



Reliability in the West

Upcoming Discussion:

[Large Load Impacts](#)

Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Mountain Time

In September, we will be addressing the issue of large-load demands. The occurrence of large loads is becoming increasingly common, and the integration of these large loads is presenting a new challenge to the electric industry. We will delve into this challenge and its implications for the Western Interconnection and the BPS.

Future Discussions:

The discussion series encompasses many topics and issues related to reliability, giving stakeholders an opportunity to stay current, gain knowledge, and take part in discussions on the most pressing issues that affect the region. We welcome your feedback and suggestions on discussion topics, please share them with us at engage@wecc.org.

Previous Discussions:

[Emerging Risks](#)

August 2024

In August WECC leadership discussed recent events and pressing emerging risks to the Western Interconnection. Discussion topics included new peak demand, future resource build out, new large load centers, and recurring IBR events.

[Summer Assessment](#)

June 2024

In June, we followed up on our May conversation about the summer outlook in the West with a more in-depth discussion of potential reliability risks for the summer. A panel provided West-specific details from NERC’s Summer Reliability Assessment.

[Summer Outlook](#)

May 2024

The Summer Outlook discussion offered a glimpse into the operational risks and conditions expected across the Western Interconnection during summer 2024. The event covered many topics, including weather patterns, temperatures, drought, aridification, and wildfires.

[Inverter-based Resources—Registration](#)

April 2024

The increasing integration of inverter-based resources (IBR) has led to a reliability gap where many IBR owners and operators connected to the Bulk Power System are not registered with NERC or complying with its Reliability Standards. In response, FERC issued an order in 2022 directing NERC to identify and register these unidentified IBRs. In March 2024, NERC filed proposed revisions with FERC that would lower the registration threshold for these resources. This discussion highlighted and reviewed the effects of the proposed threshold changes.

[Inverter-based Resources—Grid-forming Technology](#)

March 2024

The discussion focused on IBRs and grid-forming technology, which allows IBRs to respond during system disturbances. Panelists talked about the potential role of grid-forming technology in maintaining system stability in a future with a large penetration of IBRs.

[Inverter-based Resources and Ride-through](#)

February 2024

The discussion focused on the ride-through capability of IBRs. The panel covered the status of ride-through capability and associated risks, drawing insights from previous IBR-related incidents. The discussion emphasized the importance of IBR’s ability to withstand an event without compounding reliability issues.

2022 / 2023 Resource Adequacy Discussions:

- [Transmission Considerations](#)
- [Public Power](#)
- [Considering Consumer Impacts](#)
- [Summer Outlook—2023](#)
- [Navigating a Regional Approach](#)
- [Cutting Through the “Noise”—A Discussion with Commissioners](#)
- [NERC Winter and Long-Term Reliability Assessments](#)
- [Resource Adequacy and Western Heat Domes](#)
- [Spanning the Technology Gap](#)
- [Steel in the Ground](#)