

Monthly Outlook for Resource Adequacy (MORA) Report: August 2024

Overview

During the summer months (June, July, August, and September), peak demand on the grid is typically reached mid-to-late afternoon, with the tightest operating reserves expected during the evening hours as solar generation ramps down. Based on normal weather conditions, the grid has sufficient resources to balance supply and demand.

The August Monthly Outlook for Resource Adequacy (MORA) report provides a probabilistic assessment of grid conditions (not actual forecasts) to evaluate the risk of emergency conditions on August’s peak load (demand) days.

Low Wind Risk Profile: The August MORA includes a "low wind risk profile," which shows the Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) risk given different levels of wind generation during hour ending 9 p.m., the hour with the highest reserve shortage risk. It is important to note that this report covers a specific set of circumstances during a limited period of time.

Operational Tools

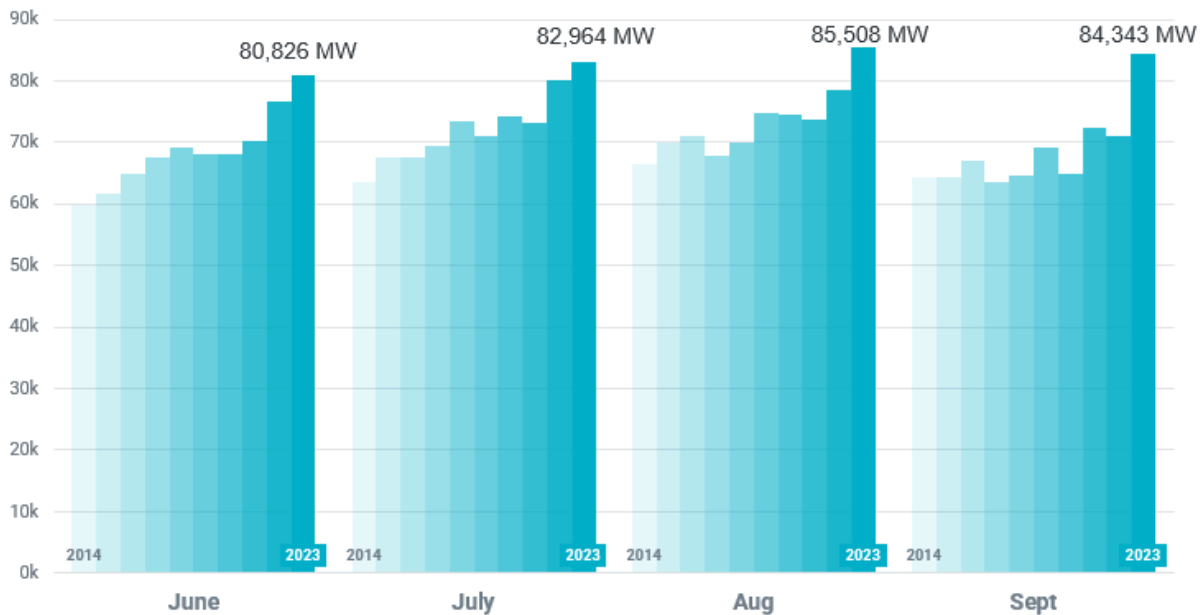
ERCOT has a variety of tools, or operational actions and procedures, to reliably manage the grid throughout the year.

Ancillary Services	Demand Response	Additional Tools
<p>An Ancillary Service (AS) is capacity purchased by ERCOT in the day-ahead market to balance the next day's supply and demand and mitigate real-time operational issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation Service has two types - Reg Up and Reg - deployed every 4 seconds to balance supply and demand and maintain frequency close to 60Hz between 5-minute SCED runs. • Responsive Reserve Service (RRS) is capacity procured to respond to low-frequency events typically triggered by generating unit trips. • ERCOT Contingency Reserve Service (ECRS) can be started in 10 minutes to cover forecast errors or ramps and replace deployed reserves. (ECRS is the first new daily procured AS added in more than 20 years). • Non-Spinning Reserve Service (Non-Spin) can be started in 30 minutes to cover forecast errors, forced outages or ramps, and replace deployed reserves until additional resources can be committed. 	<p>In collaboration with Market Participants, ERCOT has developed demand response products and services for customers that have the ability to reduce or modify electricity use in response to instructions or signals. Loads may participate by offering directly into the ERCOT markets or indirectly by voluntarily reducing their energy usage in response to wholesale prices.</p> <p>ERCOT Demand Response Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Response Service (ERS) • TDSP Load Management Programs • 4-Coincident Peak (CP) Load Reduction. • Price-Responsive Demand Response • REP/NOIE Demand Response • ADER Pilot Project 	<p>ERCOT has additional tools it can deploy to keep supply and demand balanced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation is a widely used tool throughout the electric industry to reduce demand for a specific time frame. • Distribution Voltage Reduction • DC Ties • Transmission Double Contingencies • Switchable Capacity • TO Load Management • TCEQ Enforcement Discretion allows a generator to extend its service/run-time/operations to help meet demand, if needed. <p>Many of these operational tools are used to add capacity and reduce demand to keep ERCOT out of emergency operations; however, if ERCOT enters emergency operations, access to additional operational tools becomes available to protect grid reliability.</p>

Planning

The ERCOT region is forecasted to experience tremendous electric demand growth in the next 5-7 years, which is driving the need for ERCOT to adapt and plan differently for the future.

Summer Demand By Month Over Last 10 Years



Since 2021, ERCOT, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, and the Texas Legislature have worked to strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the ERCOT grid.

ERCOT's [New Era of Planning](#) focuses on ensuring all areas of system planning – from generation and load interconnections to transmission development – can adapt to better serve the needs of the rapidly growing Texas economy. To incentivize investment for more on-demand dispatchable power generation online, the Texas Energy Fund (TEF) In-ERCOT Generation Loan Program will provide low-interest loans to finance new construction or upgrades to existing dispatchable electric generating facilities within the ERCOT power region. Learn more on the [TEF website](#).

View the August 2024 MORAs on the [Resource Adequacy page](#).