

Emergency notifications

Energy shortages can be caused by persistent high heat, equipment failure, weather events, or natural disasters, such as wildfires. When electricity supplies are tight, the California ISO uses an alert system to keep the public and market participants informed. The ISO recently transitioned to a series of notifications that match the North America Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC) Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) system to be consistent with alerts used by the RC West and other balancing authorities in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). [Learn more about EEAs.](#)



Flex Alerts

A Flex Alert is a call to consumers to voluntarily conserve electricity when the ISO anticipates using nearly all available resources to meet demand. Reducing energy use during a Flex Alert can prevent more dire measures, such as moving into EEA notifications, emergency procedures, and even [rotating power outages](#). Visit the ISO's [Flex Alert](#) website for energy conservation tips and to sign up for notifications.



Restricted Maintenance Operations

High loads are anticipated. ISO participants are cautioned to avoid taking grid assets offline for routine maintenance to assure that all generators and transmission lines are available.



Transmission Emergency

Declared for any event threatening or limiting transmission grid capability, including line or transformer overloads or loss.



EEA Watch

Analysis shows all available resources are committed or forecasted to be in use, and energy deficiencies are expected. Market participants are encouraged to offer supplemental energy. This notice can be issued the day before the projected shortfall or if a sudden event occurs.

EEA 1

Energy Emergency Alert 1

Real-time analysis shows all resources are in use or committed for use, and energy deficiencies are expected. Market participants are encouraged to offer supplemental energy and ancillary service bids. Consumers are encouraged to conserve energy.

EEA 2

Energy Emergency Alert 2

ISO requests emergency energy from all resources and has activated its emergency demand response program. Consumers are urged to conserve energy to help preserve grid reliability.

EEA 3

Energy Emergency Alert 3

ISO is unable to meet minimum Contingency Reserve requirements and controlled power curtailments are imminent or in progress according to each utility's emergency plan. Maximum conservation by consumers requested.

To learn more about emergency notifications, go to [ISO System Emergency procedures](#).