

Emergency notifications

Energy shortages can be caused by persistent high heat, equipment failure, weather events, or natural disasters, such as wildfires. When electricity supply is tight, the California ISO uses an alert system to keep the public informed. The ISO recently transitioned to a series of notifications that match the North American 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 Alert

A Flex Alert is a call to consumers to voluntarily conserve electricity when the ISO anticipates energy supply may not meet high electricity 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

When high demand is anticipated, the ISO will caution utilities and transmission operators 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 equipment overloads or outages.

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

To monitor grid conditions, visit [Today's Outlook](#) and download the [ISO Today mobile app](#).

● Energy Emergency Alert Watch (EEA Watch)

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

● Energy Emergency Alert 1 (EEA 1)

Real-time analysis shows all resources are in use or committed for use, and energy deficiencies are expected. Consumers are encouraged to conserve energy.

● Energy Emergency Alert 2 (EEA 2)

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

● Energy Emergency Alert 3 (EEA 3) – Preparing for rotating power outages

The grid operator is unable to meet minimum reliability reserve requirements and has declared the initial step of an EEA 3. Utilities have been alerted to prepare for outages, but rotating outages have not been ordered.

● Energy Emergency Alert 3 (EEA 3) – Ordering rotating power outages

The grid operator has ordered utilities to begin rotating power outages to protect grid reliability. The final step of an EEA 3 is declared when electricity supply is not sufficient to meet demand and required reserves are unable to be maintained.