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| NPRR Number | [1293](https://www.ercot.com/mktrules/issues/NPRR1293) | NPRR Title | Clarifications to the Modeling Timelines |
| Date Posted | July 29, 2025 |
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| Requested Resolution  | Normal  |
| Nodal Protocol Sections Requiring Revision  | 3.10.1, Time Line for Network Operations Model Changes |
| Related Documents Requiring Revision/Related Revision Requests | None |
| Revision Description | This Nodal Protocol Revision Request (NPRR) clarifies the 'Update Network Operations Model Production Environment' milestone dates. |
| Reason for Revision |  [Strategic Plan](https://www.ercot.com/files/docs/2023/08/25/ERCOT-Strategic-Plan-2024-2028.pdf) Objective 1 – Be an industry leader for grid reliability and resilience [Strategic Plan](https://www.ercot.com/files/docs/2023/08/25/ERCOT-Strategic-Plan-2024-2028.pdf) Objective 2 - Enhance the ERCOT region’s economic competitiveness with respect to trends in wholesale power rates and retail electricity prices to consumers [Strategic Plan](https://www.ercot.com/files/docs/2023/08/25/ERCOT-Strategic-Plan-2024-2028.pdf) Objective 3 - Advance ERCOT, Inc. as an independent leading industry expert and an employer of choice by fostering innovation, investing in our people, and emphasizing the importance of our mission General system and/or process improvement(s) Regulatory requirements ERCOT Board/PUCT Directive*(please select ONLY ONE – if more than one apply, please select the ONE that is most relevant)* |
| Justification of Reason for Revision and Market Impacts | The 'Update Network Operations Model Production Environment' milestone refers to the date the updated model is loaded into ERCOT’s production Energy Management System (EMS) model for operations. Actual implementation does not always occur on the first of the month. Instead, ERCOT follows a published production load schedule, which is posted on ERCOT’s [Production Load Schedule](https://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/transmission/opsys-change-schedule) page. This NPRR aligns with the long-standing practice of following the Production Load Schedule that is posted. |

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| Market Segment | Not Applicable |

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| Proposed Protocol Language Revision |

3.10.1 Time Line for Network Operations Model Changes

(1) ERCOT shall perform periodic updates to the Network Operations Model. Market Participants may provide Network Operations Model updates to ERCOT to implement planned transmission and Resource construction one year before the required submittal date below. TSPs and Resource Entities must timely submit Network Operations Model changes pursuant to the schedule in this Section to be included in the updates.

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| ***[NPRR857: Replace paragraph (1) above with the following upon system implementation and satisfying the following conditions: (1) Southern Cross provides ERCOT with funds to cover the entire estimated cost of the project; and (2) Southern Cross has signed an interconnection agreement with a TSP and the TSP gives ERCOT written notice that Southern Cross has provided it with: (a) Notice to proceed with the construction of the interconnection; and (b) The financial security required to fund the interconnection facilities:]***(1) ERCOT shall perform periodic updates to the Network Operations Model. Market Participants may provide Network Operations Model updates to ERCOT to implement planned transmission and Resource construction one year before the required submittal date below. TSPs, DCTOs, and Resource Entities must timely submit Network Operations Model changes pursuant to the schedule in this Section to be included in the updates. |

(2) For a facility addition, revision, or deletion to be included in any Network Operations Model update, all technical modeling information must be submitted to ERCOT pursuant to the ERCOT NOMCR process or the applicable Resource Registration process for Resource Entities. If a Resource Entity is required to follow the generation interconnection process for a new Generation Resource or Settlement Only Generator (SOG) as described in Planning Guide Section 5, Generator Interconnection or Modification, it must meet the conditions of Planning Guide Section 6.9, Addition of Proposed Generation to the Planning Models, before submitting a change to the Network Operations Model to reflect the new Generation Resource or SOG.

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| ***[NPRR995 and NPRR1246: Replace applicable portions of paragraph (2) above with the following upon system implementation for NPRR995; or upon system implementation of the Real-Time Co-Optimization (RTC) project for NPRR1246:]***(2) For a facility addition, revision, or deletion to be included in any Network Operations Model update, all technical modeling information must be submitted to ERCOT pursuant to the ERCOT NOMCR process or the applicable Resource Registration process for Resource Entities. If a Resource Entity is required to follow the generation interconnection process for a new Generation Resource, Energy Storage Resource (ESR), Settlement Only Generator (SOG), or Settlement Only Energy Storage System (SOESS) as described in Planning Guide Section 5, Generator Interconnection or Modification, it must meet the conditions of Planning Guide Section 6.9, Addition of Proposed Generation to the Planning Models, before submitting a change to the Network Operations Model to reflect the new Generation Resource, ESR, SOG, or SOESS. |

(3) TSPs and Resource Entities shall submit all Network Operations Model updates that are not subject to the requirements of paragraph (4) below by the applicable deadline to submit information to ERCOT for the target date of inclusion in the production model detailed in the table below. ERCOT shall update the Network Operations Model according to the following table:

| Deadline to Submit Information to ERCOT Note 1 | Model Complete and Available for Test Note 2 | Updated Network Operations Model Testing CompleteNote 3Paragraph (6) | Update Network Operations Model Production EnvironmentNote 4, 5 |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Jan 1 | Feb 15 | March 15 | Month of April |  |
| Feb 1 | March 15 | April 15 | Month of May |  |
| March 1 | April 15 | May 15 | Month of June |  |
| April 1 | May 15 | June 15 | Month of July |  |
| May 1 | June 15 | July 15 | Month of August |  |
| June 1 | July 15 | August 15 | Month of September |  |
| July 1 | August 15 | September 15 | Month of October |  |
| August 1 | September 15 | October 15 | Month of November |  |
| September 1 | October 15 | November 15 | Month of December |  |
| October 1 | November 15 | December 15 | Month of January (the next year) |  |
| November 1 | December 15 | January 15 | Month of February (the next year) |  |
| December 1 | January 15 | February 15 | Month of March (the next year) |  |

Notes:

1. TSP and Resource Entity data submissions complete per the NOMCR process or other ERCOT-prescribed process applicable to Resource Entities for inclusion in next update period.

2. Network Operations Model data changes and preliminary fidelity test complete by using the Network Operations Model test facility described in paragraph (3) of Section 3.10.4, ERCOT Responsibilities. A test version of the Redacted Network Operations Model will be posted to the MIS Secure Area for Market Participants and Network Operations Model to the MIS Certified Area for TSPs as described in paragraph (9) of Section 3.10.4, for market review and further testing by Market Participants.

3. Testing of the Redacted Network Operations Model by Market Participants and Network Operations Model by TSPs is complete and ERCOT begins the Energy Management System (EMS) testing prior to placing the new model into the production environment.

4. Updates include changes starting at this date and ending within the same month. The schedule for Operations Model load dates will be published by ERCOT on the ERCOT website. This includes all other Network Operations Model modeling submissions and the production load dates for operational model loads.

5. Changes in the production load dates can be delayed or moved when operating conditions, system application issues, or legal requirements will not allow for disruptions. In such cases ERCOT shall issue a Market Notice to inform Market Participants of changes to production load schedules.

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| ***[NPRR857: Replace paragraph (3) above with the following upon system implementation and satisfying the following conditions: (1) Southern Cross provides ERCOT with funds to cover the entire estimated cost of the project; and (2) Southern Cross has signed an interconnection agreement with a TSP and the TSP gives ERCOT written notice that Southern Cross has provided it with: (a) Notice to proceed with the construction of the interconnection; and (b) The financial security required to fund the interconnection facilities for NPRR857:]***(3) TSPs, DCTOs, and Resource Entities shall submit all Network Operations Model updates that are not subject to the requirements of paragraph (4) below by the applicable deadline to submit information to ERCOT for the target date of inclusion in the production model detailed in the table below. ERCOT shall update the Network Operations Model according to the following table:

| **Deadline to Submit Information to ERCOT** **Note 1** | **Model Complete and Available for Test** **Note 2** | **Updated Network Operations Model Testing Complete****Note 3****Paragraph (6)** | **Update Network Operations Model Production Environment****Notes 4, 5** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January 1 | February 15 | March 15 | Month of April |  |
| February 1 | March 15 | April 15 | Month of May |  |
| March 1 | April 15 | May 15 | Month of June |  |
| April 1 | May 15 | June 15 | Month of July |  |
| May 1 | June 15 | July 15 | Month of August |  |
| June 1 | July 15 | August 15 | Month of September |  |
| July 1 | August 15 | September 15 | Month of October |  |
| August 1 | September 15 | October 15 | Month of November |  |
| September 1 | October 15 | November 15 | Month of December |  |
| October 1 | November 15 | December 15 | Month of January (the next year) |  |
| November 1 | December 15 | January 15 | Month of February (the next year) |  |
| December 1 | January 15 | February 15 | Month of March (the next year) |  |

Notes: 1. TSP, DCTO, and Resource Entity data submissions complete per the NOMCR process or other ERCOT-prescribed process applicable to Resource Entities for inclusion in next update period.2. Network Operations Model data changes and preliminary fidelity test complete by using the Network Operations Model test facility described in paragraph (3) of Section 3.10.4, ERCOT Responsibilities. A test version of the Redacted Network Operations Model will be posted to the MIS Secure Area for Market Participants and Network Operations Model to the MIS Certified Area for TSPs as described in paragraph (9) of Section 3.10.4, for market review and further testing by Market Participants.3. Testing of the Redacted Network Operations Model by Market Participants and Network Operations Model by TSPs is complete and ERCOT begins the Energy Management System (EMS) testing prior to placing the new model into the production environment.4. Updates include changes starting at this date and ending within the same month. The schedule for Operations Model load dates will be published by ERCOT on the ERCOT website. This includes all other Network Operations Model modeling submissions and the production load dates for operational model loads.5. Changes in the production load dates can be delayed or moved when operating conditions, system application issues, or legal requirements will not allow for disruptions. In such cases ERCOT shall issue a Market Notice to inform Market Participants of changes to production load schedules. |

(4) Resource Entities shall submit complete initial Resource Registration data for inclusion in the ERCOT Network Operations Model as described in paragraph (6) of Planning Guide Section 6.8.1, Resource Registration, by the applicable deadline for the Resource Entity to submit complete information to ERCOT for the target date of inclusion in the production model detailed in the table below. ERCOT shall update the Network Operations Model according to the following table:

| **Deadline for Resource Entity to Submit Complete Information to ERCOT** **Note 1** | **Deadline for Resource Registration Data to Meet Criteria for ERCOT Acceptance****Note 2** | **Model Complete and Available for Test** **Note 3** | **Updated Network Operations Model Testing Complete****Note 4****Paragraph (6)** | **Update Network Operations Model Production Environment****Notes 5, 6** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| December 1 | January 1 | February 15 | March 15 | Month of April |  |
| January 1 | February 1 | March 15 | April 15 | Month of May |  |
| February 1 | March 1 | April 15 | May 15 | Month of June |  |
| March 1 | April 1 | May 15 | June 15 | Month of July |  |
| April 1 | May 1 | June 15 | July 15 | Month of August |  |
| May 1 | June 1 | July 15 | August 15 | Month of September |  |
| June 1 | July 1 | August 15 | September 15 | Month of October |  |
| July 1 | August 1 | September 15 | October 15 | Month of November |  |
| August 1 | September 1 | October 15 | November 15 | Month of December |  |
| September 1 | October 1 | November 15 | December 15 |  Month of January (the next year) |  |
| October 1 | November 1 | December 15 | January 15 |  Month of February (the next year) |  |
| November 1 | December 1 | January 15 | February 15 | Month of March (the next year) |  |

Notes:

1. The date listed in this column shall serve as the deadline for initial submission of complete Resource Registration data to ERCOT, as described in paragraph (2) of Planning Guide Section 6.8.2, Resource Registration Process. ERCOT may work with the Resource Entity to resolve any data quality issues found in the Resource Registration data for up to one month after the submission date that corresponds to the date listed in this column. If ERCOT determines any Resource Registration data deficiencies are not sufficiently resolved by the end of the one-month period, then that submission shall be treated as a new initial submission for the following month.

2. Resource Entity data submission must be deemed complete by ERCOT with all data deficiencies resolved per the process described in Planning Guide Section 6.8.2 by this date.

3. Network Operations Model data changes and preliminary fidelity test complete by using the Network Operations Model test facility described in paragraph (3) of Section 3.10.4. A test version of the Redacted Network Operations Model will be posted to the MIS Secure Area for Market Participants and Network Operations Model to the MIS Certified Area for TSPs as described in paragraph (9) of Section 3.10.4, for market review and further testing by Market Participants.

4. Testing of the Redacted Network Operations Model by Market Participants and Network Operations Model by TSPs is complete and ERCOT begins the EMS testing prior to placing the new model into the production environment.

5. Updates include changes starting at this date and ending within the same month. The schedule for Operations Model load dates will be published by ERCOT on the ERCOT website.

6. Changes in the production load dates can be delayed or moved when operating conditions, system application issues, or legal requirements will not allow for disruptions. In such cases ERCOT shall issue a Market Notice to inform Market Participants of changes to production load schedules.

(5) ERCOT shall only approve energization requests when the Transmission Element is satisfactorily modeled in the Network Operations Model.

(6) Changes to an existing NOMCR that modify only Inter-Control Center Communications Protocol (ICCP) data object names shall be provided 15 days prior to the Network Operations Model load date. NOMCR modifications containing only ICCP data object names shall not be subject to interim update reporting to the Independent Market Monitor (IMM) and Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) (reference Section 3.10.4), according to the following:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ***NOMCR that contains ICCP Data and is submitted …*** | ***ERCOT shall …*** | ***Subject to IMM & PUC Reporting*** |
| Beyond 90 days of the energization date | Allow modification of only ICCP data for an existing NOMCR | No |
| Between 90 and 15 days prior to the scheduled database load. | Allow modification of only ICCP data for an existing NOMCR  | No |
| Less than 15 days before scheduled database load. | Require a new NOMCR to be submitted containing the ICCP data  | Yes |