
ERCOT Trending Topics

TOPIC: GRID NOTICES

Advance Action Notice (AAN)
Outage Adjustment Evaluation (OAE)
Outage Scheduling Adjustment (OSA)

In this ERCOT Trending Topic, we explain the purpose of a Control Room-issued Advance Action Notice (AAN) and what this notice means for Market Participants and grid operations.



FACTS:

Spring and fall are a time of year referred to as shoulder months (March, April, May, and October and November), when ERCOT works with Generation and Transmission providers to schedule planned outages for system upgrades and maintenance ahead of the high demand during summer and winter months. Generally, ERCOT can support most requested outages; however, if grid conditions change, ERCOT may adjust the outage schedule, reduce outage restoration time, and/or adjust the system configuration to maintain reliable grid operations.

What is an AAN and why does ERCOT issue this type of notice?

ERCOT issues various operational messages from the ERCOT Control Room, including an AAN, as part of standard communications procedures. An AAN is a proactive [Operations Message](#) to Market Participants (energy providers in the ERCOT region) to ensure in advance that they are prepared for any upcoming grid conditions that ERCOT is expecting and inform them of any necessary actions that may need to be taken.

How do Market Participants respond to ERCOT's request to adjust or delay maintenance outages?

The request to adjust or delay the maintenance outage often leads to a positive market response, which provides the additional capacity ERCOT is seeking. ERCOT then works with these facilities to reschedule their maintenance so that they can be ready for the upcoming peak demand season.

What is an Outage Adjustment Evaluation (OAE) and Outage Scheduling Adjustment (OSA)?

Per ERCOT Protocols, if the expected grid conditions still exist 24 hours after the AAN is issued due to some Generators choosing to proceed with their planned outages during that time, ERCOT conducts an Outage Adjustment Evaluation (OAE) and may determine the need to issue Outage Scheduling Adjustments (OSAs), which are formal withdrawals of Resource-planned outages.

Does an AAN mean that ERCOT is issuing an Energy Emergency Alert?

An AAN does not indicate that ERCOT is issuing an Energy Emergency Alert (EEA). An AAN is a proactive step issued in anticipation of a possible future emergency condition, prompting ERCOT to identify necessary actions (i.e., an OAE and OSAs) to address the expected grid conditions.