California ISO Board implements shared-governance framework with Western Energy Imbalance Market Governing Body
Reliability must run contracts for several resources extended through 2022


The Board’s action concludes a stakeholder process that began with the Western EIM Governance Review Committee in 2019. The new governance framework, which the Board and Western EIM Governing Body approved last month, is now effective. The framework gives the Board and Western EIM Governing Body shared approval authority over a wider range of issues applicable to the Western EIM, including tariff proposals made to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The changes also ensure the continuation of an advisory role for the EIM Governing Body, which will now extend to all real-time market rules not under joint authority. A dispute resolution process is also included in the shared-governance changes to be used if the two entities disagree on a proposed tariff change.

Additionally, the ISO will initiate a public stakeholder process to consider a governance recommendation made by the EIM Governing Body at its Sept. 8 meeting regarding how Board advisory committees are established to consider joint authority and/or Western EIM governance matters.

The ISO announced it would begin the stakeholder process with the goal of bringing the matter to the Board for consideration in November.

In other action, the Board of Governors unanimously approved the extension of several reliability must run (RMR) contracts to help maintain reliable system-wide grid conditions through 2022. An RMR designation requires the resource to be available during critical times for grid operations.

Extension of the RMR contracts applies to Dynegy Oakland, Starwood Energy Group, CSU Channel Islands Site Authority, Midway Sunset Cogeneration Company, and KES Kingsburg resources.
The California Independent System Operator (ISO) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation dedicated, with its partners, to continuous improvement and secure operation of a reliable grid operated for the benefit of consumers. It provides comprehensive grid planning, open and nondiscriminatory access to one of the largest networks of high-voltage transmission power lines in the world, and operates a $9 billion competitive electricity market. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help provide a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly.

The Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) Governing Body is the governing authority designed by regional stakeholders with delegated authority from the ISO Board of Governors to resolve rules specific to participation in the Western EIM.