EIM BPM

Section 11.3.2 Resource Sufficiency Evaluation

**WEIM Assistance Energy Transfer**

Assistance energy transfers allow the WEIM to provide reliability benefits to balancing authority areas (BAAs) deficient in capacity or flexibility. More specifically, BAAs that have voluntarily opted into receiving assistance energy transfers will not have their WEIM transfers limited when they fail the resource sufficiency evaluation (RSE) upward capacity test or the RSE upward flexibility test, and will instead have access to excess supply offered by other WEIM entities. For this reason, assistance energy transfers leverage a key benefit of the WEIM: the CAISO real-time market’s ability to optimally dispatch all of the supply available and provide access to supply that may not otherwise be available in the bilateral market outside of the WEIM.

BAAs that have voluntarily opted into receiving assistance energy transfers will also be subject to an ex-post surcharge (the “WEIM Assistance Energy Transfer Surcharge”) when they fail the RSE and receive assistance energy transfers. This ex-post surcharge will be in addition to the applicable LMP cleared in the market for assistance energy transfers. BAAs may voluntarily opt in or out of receiving assistance energy transfers by submitting assistance energy designation requests to the Master File, as described below. The assistance energy transfer program will sunset by December 31, 2025.

**Assistance Energy Designation Requests**

A Balancing Authority Area (BAA) in the WEIM Area may obtain assistance energy transfers into its BAA prior to December 31, 2025 if it has submitted to the Master File an assistance energy designation request. Such designation requests must be made for a minimum of a full trading day and cannot be broken apart into hourly or other intervals. Designation requests must be labeled as either “opt-in” or “opt-out” and must include both an effective start date and also an end date (the last day). For example, an opt-in designation request for one day would have the same start date and end date.

For each BAA participating in the WEIM, the default value in the Master File for each trading day will be “opt-out” unless an “opt-in” designation request is submitted and processed. Designation requests must be submitted by 11am Pacific Time at least 5 business days in advance of the effective start date. To highlight this point, Table 1 below provides several examples and also notes how the 5 business day requirement translates into calendar days.

Table 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Examples** | **M** | **T** | **W** | **T** | **F** | **S** | **S** | **M** | **T** | **W** | **T** | **F** | **S** | **S** | **M** | **T** | **Calendar Days** |
| Regular week | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 7 |
| Regular week |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 7 |
| Regular week |  |  |  |  |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  | 9 |
| 3-day holiday weekend |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8 |
| 3-day holiday weekend |  |  |  |  |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ | 10 |
| Mid-week holiday | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8 |
| Thanksgiving weekend |  |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  |  |  |  | 9 |
| Thanksgiving weekend |  |  |  | ● |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ✓ |  | 11 |

Legend

● Designation request submitted by 11am PST

✓ Earliest effective start date

Specific Instructions for WEIM BAAs:

Assistance energy designation requests must be submitted to the Master File via the CAISO’s customer inquiry, dispute and information system (CIDI) by 11:00 AM Pacific Time at least 5 business days in advance of the effective start date. The WEIM entity submitting the CIDI ticket must enable the checkbox titled “assistance energy designation request” to ensure the timely processing of the request. The CIDI ticket must include the following information in order to be considered an assistance energy designation request:

* Either “opt-in” or “opt-out”
* Start date
* End date

Specific Instructions for CAISO BAA

Assistance energy designation requests must be submitted to the Master File by 11:00 AM Pacific Time at least 5 business days in advance of the effective start date. The designation request must include the following information in order to be considered an assistance energy designation request:

* Either “opt-in” or “opt-out”
* Start date
* End date

When the CAISO BAA submits an assistance energy designation request, it must simultaneously issue a market notification to make the action transparent and public.

**Assistance Energy Transfer opt-in / opt-out criteria for CAISO BAA**

Each calendar day, the CAISO’s market validation team, acting on behalf of the CAISO BAA, will look multiple calendar days ahead and will have the authority, subject to input from CAISO operations based on system conditions and operator experience, to submit an assistance energy designation request based on any of the following four criteria:

1. Where any calendar day is day 1: if any hour of day 8 has (RA capacity + RA credits) forecast < (demand forecast + contingency reserve requirement + regulation reserve + 5% of demand forecast), then the CAISO BAA has the authority to submit an “opt-in” assistance energy designation request for day 8. Otherwise, the CAISO BAA has the authority to submit an “opt-out” assistance energy designation request for day 8.
2. Where any calendar day is day 1: if any hour of day 8 has (net RA capacity + RA credits) forecast < (net demand forecast + contingency reserve requirement + regulation reserve + 5% of net demand forecast), then the CAISO BAA has the authority to submit an “opt-in” assistance energy designation request for day 8. Otherwise, the CAISO BAA has the authority to submit an “opt-out” assistance energy designation request for day 8.
3. Where any calendar day is day 1: if the CAISO BAA has the authority (through criteria “A” or “B” above) to submit an “opt-in” assistance energy designation request for day 8 and day 8 is a Friday or a day that directly precedes one or more non-business days, then the CAISO BAA also has the authority to submit an “opt-in” assistance energy designation request for those non-business days that directly follow day 8.
4. Where any calendar day is day 1: if the CAISO BAA has the authority (through criteria “A” or “B” above) to submit an “opt-out” assistance energy designation request for day 8 and day 8 is a Friday or a day that directly precedes one or more non-business days, then the CAISO BAA also has the authority to submit an “opt-out” assistance energy designation request for those non-business days that directly follow day 8.

Note

The forecasted terms in criteria “A” and “B” above are based on the ISO’s RA Capacity Trend data that is published to Today’s Outlook on the CAISO’s website.[[1]](#footnote-1) However, the terms “5% of demand forecast” and “5% of net demand forecast” are not part of the ISO’s RA Capacity Trend and have been incorporated in criteria “A” and “B” above to account for the inherent uncertainty associated with a day 8 demand forecast.

1. http://www.caiso.com/TodaysOutlook/Pages/default.aspx#section-7day-ra-capacity-trend [↑](#footnote-ref-1)