



March 2, 2022

The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose  
Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

**Re: California Independent System Operator Corporation  
Docket Nos. ER08-1178-000 and EL08-88-000**

**120-day Exceptional Dispatch Informational Report  
August 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022**

Dear Secretary Bose:

The California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) submits the attached informational report to include Exceptional Dispatch data for the period (including the summer months) from August 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022.

In its September 2009 Order, the Commission directed the CAISO to file reports every 120 days that describe the status of the CAISO's efforts to reduce the frequency of Exceptional Dispatch and the status of the CAISO's development of operational and product enhancements that would reduce reliance on Exceptional Dispatch.<sup>1</sup> The 120-day informational report is in addition to the Table 1 and Table 2 monthly Exceptional Dispatch reports the CAISO files in the above-referenced dockets.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Indep. Sys. Operator Corp.*, 128 FERC ¶ 61,218, at PP 50-51 (September 2009 Order). The Commission explained that it "does not intend to notice these future status reports or to issue orders on these in the future, as these reports are for informational purposes only." *Id.* at P 51 n.66.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, and *Cal. Indep. Sys. Operator Corp.*, 131 FERC ¶ 61,100 (2010). The CAISO now files both Table 1 and Table 2 at the same time on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

**By: /s/ Sidney L. Mannheim**

Roger E. Collanton

General Counsel

Sidney L. Mannheim

Assistant General Counsel

California Independent System

Operator Corporation

250 Outcropping Way

Folsom, CA 95630

Tel: (916) 608-7144

Fax: (916) 608-7222

[smannheim@caiso.com](mailto:smannheim@caiso.com)



# California ISO

## **120-day Exceptional Dispatch Report**

**Prepared by  
California Independent System Operator**

March 2, 2022

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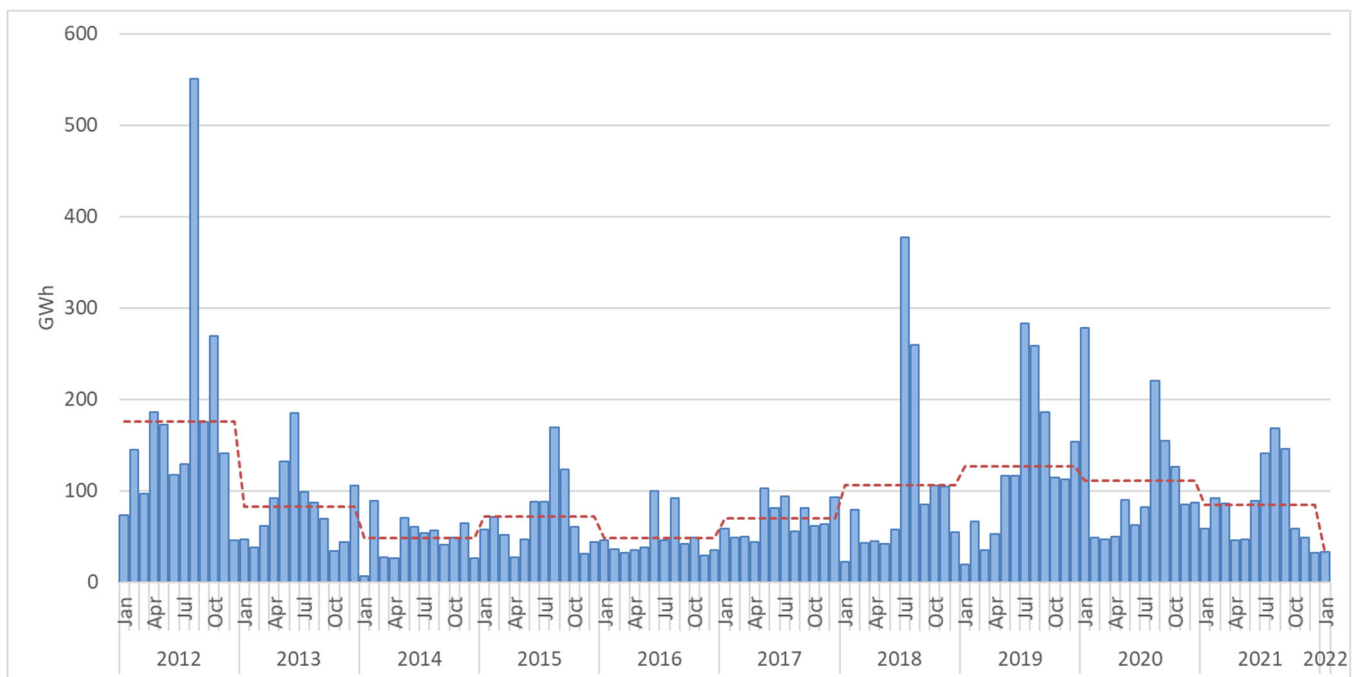
## 1. Introduction

This informational report by the California ISO (CAISO) provides an update to the Commission and market participants on the exceptional dispatch metrics and the measures the CAISO took to reduce reliance on exceptional dispatch for the period from January 2012 through January 2022. This report covers the 120-day period from August 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Exceptional Dispatch Data and Reports

As shown in Figure 1 below, the annual average volume of exceptional dispatches for 2021 was lower than 2020 by about 31% due to high volumes of exceptional dispatches in the month of August and September for 2020. The annual exceptional dispatch volumes have been decreasing since 2019. The yearly average volume has remained relatively stable at low levels for recent years with the exception of peak summer conditions when exceptional dispatches are necessary to manage contingencies as evident from the summer months in 2020 and 2021. The increase in August-September 2021 exceptional dispatch was primarily due to peak demand conditions and high temperatures along with fires. The volume of exceptional dispatches since the summer months have decreased as evident from the seasonal patterns every year.

Figure 1 Exceptional Dispatch Volume from January 2012 to January 2022



The volume of exceptional dispatches for November 2021 – January 2022 were very low as compared to November 2020 - January 2021. The volume of exceptional dispatch has been

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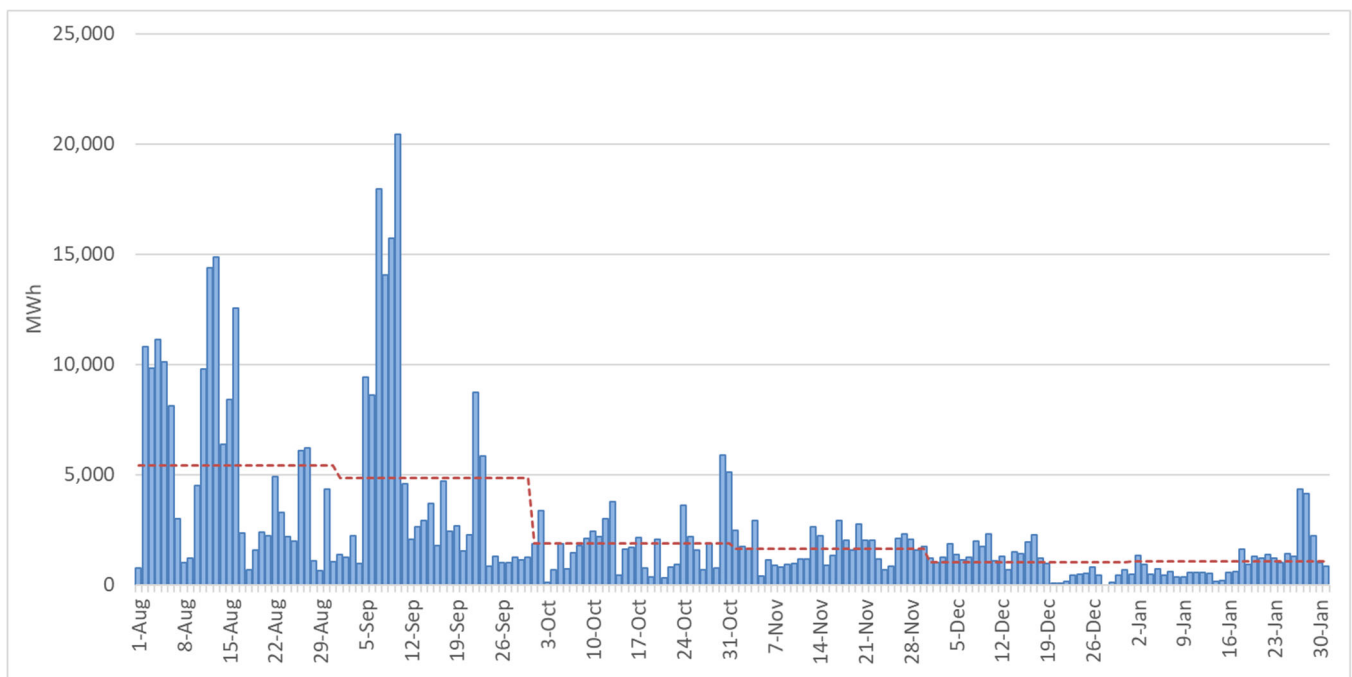
<sup>1</sup> The ISO's 120-day reports are available on the ISO website at: <http://www.caiso.com/rules/Pages/Regulatory/RegulatoryFilingsAndOrders.aspx>.

higher during the summer months and decreases significantly after the summer months.

Due to heat wave along with fires during the summer months, it was necessary to exceptional dispatch resources to meet the evening ramp. The majority of the volume of exceptional dispatches during the months of August and September were due to ramping capacity, load forecast uncertainty, planned transmission outage and incomplete and inaccurate transmission as shown in figure 3. However after the summer months, the majority of the volume of exceptional dispatches were due to voltage support, planned transmission outage and reliability assessment as shown in figure 3. As explained in Operating Procedure 2330C<sup>2</sup>, Reliability Assessment is the reason that encompasses Control Point (CP), Interconnection Reliability Operating Limit (IROL), System Operating Limit (SOL) and congestion related EDs, to mitigate reliability issues identified through the real – time assessment tools such as Real Time Contingency Analysis (RTCA), Voltage Stability Analysis (VSA), Dynamic Stability Analysis (DSA) and/or Operating Procedure (OP) or offline study.

These exceptional dispatches were driven by ramping capacity (about 26% of total exceptional dispatch volume), planned transmission outage (about 22% of total exceptional dispatch volume), voltage support (about 14% of total exceptional dispatch volume) and load forecast uncertainty (about 13% of total exceptional dispatch volume), as shown in the figure 4.

Figure 2 Daily Exceptional Dispatch Volume from August 2021 to January 2022



<sup>2</sup> Operating Procedure 2330C - <http://www.caiso.com/Documents/2330C.pdf>.

Figure 3 Daily Exceptional Dispatch Volume for August 2021 to January 2022 by Reason

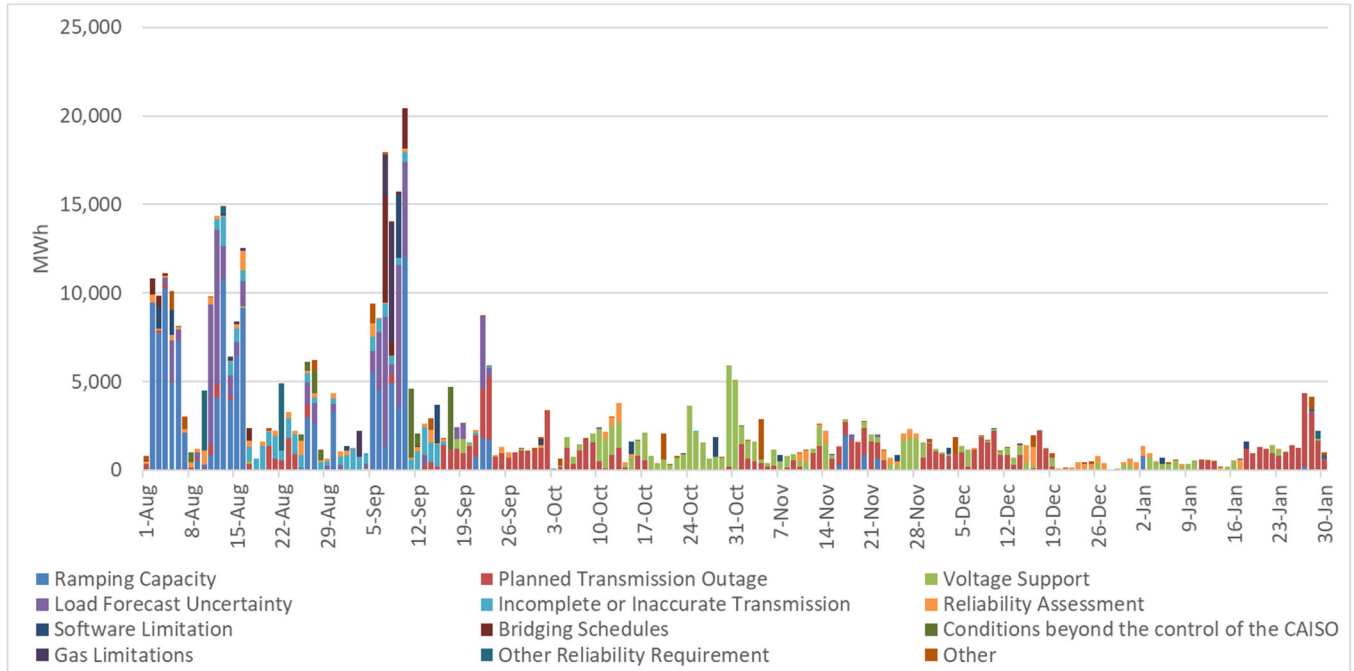
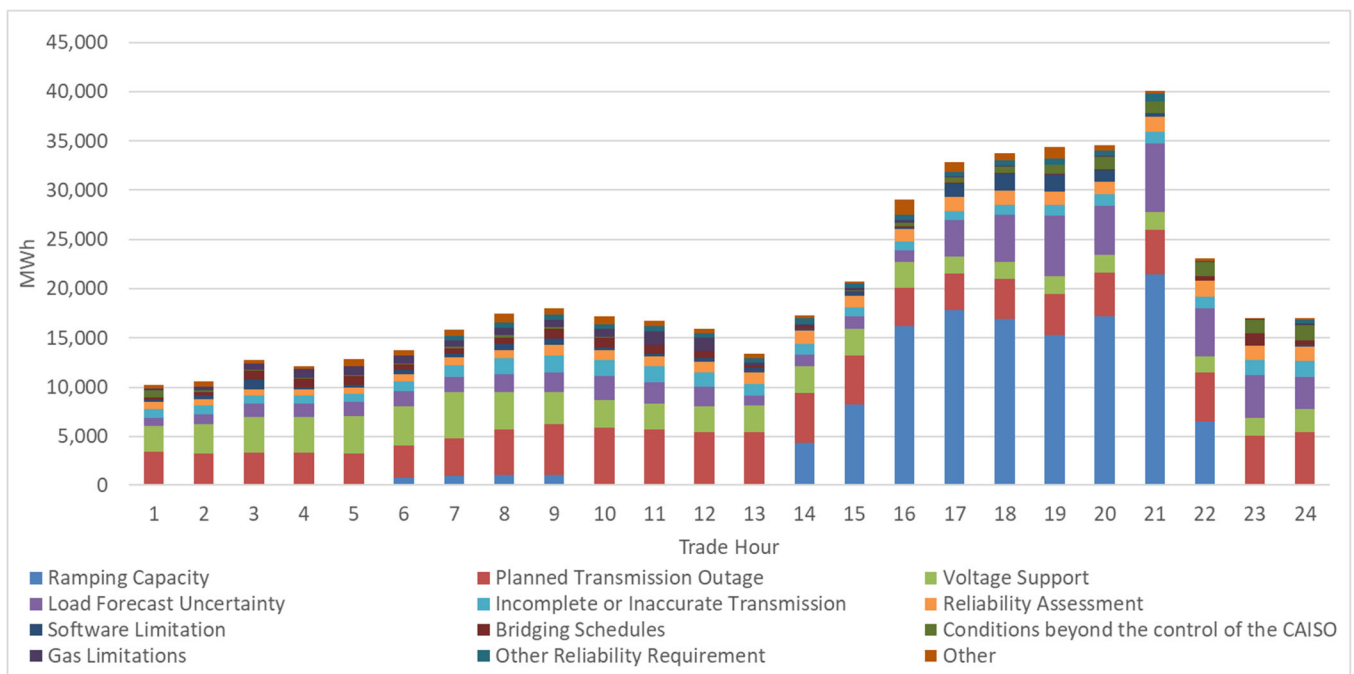


Figure 4, shows the hourly pattern of exceptional dispatch volume for August 2021 to January 2022.

Figure 4 Hourly Exceptional Dispatch Volume for August 2021 to January 2022 by Reason



To comply with Commission directives and inform the market, as reflected in orders and the CAISO tariff, the CAISO produces and files two monthly exceptional dispatch reports in Docket No. ER08-1178, in addition to the 120-day reports that the CAISO is now resuming. One report (the Table 1 report) is filed on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of every month and the other report (the Table 2 report) is filed on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of every month. The CAISO has filed the Table 1 and Table 2 reports each month. These monthly reports provide the market with the most recent summary of exceptional dispatch activity and associated costs. The monthly reports are also available on the CAISO's website at: <http://www.caiso.com/market/Pages/ReportsBulletins/Default.aspx>.

The CAISO also publishes a monthly market performance report at: <http://www.caiso.com/market/Pages/ReportsBulletins/Default.aspx>. This monthly report highlights the frequency and cost of exceptional dispatch as a subset of the broader category of operator intervention. The report is published approximately three weeks after the end of every month and is based on preliminary settlement data available about 10 days after the end of the month.

Additional information is also explained in greater detail in the Market Performance Metric Catalog that the CAISO issues on a monthly basis. This report provides the explanation and context for each market metric, including information on exceptional dispatch. It is available at: <http://www.caiso.com/market/Pages/ReportsBulletins/Default.aspx>.

The CAISO also provides a regularly scheduled forum for discussing issues, including exceptional dispatch – the Market Performance and Planning Forum meetings that the CAISO holds every quarter. These meetings provide a venue for high-level dialogue on release planning, implementation, and new market enhancements. Agendas for the meetings cover items of importance to stakeholders, and includes general metrics of the ISO market performance, including Exceptional Dispatch metrics. Meeting agendas, presentations, and stakeholder comments are posted on the Market Performance and Planning Forum webpage: <http://www.caiso.com/Documents/Market%20performance%20and%20planning%20forum>.



### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have served the foregoing document upon the parties listed on the official service list in the captioned proceedings, in accordance with the requirements of Rule 2010 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 C.F.R. § 385.2010).

Dated at Folsom, California, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

*/s/ Jacqueline Meredith*  
Jacqueline Meredith