meets the requirements of the Local Regulatory Authority resource portfolio; and corresponds to approved Network Upgrades in the Transmission Plan specifically designed to meet the long lead-time resource needs of the Local Regulatory Authority, or does not require additional transmission capacity. The CAISO will confirm eligibility for these sub-points with the applicable Local Regulatory Authority.

ISO Appendix KK, Section 8.9.1 First Component: Representing TP Deliverability Used by Prior Commitments

- c) any other commitments having a basis in the Transmission Plan, including without limitation, long lead-time resources with corresponding transmission solutions, and any commitments established due to a Subscriber's exercise of its first option to acquire

Deliverability made possible by Delivery Network Upgrades pursuant to Section 4.3A.4.2(a) of the CAISO Tariff, provided this first option has been exercised before the Subscriber is no longer eligible to apply for TP Deliverability allocation under Section 8.9 of this GIDAP. Generating Units possessing Subscriber Rights seeking to receive TP Deliverability must submit a request and will be subject to Sections 8.9.2 and 8.9.3 of this GIDAP. For each Subscriber that submits a TP Deliverability request, the CAISO will provide the Subscriber with a Queue Position. The CAISO will reserve TP Deliverability for long lead-time resources specified in the Transmission Plan up to the lower of (a) the capacity of deliverable long lead-time resources in the approved Local Regulatory Authority portfolios submitted to the CAISO for the most recent Transmission Plan, or (b) the transmission capacity created by the Category 1 policy-driven transmission solutions and available on existing transmission for the long lead-time resources.

ISO Tariff Section [24.4.6.6](#) Policy-Driven Transmission Solutions

Consistent with the state, federal, municipal or county requirements or directives underlying the Category 1 transmission solution, the Transmission Plan will specify where the CAISO will reserve the transmission capacity created by a Category 1 transmission solution for certain long lead-time resources, and the amount of reserved capacity. The Transmission Plan will specify criteria for eligible resources, including at a minimum, but without limitation: location, MW capacity, generating technology, and expected in-service date. Each Transmission Plan may modify these criteria for policy-driven transmission solutions as needed to meet state, federal, municipal or county requirements or directives.
