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23. Transmission Capacity

23.1 Categories of Transmission Capacity

References to new firm uses shall mean any use of CAISO transmission service, except for uses associated with Existing Rights or TORs. Prior to the start of the Day-Ahead Market, for each Balancing Authority Area Transmission Interface, the CAISO will allocate the forecasted Total Transfer Capability of the Transmission Interface to four categories. This allocation will represent the CAISO’s best estimates at the time, and is not intended to affect any rights provided under Existing Contracts or TORs. The CAISO’s forecast of Total Transfer Capability for each Balancing Authority Area Transmission Interface will depend on prevailing conditions for the relevant Trading Day, including limiting operational conditions. This information will be posted on OASIS in accordance with this CAISO Tariff. The four categories are as follows:

(a) transmission capacity that must be reserved for firm Existing Rights;
(b) transmission capacity that may be allocated for use as CAISO transmission service, including transmission capacity for CAISO Demand and Priority Wheeling Through and non-Priority Wheeling Through transactions (i.e., “new firm uses”);
(c) transmission capacity that may be allocated by the CAISO for conditional firm Existing Rights; and
(d) transmission capacity that may remain for any other uses, such as non-firm Existing Rights for which the Responsible PTO has no discretion over whether or not to provide such non-firm service.

23.2 Accessing Available Transfer Capability

The provisions of Sections 23.2 through 23.9 apply to Wheeling Through Priorities and Priority Wheeling Through transactions that will be effective beginning June 1, 2024 and thereafter.

23.2.1 General Requirements For Monthly or Daily Requests for a Wheeling Through Priority

Scheduling Coordinators may obtain a monthly or daily Wheeling Through Priority to support Priority Wheeling Throughs under the process in this Section 23. A Scheduling Coordinator can submit a request for a Wheeling Through Priority for a given month(s) up to twelve (12) months before the month for which it seeks the priority and for a day(s) up to seven (7) days before the day for which it seeks a priority. To
be eligible for a Wheeling Through Priority for a month(s) or day(s), the Scheduling Coordinator for an external load serving entity, or the Scheduling Coordinator for a seller of Energy to the external load serving entity, must submit a Wheeling Through Priority request and attest to the following: (1) the Wheeling Through Priority request is supported by an executed firm power supply contract to serve an external load serving entity’s load, a firm power supply contract to serve an external load serving entity’s load where execution is contingent upon the availability of a Wheeling Through Priority on the CAISO system, or the external load serving entity’s ownership of an external resource to serve external load; (2) the MW quantity of the firm power supply contract with an external load serving entity supporting the request and the Scheduling Points which the Energy will be imported to and exported from the CAISO Controlled Grid; (3) the start and end dates of the contract and the specific hours during the month or day covered by the power supply contract and for which the Scheduling Coordinator seeks a Wheeling Through Priority; (4) any information specified in the Business Practice Manual has been provided; and (5) whether the Scheduling Coordinator is willing to accept a pro rata allocation of capacity, or an award of only part of its request, if the result of the monthly or daily request window process in Sections 23.4 and 23.5, respectively, is that there is insufficient ATC to accommodate the entire request, because of a tie among competing requesters or for some other reason. The same MW in a firm power supply contract cannot support a Wheeling Through Priority for both the seller and the buyer for the same period of time. Scheduling Coordinators cannot seek, and the CAISO will not award in the request window processes specified in Section 23.4 and 23.5, a monthly or daily Wheeling Through Priority for a MW quantity greater than the MW quantity in the underlying power supply contract or for a period greater than or non-coincident with the hours of the underlying firm power supply contract, or for a MW quantity or duration greater than the physical and operational capabilities of the external load serving entity’s resource, whichever is applicable. Thus, for any month or day, an awarded Wheeling Through Priority will only apply during the hours of the underlying power supply contract and no other hours. For example, if the supporting power supply contract is a six (6)-days-by-sixteen (16)-hours contract, the priority will only apply to Priority Wheeling Throughs that the Scheduling Coordinator self-schedules during those specified hours. The minimum duration of any power supply contract that can support a monthly or daily Wheeling Through Priority is specified in Sections 23.4 and 23.5, respectively. All other Wheeling
Throughs without a priority will be considered non-Priority Wheeling Throughs. Priority Wheeling Throughs will have a priority equal to CAISO Demand as set forth in Sections 31.4 and 34.12.1.

23.2.2 Nature of a Wheeling Through Priority

A Wheeling Through Priority does not convey a physical transmission right and is not a physical reservation of transmission service. A Wheeling Through Priority only accords a priority when a Scheduling Coordinator actually schedules a Priority Wheeling Through transaction on a given day (as new firm use in the CAISO markets). A Priority Wheeling Through accords the Scheduling Coordinator the highest scheduling priority of new firm use, equal to the priority of CAISO Demand. If a Scheduling Coordinator does not actually schedule a Priority Wheeling Through on a given day that it has the right, the Wheeling Through Priority is inapplicable.

23.2.3 Termination or Modification of a Firm Power Supply Agreement Underlying a Monthly or Daily Wheeling Through Priority

(a) If the firm power supply contract supporting the Wheeling Through Priority is terminated for any reason or is modified such that the MW quantity, hours of service, import point, or export point changes, the Scheduling Coordinator with a monthly or daily Wheeling Through Priority must notify the CAISO by the earlier of (i) five (5) Business Days after the effective date of the termination or (ii) eleven (11) Business Days before the date any Priority Wheeling Through transaction would actually occur under the awarded priority. The Scheduling Coordinator will also attest to the circumstances surrounding and reason for termination or modification of the underlying firm power supply contract.

(b) If the supporting firm power supply contract is terminated eleven (11) or more Business Days before the date on which the Scheduling Coordinator with the Wheeling Through Priority can first schedule a Priority Wheeling Through transaction using its Wheeling Through Priority, the Wheeling Through Priority will terminate unless the Scheduling Coordinator can demonstrate an equivalent replacement power supply contract (including MW quantity, import and export points, and service hours) by the earlier of (i) sixty (60) days from the date of termination, or (ii) eleven (11) Business Days before the date any Priority Wheeling Through transaction would actually occur under the awarded priority.
provided the Wheeling Through Priority will be prorated if the replacement contract is for a lower MW quantity or for fewer hours than the original contract. If the Scheduling Coordinator decides it will not seek to replace the terminated power supply contract, it must notify the CAISO within five (5) Business Days of that decision, but no later than eleven (11) Business Days before the date any Priority Wheeling Through transaction would actually occur under the awarded priority. The CAISO will account for any capacity associated with a terminated Wheeling Through Priority in a revised ATC calculation.

(c) If the MW quantity or hours of service of the original supporting firm power supply contract are reduced eleven (11) or more Business Days before the date on which the Scheduling Coordinator with the Wheeling Through Priority can first schedule a Priority Wheeling Through transaction using its Wheeling Through Priority, the MW quantity or hours of the Wheeling Through Priority will be reduced correspondingly unless the Scheduling Coordinator demonstrates, by the earlier of (i) sixty (60) days from the date of the modification, or (ii) eleven (11) Business Days before the date any Priority Wheeling Through transaction would actually occur under the awarded priority, the following: (1) a replacement contract for a MW quantity or hours of service, that when added to the reduced MW quantity or hours of service of the revised supporting contract, equals the MW quantity or hours of service reflected in the original contract supporting the Wheeling Through Priority, provided that the Scheduling Coordinator can receive a priority for a total MW quantity or number of hours less than the MW quantity or number of hours in the original contract, but greater than the MW quantity or number of hours in the revised contract, and (2) the replacement contract has a Scheduling Point where the energy is to be imported to the CAISO and a Scheduling Point where the energy is to be exported from the CAISO identical to the Scheduling Points in the original contract supporting the priority. If the Scheduling Coordinator decides it will not seek any replacement contract if the original power supply contract has been modified, it must notify the CAISO within five (5) Business Days of that decision, but no later than eleven (11) Business Days before the date any Priority Wheeling Through transaction would actually occur under the
awarded priority. The CAISO will account for any capacity associated with a modified Wheeling Through Priority in a revised ATC calculation.

(d) If the Scheduling Coordinator seeks a priority in a replacement contract for a MW quantity greater than the MW quantity in the original contract, hours that are different than the hours in the hours in the original contract, or either the import or export Scheduling Point in the replacement contract is different than the import or export point in the original contract supporting the Wheeling Through Priority, the Scheduling Coordinator must re-apply for a Wheeling Through Priority for such deviations in a subsequent request window.

(e) If the supply contract supporting the Wheeling Through Priority is terminated or modified after eleven (11) Business Days before the Day-Ahead Market run for the date on which the Scheduling Coordinator can first schedule a Priority Wheeling Through transaction using the Wheeling Through Priority, the Scheduling Coordinator will retain the Wheeling Through Priority and will be charged for such Wheeling Through Priority for the term of the priority.

23.3 ATC Requirements Related to CAISO LSEs

23.3.1 ATC Request Window Applicability to CAISO LSEs

The CAISO will consider Native Load needs of its Load Serving Entities in determining ATC pursuant to Section 23.3 and Appendix L-1. In addition, Scheduling Coordinators for CAISO LSEs can compete to obtain ATC to support an import into the CAISO Balancing Authority Area in the daily request window process set forth in Section 23.5. The Scheduling Coordinator must attest to the following: (1) its ATC request is supported by an executed firm power supply contract, a firm power supply contract where execution is contingent upon the receipt of ATC, or ownership of a resource to serve the Load Serving Entity’s load; (2) the MW quantity of the firm power supply contract with the Load Serving Entity supporting the request and the CAISO Scheduling Points to which the energy will be imported to the CAISO Controlled Grid; (3) the start and end dates of the power supply contract and the specific hours during the day(s) covered by the power supply contract for which the Scheduling Coordinator seeks ATC; (4) all information specified in the Business Practice Manual to support a daily ATC request has been
provided; and (5) whether the Scheduling Coordinator is willing to accept a pro rata allocation of capacity, or an award of only part of its request, if the result of the monthly or daily request window process in Sections 23.4 and 23.5, respectively, is that there is insufficient ATC to accommodate the entire request, because of a tie among competing requesters or for some other reason.

23.3.2 Historical Contract Information Regarding Non-Resource Adequacy Resource Import Supply

Under the process and by the deadline established in the Business Practice Manual, to enable the CAISO to calculate ATC on the Interties under Appendix L-1, each Scheduling Coordinator for a Load Serving Entity may attest to the CAISO and submit information regarding firm non-Resource Adequacy Resource import supply contracts the Load Serving Entity had in place to serve its load during the two (2) years prior to the month for which the CAISO is determining ATC. The firm import supply contracts that can be reported under this Section 23.3.1 must be contracts for a period greater than one month that includes the applicable month, monthly contracts for the month, or a portfolio of shorter-term contracts for the month. They cannot be contracts to replace other external capacity that becomes unavailable. LSEs must attest to and provide: (1) the start and end dates of the contract; (2) the MW quantity; and (3) the CAISO Scheduling Point where the energy is imported.

23.3.3 New Contract Information

Before the CAISO initially establishes ATC for a month that is thirteen (13) months away, under the process and deadlines established in the Business Practice Manual, Load Serving Entities must (1) notify the CAISO of any new firm contracts for imports to serve their load that are for a period greater than one month and include the applicable month, monthly contracts for the month, or a portfolio of shorter-term contracts for the month, and that are not reflected in the historical two (2) year period and (2) notify the CAISO of any import contracts reflected in the historical data that will be discontinued any time in the thirteen (13)-month horizon and will not be replaced with another import at the same Scheduling Point. The CAISO will consider these representations in establishing the initial ATC for the month. The Load Serving Entity must attest to whether the new import contract replaces capacity that the Load Serving Entity had under contract during the historical two (2)-year period or is incremental to that capacity. The Load Serving Entity must attest to and provide: (1) the start and end dates of the import contract; (2) the
specific hours to which the contract applies; (3) the MW quantity of the contract by month; and (4) the CAISO Scheduling Point where the energy will be imported. If the new contract is intended as replacement capacity, the LSE must attest to and indicate the contract that is being replaced, the term of that contract, the MW quantity of the contract each month, and the CAISO Scheduling Point where the energy was imported under the contract.

If the LSE intends the new contract to be incremental capacity, the LSE must attest that the capacity will be additive to the import capacity under contract during the historic period and will be shown as such in the monthly Resource Adequacy or non-Resource Adequacy contract showings. Upon request of the CAISO, Load Serving Entities should be ready to provide information to demonstrate the incremental nature of the capacity including, but not limited to: Load Serving Entity resource plans that include the contract; the LSE’s expected load growth, incremental procurement ordered or approved by Local Regulatory Authorities, replacement of generation internal to the CAISO, or other relevant information demonstrating the additive nature of the new contract. The CAISO will use contracts that meet the requirements in this section to determine the existing transmission commitments (ETComm) component of the ATC calculation under Appendix L-1.

**23.3.4 Monthly Non-Resource Adequacy Contract Showings**

According to the process set forth in the Business Practice Manual, before the end of the Resource Adequacy cure period under Section 40 for the applicable month, a Load Serving Entity may show to the CAISO any firm non-Resource Adequacy contracts it has for the month that should be considered for inclusion in the existing transmission commitments (ETComm) component of the ATC calculation for the month under Appendix L-1. The contracts cannot be contracts to replace other external capacity that becomes unavailable. The Load Serving Entity seeking to make such a showing must attest to and indicate the following: (1) it has an executed firm power supply contract to serve its load, a firm power supply contract to serve its load where execution is contingent upon the receipt of ATC, or ownership of a resource to serve the Load Serving Entity’s load; (2) the MW quantity of the firm power supply contract with the Load Serving Entity and the Scheduling Point(s) at which the energy will be imported to the CAISO Controlled Grid; and (3) the start and end dates of the power supply contract and the specific hours and days during the month covered by the power supply contract.
contracts must be monthly contracts or a portfolio of shorter-term contracts for the month.

23.3.5 CPM Access to ATC

If the CAISO designates import capacity under the CPM for any reason other than to address an annual or monthly Resource Adequacy deficiency, the CAISO will first utilize the CPM import capacity under the TRM to the extent any TRM capacity is available. If insufficient TRM capacity is available, then the CAISO will utilize ATC for the term of the CPM designation, or for part of the term, only to the extent ATC is available at the time of the designation. If the CAISO designates import capacity under the CPM to address an annual or monthly RA deficiency, the CAISO will first utilize ATC to the extent any ATC is available for all or part of the term and, if no ATC is available, then it will utilize TRM.

23.3.6 Annual Summer ATC and TRM Assessment Meeting with Stakeholders

Before the summer season (May-October) each year, the CAISO will meet with stakeholders to discuss ATC and its components and expected conditions for the upcoming summer and the following year’s summer. The CAISO will issue a Market Notice announcing the meeting(s) in accordance with the timeline specified in the Business Practice Manual.

23.4 Obtaining a Monthly Wheeling Through Priority

On the date specified in the annual Wheeling Through priority request calendar, the CAISO will open a request window whereby Scheduling Coordinators can submit a request for a priority for Wheeling Throughs for a month(s). Scheduling Coordinators can request a monthly Wheeling Through Priority for any month or months ATC is calculated and available, no sooner than twelve (12) months in advance and no later than one (1) month prior to the effective date of the priority. The CAISO will hold the request window open for fourteen (14) days. Closure of the request window each month will coincide with the closure of the monthly Resource Adequacy cure period under Section 40 for that month. At a minimum, Wheeling Through Priority requests for a month(s) must be supported by a six (6)-days-by-four (4)-hours firm power supply contract for each full week during the month plus the relevant days in any partial week during the month. The CAISO will make its determination regarding monthly Wheeling Through Priority awards no later than three (3) Business Days after the request window closes. The CAISO will treat all requests for a monthly Wheeling Through Priority submitted during the request window as having been submitted simultaneously. The CAISO will treat all requests for a monthly priority during the request
window as confidential during the request window period and treat them in accordance with Section 20 thereafter. The CAISO will award ATC to support Wheeling Through Priority requests based on the total number of hours of the requested priority (which must be supported by a firm power supply contract supporting the priority request for those hours) over the entire thirteen (13)-month horizon. Thus, supported priority requests for more hours during the thirteen (13)-month period will be awarded ATC before requests for fewer hours. For example, a priority request supported by a six (6)-days-by-sixteen (16)-hours power supply contract for one (1) month will have priority over a request supported by a six (6)-days-by-eight (8)-hours power supply contract for the same month; a priority request supported by a six (6)-days-by-four (4)-hours power supply contract for five (5) months will have priority over a request supported by a six (6)-days-by-eight (8)-hours power supply contract for just one (1) of those months. If there is a tie among requests and insufficient remaining ATC to accommodate all such priority requests for the month, the CAISO will allocate Wheeling Through priorities on a pro rata MW basis, or grant part of the ATC request, to those Scheduling Coordinators that indicated they would accept a pro rata allocation or partial awards. Wheeling Through Priority awards coming out of a monthly request window are unconditional and cannot be unwound by Wheeling Through Priority awards in subsequent request windows. A Scheduling Coordinator for a Priority Wheeling Through does not lose an awarded scheduling priority if it does not self-schedule the transaction in the Day-Ahead Market.

23.5 Obtaining a Daily Wheeling Through Priority

The CAISO will open a request window each day whereby Scheduling Coordinators can request a daily Wheeling Through Priority or daily ATC to support an import into the CAISO Balancing Authority Area by a CAISO LSE (LSE ATC), for any day or days in that request window to the extent ATC is calculated and available, no sooner than seven (7) days in advance and no later than one (1) day prior to the effective date of the priority. The CAISO will hold the request window open for five (5) hours during the hours specified in the Business Practice Manual. At a minimum, Wheeling Through Priority requests in the Day-Ahead horizon must be supported by a firm power supply contract of at least four (4) hours for each day during the seven (7)-day horizon for which the Scheduling Coordinator seeks a Wheeling Through Priority or LSE ATC. The CAISO will make its determination regarding daily Wheeling Through Priority awards no later than two (2) hours after the daily request window closes and one (1) hour before the Day-Ahead
Market runs. The CAISO will treat all requests for a Wheeling Through Priority or LSE ATC for a day submitted during the request window as having been submitted simultaneously. The CAISO will treat all requests for a daily priority during the request window as confidential during the request window and in accordance with Section 20 thereafter. The CAISO will award ATC to support Wheeling Through Priority or LSE ATC requests based on the total number of hours of the requested priority (which must be supported by a firm power supply contract for the priority request for those hours) over the entire seven (7)-day horizon. Thus, supported priority requests for more hours during the seven (7)-day period will be awarded ATC before requests for fewer hours. For example, a priority request supported by a six (6)-days-by-sixteen (16)-hours power supply contract for one (1) day will have priority over a request supported by a six (6)-days-by-eight (8)-hours power supply contract for the same day; a priority request supported by a six (6)-days-by-four (4)-hours power supply contract for five (5) days will have priority over a request supported by a six (6)-days-by-eight (8)-hours power supply contract for one (1) of those days. If there is a tie among requests and insufficient remaining ATC to accommodate all such priority requests for the day, the CAISO will allocate Wheeling Through Priorities on a pro rata MW basis, or grant a part of the request, to those Scheduling Coordinators that indicated they would accept a pro rata allocation or a partial award. Awards of Wheeling Through Priorities or LSE ATC coming out of a daily request window are unconditional and cannot be unwound by Wheeling Through Priority or LSE ATC awards in subsequent daily request windows. A Scheduling Coordinator for a Priority Wheeling Through does not lose an awarded scheduling priority if it does not schedule in the Day-Ahead Market.

23.6 [Not Used]

23.7 Use of ETC or TOR Capacity to Support a Wheeling Through Priority

A Scheduling Coordinator may use ETC or TOR capacity to support a Wheeling Through Priority. The Scheduling Coordinator may use ETC or TOR capacity for that portion of the Wheeling Through Priority from the import Scheduling Point to the export Scheduling Point that is covered by the ETC or TOR capacity the Scheduling Coordinator chooses to use. The Scheduling Coordinator must use transmission capacity on the CAISO Controlled Grid to support the balance of the Wheeling Through Priority. The Scheduling Coordinator will pay the applicable Wheeling Through Priority charges pursuant to Section 26.1.4.5 for the MW quantity of the Wheeling Through Priority.
23.8  [Not Used]
23.8.1 [Not Used]
23.8.2 [Not Used]
23.8.3 [Not Used]

23.9  TOR Capacity Made Available to the CAISO

To the extent the holder of a TOR makes some or all of its TOR capacity available to the CAISO pursuant to a contract, the CAISO will implement the release of TOR capacity under the contract and reflect any released capacity in its ATC calculations as being available for new firm use and priority requests under Sections 23.4 and 23.5.