# Retirement

Participating Generators that wish to retire or mothball their entire Generating Unit(s), (make unavailable on a permanent or long term basis), must communicate their intent to the CAISO and Participating TO in writing to ensure that the CAISO will 1) consider and assess the request, which will be made public and posted under the Planning tab on the Reliability Requirements page of the CAISO website,[[1]](#footnote-1) and 2) assess that they are able to retain the Generating Unit’s Full Capacity Deliverability Status (FCDS) or Partial Capacity Deliverability Status (PCDS) as elements of Resource Adequacy (RA) and CAISO Net Qualifying Capacity (NQC), when desired.[[2]](#footnote-2) Generating Units that have expired or terminated Generator Interconnection Agreements (GIA) by default will fall under Scenario 3 *(Permanent Retirement, release of Deliverability)*, described below. The scenarios for retiring or mothballing a Generating Unit are:

**Scenario 1: Repowering / Entered Queue.** Participating Generators that wish to retire a Generating Unit and retain the Generating Unit’s Deliverability status and has either:

* 1. been approved for the affidavit repowering process pursuant to Section 25.1.2 of the CAISO Tariff or the appropriate Participating TO’s tariff; or
	2. entered the CAISO or Participating TO generator interconnection queue to be studied for repowering pursuant to the GIDAP.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Scenario 2: Undecided and decommissioning Generating Unit.** Participating Generators that wish to decommission and retire the Generating Unit and retain the Generating Unit’s Deliverability status but has not yet:

1. committed to or completed the assessment for the repowering process; or
2. entered into the CAISO or Participating TO generator interconnection queue after a determination that it is ineligible for the affidavit repowering process.

**Scenario 3: Permanent Retirement / Release of Deliverability.** Participating Generators that wish to permanently retire the Generating Unit and will not repower, and has no need to retain the Generating Unit’s Deliverability status.

**Scenario 4: Mothball (make unavailable) / Generating Unit to remain intact.** Participating Generators that wish to mothball the Generating Unit for the time being until its next steps have been determined which could be: restarting, decommissioning, permanent retirement, repowering or entering the generator interconnection queue. The Generating Unit and interconnection facilities must remain intact until a decision on next steps is made and reported to the CAISO for further direction.

Participating Generators that are retiring a portion of a project under any scenario and want to continue to operate an energy storage unit that was added under the MMA or post-COD modification process will need to request an assessment as part of their notification of intent to retire. The CAISO will assess the impact of the system without the original generating unit and only the energy storage unit remaining in place. If there are no reliability issues identified in the assessment, then the energy storage unit will be allowed to stay interconnected and continue to operate. Any deliverability that is available could be transferred from the retiring generating unit to the energy storage unit. If there are any identified reliability issues, then the generator cannot retire unless a mitigation is determined, or the energy storage will need to be disconnected at the time the generating unit retires.

1. URL: <http://www.caiso.com/planning/Pages/ReliabilityRequirements/Default.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. More information on Resource Adequacy and Net Qualifying Capacity is available in Section 6 of the BPM for Reliability Requirements, <http://www.caiso.com/planning/Pages/ReliabilityRequirements/Default.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The CAISO’s procedures for evaluating repower requests by an owner of an existing Generating Unit made pursuant to Section 25.1.2 of the CAISO Tariff allow such entities to obtain a CAISO three-party GIA without having to participate in the CAISO GIDAP study process if they demonstrate that the “total capability and electrical characteristics of the Generating Unit will remain substantially unchanged.” The repowered Generating Unit must utilize the same fuel source and point of interconnection to the CAISO Controlled Grid as the existing Generating Unit. If the Generating Unit has not been approved (or knows that Section 25.1.2 will be inapplicable), the repowering applicant will need to submit the project into the CAISO generation interconnection queue in accordance with the GIDAP. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)