

The US Department of Energy (DOE) recently determined that an electric emergency existed in California, and authorized the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to direct the operation specific electric generating resources at their maximum output levels to preserve reliability of the power grid due to ongoing extreme heat, wildfires, and persistent drought.

The order, effective September 2, 2022 and as modified on September 7, 2022, authorized the CAISO to dispatch generation that might otherwise be constrained by federal air permit limits, but only after the CAISO has exhausted all reasonably and practically available resources of electric supply. The DOE allowed the CAISO to call on the following power plants through September 12, 2022:

- The Alamos Energy Center in Long Beach, California;
- The Huntington Beach Energy Project in Huntington Beach, California;
- The Walnut Creek Energy Park in the City of Industry, California; and
- Greenleaf Unit 1 in Yuba City, California (Greenleaf Unit 1).

The CAISO requested the emergency order to access additional electric generation when California and the West were experiencing excessive heat driving up electricity demand, multiple wildfires threatening transmission and generation, and prolonged drought conditions affecting hydroelectric supplies. The CAISO will report source-specific data to DOE for the dates the order was in effect, including hourly emission data.

For more information, visit the DOE website: <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/federal-power-act-section-202c-caiso-september-2022>.

Background on the emergency authority and previous orders issued may be found at the DOE's ["Use of Federal Power Act Emergency Authority" webpage](#).