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| NPRR Number | [1299](https://www.ercot.com/mktrules/issues/NPRR1299) | NPRR Title | Clarifications to Emergency Response Service (ERS) |
| Date Posted | | September 2, 2025 | |
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| Requested Resolution | | Normal | |
| Nodal Protocol Sections Requiring Revision | | 3.14.3.1, Emergency Response Service Procurement  3.14.3.4, Emergency Response Service Reporting and Market Communications  8.1.3.1.2, Performance Evaluation for Emergency Response Service Generators | |
| Related Documents Requiring Revision/Related Revision Requests | | None | |
| Revision Description | | This Nodal Protocol Revision Request (NPRR) addresses four independent issues related to Emergency Response Service (ERS):   1. Paragraph (5)(c) of Section 3.14.3.1 is incorrectly included as a subparagraph of paragraph (5) and instead should be paragraph (6) of Section 3.14.3.1. 2. In paragraph (3)(j) of Section 3.14.3.4 the ERS Preliminary Baseline Review Results document is being removed from the Market Information System (MIS) posting list because it is a legacy report that is no longer needed.  The information previously provided by the posting of that document has been replaced by the mandatory ERS Resource Identification (ERID) process to get this information and is no longer applicable or being requested by Qualified Scheduling Entities (QSEs). 3. A timing change to paragraph (6) of Section 3.14.3.4 provides flexibility for the ERS offer posting requirement so that instead of posting exactly on the 60th day after the first day of the ERS Standard Contract Term (SCT) there will now be a window for posting no sooner than 60 days and no later than 65 days after the first day of the ERS SCT. 4. A change to paragraph (2) of Section 8.1.3.1.2 clarifies that for non-weather sensitive ERS Loads to be classified as co-located with an ERS Generator, both must be awarded in the same service type and for all the same ERS Time Periods. This has been an issue when both are offered into the same service type and/or Time Periods but for various reasons not awarded. | |
| 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 | | This NPRR does not propose material changes to the ERS program but rather these revisions are clarifications and clean ups to four issues that have been brought to ERCOT’s attention through discussions with Market Participants or from internal audits.  In regard to the third identified issue, the referenced data file is produced at the end of the ERS procurement process using the ERS SAS code managed entirely within the ERCOT Demand Integration group. Because this file is manually produced, the only option available to post the file is by using a manual posting process, which is impacted by weekends and holidays. This requested change to the Protocols will provide flexibility to the posting deadline. | |

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| Market Segment | Not applicable |

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| Proposed Protocol Language Revision |

3.14.3.1 Emergency Response Service Procurement

(1) ERCOT shall issue Requests for Proposals to procure ERS for each Standard Contract Term. The ERS Standard Contract Terms are as follows:

(a) December through March;

(b) April and May;

(c) June through September; and

(d) October and November.

(2) ERCOT shall procure ERS from one or more of the four following ERS service types:

(a) Weather-Sensitive ERS-10

(b) Non-Weather-Sensitive ERS-10

(c) Weather-Sensitive ERS-30

(d) Non-Weather-Sensitive ERS-30

(3) ERS offers shall be submitted only by QSEs capable of receiving Extensible Markup Language (XML) messaging on behalf of represented ERS Resources.

(4) Each site in an ERS Generator must have an interconnection agreement with its TDSP prior to submitting an ERS offer and must have exported energy to the ERCOT System prior to the offer due date. An ERS Resource that cannot inject energy to the ERCOT System can only be offered as an ERS Load.

(5) In order to qualify as weather-sensitive, an ERS Load must meet one of the following criteria:

(a) The ERS Load must consist exclusively of residential sites; or

(b) The ERS Load must consist exclusively of non-residential sites and must qualify as weather-sensitive based on the accuracy of the regression baseline evaluation methodology as described in Section 8.1.3.1.1, Baselines for Emergency Response Service Loads, as an indicator of actual interval Load.

(i) ERCOT shall establish minimum accuracy standards for qualification as an ERS Load under the regression baseline evaluation methodology.

(ii) An ERS Load must have at least nine months of interval meter data to qualify as weather-sensitive under the regression baseline evaluation methodology.

(iii) ERCOT’s determination that an ERS Load qualifies as a weather-sensitive ERS Load is independent of ERCOT’s determination of which baseline methodologies may be appropriate for purposes of evaluating the ERS Load’s performance.

(6) If a site with Distributed Renewable Generation (DRG) has been designated by the QSE to be evaluated by using its native load, the default baseline analysis shall be performed using the calculated native load.

(7) QSEs representing ERS Resources may submit offers for one or more ERS Time Periods within an ERS Standard Contract Term. ERS Time Periods shall be defined by ERCOT in the RFP for that ERS Standard Contract Term. An ERS offer is specific to an ERS Time Period. In submitting an offer, both the QSE and the ERS Resource are committing to provide ERS for that ERS Time Period if selected.

(8) A QSE may submit separate offers for an ERS Resource to provide any or all of the four ERS service types during the same or different ERS Time Periods in the same ERS Standard Contract Term, but ERCOT shall only award offers for one service type for each ERS Resource.

(9) The minimum capacity offer for an ERS Load on the weather-sensitive baseline is one half (0.5) MW; all other ERS capacity offers will have a minimum amount that may be offered of one-tenth (0.1) MW. ERS Resources may be aggregated to reach this requirement.

(10) Offers from ERS Generators must include self-serve capacity and injection capacity amounts greater than or equal to zero for each ERS Time Period offered.

(11) ERCOT may establish an upper limit, in MWs, on the amount of ERS capacity it will procure for any ERS Time Period in any ERS Standard Contract Term.

(12) A QSE’s offer to provide ERS shall include:

(a) The name of the QSE representing the ERS Resource and the name of an individual authorized by the QSE to represent the QSE and its ERS Resource(s);

(b) The name of an Entity that controls the ERS Resource, and an affirmation that the QSE has obtained written authorization from the Entity to submit ERS offers on its behalf and to represent the Entity in all matters before ERCOT concerning the Entity’s provision of ERS;

(c) Any information or data specified by ERCOT, including access to historical meter data, and affirmation by the QSE that it has obtained written authorization from the controlling Entity of the ERS Resource for the QSE to obtain such data;

(d) Affirmation that the controlling Entity of the ERS Resource has reviewed P.U.C. Subst. R. 25.507, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) Emergency Response Service (ERS), these Protocols and Other Binding Documents relating to the provision of ERS, and has agreed to comply with and be bound by such provisions;

(e) An agreement by the QSE to produce any written authorization or agreement between the QSE and any ERS Resource it represents, as described in this Section, upon request from ERCOT or the PUCT;

(f) Affirmation that no offered capacity from any site in an ERS Resource has been or will be committed to provide any other product, service, or program during any of the hours in the ERS Time Period in the Standard Contract Term for which the offer is submitted.  Such prohibited products, services, or programs include, but are not limited to, Ancillary Services, Security-Constrained Economic Dispatch (SCED), or TDSP standard offer programs. As an exception to the foregoing, a QSE may offer a site to provide ERS for an ERS Time Period in the Standard Contract Term even if the QSE has an offer pending for that same site to serve as an MRA during that ERS Time Period and Standard Contract Term; however, if the site is selected to serve as an MRA it will not be permitted to serve as ERS during any ERS Time Period in the ERS Contract Term in which it is obligated to serve as an MRA;

(g) Affirmation that the QSE and the controlling Entity the ERS Resource are familiar with any applicable federal, state or local environmental regulations that apply to the use of any generator in the provision of ERS, and that the use of such generator(s) to provide of ERS would not violate those regulations. This provision applies to both ERS Generators and to the use of backup generation by ERS Loads; and

(h) Affirmation that each offered ERS Resource satisfies at least one of the conditions set forth in paragraph (9) of Section 3.6.1, Load Resource Participation, and that all of the ERS Resource’s offered Demand response capacity will be available if deployed by ERCOT during an emergency.

(13) Upon request from a QSE, ERCOT shall provide the dates and times for any deployment events or tests of any ERS site during the previous three ERS Standard Contract Terms, provided that the QSE has obtained written authorization from the ERS site to obtain the information from ERCOT. Such QSE requests shall include the following site-specific information: Electric Service Identifier (ESI ID), unique meter identifier (if applicable), or, if the site is in a Non-Opt-In Entity (NOIE) area, site name and site address.

(14) Sites associated with a Dynamically Scheduled Resource (DSR) may not participate in ERS. Offers for Resources containing sites associated with a DSR will be rejected by ERCOT. If ERCOT determines that any participating site is associated with a DSR, that site will be treated as removed from the Resource on the date the determination was made. An ERS Resource’s obligation will not change as a result of any such site removal.

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| ***[NPRR1000: Delete item (14) above upon system implementation and renumber accordingly.]*** |

(15) Each offer submitted by a QSE on behalf of an aggregated ERS Load on a weather-sensitive baseline shall include the QSE’s projection of the maximum number of sites in the aggregation during the ERS Standard Contract Term. ERCOT shall review this projection and the information provided regarding the initial size of each aggregated ERS Load and shall reject any offer on behalf of such an ERS Load if the maximum size of the ERS Load projected by the QSE would violate the limits of site participation growth described in paragraph (15) below.

(16) A QSE may modify the population of an aggregated ERS Load on a weather-sensitive baseline once per month during an ERS Standard Contract Term via a process defined by ERCOT. Such adjustments shall be effective on the first day of each month following the first month. A fully validated ERS Offer form must be received by ERCOT no later than seven Business Days prior to the first day of the month for which is intended to be in effect.

(a) During an ERS Standard Contract Term, a QSE may increase the number of sites in an aggregated ERS Load on a weather-sensitive baseline by no more than the greater of the following:

(i) 100% of the initial number of sites; or

(ii) Two MW times the QSE’s projection of the maximum number of sites in the aggregation during the ERS Standard Contract Term, divided by the maximum MW capacity offered for any ERS Time Period for the aggregation.

(b) Any sites added to an ERS Load on a weather-sensitive baseline are subject to the same requirements for historical meter data as the other sites in the aggregation, as described in paragraph (4) of Section 8.1.3.1.1.

(17) For each of the four ERS service types, an ERS Standard Contract Term may consist of a single ERS Contract Period or multiple non-overlapping ERS Contract Periods, as follows:

(a) If no ERS Resources’ obligations are exhausted for an ERS service type during an ERS Contract Period pursuant to Section 3.14.3.3, Emergency Response Service Provision and Technical Requirements, the ERS Contract Period for that ERS service type shall terminate at the end of the last Operating Day of the ERS Standard Contract Term.

(b) If one or more ERS Resources’ obligations in a given ERS service type are exhausted pursuant to Section 3.14.3.3, the ERS Contract Period for that ERS service type shall terminate at the end of the Operating Day during which the exhaustion occurred. However, if ERS Resources participating in a service type remain deployed at the end of that Operating Day, the ERS Contract Period for that ERS service type shall terminate at the end of the Operating Day on which those ERS Resources are recalled.

(c) If an ERS Contract Period terminates as provided in paragraph (b) above, and one or more ERS Resources’ obligations were not exhausted, a new ERS Contract Period for the ERS service type shall begin at hour ending 0100 on the following Operating Day. This new ERS Contract Period shall terminate as provided in this Section.

(d) If ERCOT elects pursuant to paragraph (b) above to renew the obligations of any ERS Resources whose obligations were entirely exhausted, a new ERS Contract Period for the ERS service type shall begin at hour ending 0100 on the Operating Day after ERCOT has notified QSEs that it has elected to renew the obligation. If a new ERS Contract Period was initiated pursuant to paragraph (c) above on an Operating Day prior to ERCOT issuing a notice of renewal under this paragraph, that ERS Contract Period shall terminate at the end of the Operating Day on which ERCOT notified QSEs that the renewal will take place. This new ERS Contract Period shall terminate as provided in this Section.

(18) An ERS Resource currently obligated to provide an ERS service type during an ERS Time Period and ERS Contract Period may be offered to provide service as an MRA during that same ERS Time Period in the ERS Contract Period. If the ERS Resource is selected to provide service as an MRA during an ERS Time Period in the ERS Contract Period in which it is currently obligated to provide an ERS service type, the ERS Contract Period will be terminated for that ERS service type. The ERS Contract Period for that ERS service type shall terminate at the end of the Operating Day that is five days before the first Operating Day the ERS Resource is obligated to provide service under the MRA Agreement. However, if any ERS Resources participating in that ERS service type are currently deployed at the end of the Operating Day the ERS Contract Period is scheduled to terminate, then the ERS Resource’s ERS Contract Period for that ERS service type shall continue until the end of the Operating Day on which all of the ERS Resources participating in that ERS service type have been recalled, at which time the ERS Contract Period will terminate.

(19) ERS Resources shall be obligated in ERS Contract Periods as follows:

(a) Unless an ERS Contract Period is terminated pursuant to paragraph (17) above, for the first ERS Contract Period in an ERS Standard Contract Term, all ERS Resources awarded by ERCOT shall be obligated.

(b) ERS Resources shall be obligated for 24 hours of cumulative deployment time for any ERS Contract Period during the December through March ERS Standard Contract Term. The obligated cumulative deployment time for any ERS Contract Period during all other ERS Standard Contract Terms shall be 12 hours.

(c) For each of any subsequent ERS Contract Periods for a given ERS service type in an ERS Standard Contract Term, any ERS Resource with remaining obligation due to cumulative deployment time of less than the maximum deployment hours specified for the ERS Standard Contract Term in paragraph (b) above at the end of the last ERS Contract Period shall be obligated for only this remaining deployment time in the new ERS Contract Period.

(d) For each of any subsequent ERS Contract Periods in an ERS Standard Contract Term, ERCOT may renew the obligations of certain ERS Resources as follows:

(i) During the offer submission process, QSEs shall designate on the ERS offer form, which is posted on the ERCOT website, whether an ERS Resource elects to participate in renewal ERS Contract Periods (“renewal opt-in”). Except as provided in paragraph (iv) below, this election is irrevocable once the ERS Resource has been committed for an ERS Standard Contract Term.

(ii) If the obligations of one or more ERS Resources are exhausted before the end of an ERS Standard Contract Term, ERCOT shall determine whether to include renewal opt-ins in the subsequent ERS Contract Period. ERCOT may limit any renewal to one or more ERS Time Periods and/or a specified MW quantity in which obligations have been exhausted.

(iii) If ERCOT decides to include renewal opt-ins in a subsequent ERS Contract Period, ERCOT shall promptly notify all ERS QSEs as to the ERS Time Periods and/or any specified MW quantity that it has elected to renew.

(iv) By the end of the second Business Day in any renewal ERS Contract Period, a QSE may revoke the renewal opt-in status of any of its committed ERS Resources for any subsequent ERS Contract Periods within that ERS Standard Contract Term. ERCOT shall develop a method for QSEs to communicate such information.

(v) By the end of the third Business Day in any ERS Contract Period other than the first ERS Contract Period in an ERS Standard Contract Term, ERCOT shall communicate to QSEs a confirmation of the terms of participation for all of their committed ERS Resources.

(20) In any 12-month period beginning on December 1st and ending on November 30th, ERCOT shall not commit dollars toward ERS in excess of the ERS cost cap, except for the purpose of renewing ERS Resource obligations during a period where ERS has been exhausted. ERCOT may determine cost limits for each ERS Standard Contract Term in order to ensure that the ERS cost cap is not exceeded.

(21) If a QSE offers a Weather-Sensitive ERS Load, selects a control group baseline for that ERS Load, and ERCOT determines that the magnitude of the offer relative to the baseline error will prevent accurate determination of the performance, ERCOT shall reject the offer.

(22) ERCOT shall reduce the available expenditure under the ERS cost cap by the value of the amount of ERS Self-Provision. ERCOT shall value ERS Self-Provision at the clearing price multiplied by the total MW of ERS Self-Provision during each relevant ERS Time Period.

(23) ERCOT shall procure ERS Resources for each ERS Time Period using a clearing price. Section 22, Attachment Q, Emergency Response Service Procurement Methodology, describes the methodology used by ERCOT to procure ERS. ERCOT may consider geographic location and its effect on congestion in making ERS awards. ERCOT may prorate the capacity awarded to an ERS Resource in an ERS Time Period if the capacity offered for that ERS Resource would cost more than Section 22, Attachment Q, allows under the time period expenditure limit. Such proration shall only be done if the QSE indicates on its offer for an ERS Resource that the QSE is willing to have the capacity prorated and also has indicated the lowest prorated capacity limit which is acceptable for that ERS Resource. If proration would result in an award below an ERS Resource’s designated prorated capacity limit or below the minimum MW offer applicable to the ERS service type as specified in paragraph (8) above, the offer will not be awarded.

(24) Payments and Self-Provision credits to QSEs representing ERS Resources are subject to adjustments as described in Section 8.1.3.3, Payment Reductions and Suspension of Qualification of Emergency Response Service Resources and/or their Qualified Scheduling Entities. Deployment of ERS Resources will not result in additional payments other than any payment for which the QSE may be eligible through Real-Time energy imbalance or other ERCOT Settlement process.

(25) QSEs representing ERS Resources selected to provide ERS shall execute a Standard Form Emergency Response Service Agreement, as provided in Section 22, Attachment G, Standard Form Emergency Response Service Agreement.

3.14.3.4 Emergency Response Service Reporting and Market Communications

(1) ERCOT shall review the effectiveness and benefits of ERS every 12 months from the start of the program year and report its findings to TAC no later than April 15 of each calendar year.

(2) Prior to the start of the first ERS Contract Period in an ERS Standard Contract Term, and no later than the end of the third Business Day following the start of any subsequent ERS Contract Period in an ERS Standard Contract Term, ERCOT shall post on the ERCOT website the number of MW procured per ERS Time Period, the number and type of ERS Resources selected, and the projected total cost of ERS for that ERS Contract Period.

(3) ERCOT shall post the following documents to the MIS Certified Area for each of the four ERS service types:

(a) ERS Award Notification;

(b) ERS Resources Submission Form – Approved;

(c) ERS Resource Event Performance Summary;

(d) ERS Resource Availability Summary;

(e) ERS Test Portfolio;

(f) ERS Resource Test Results;

(g) ERS Pre-populated Resource Identification Forms;

(h) ERS Resource Group Assignments;

(i) ERS Resource Submission Form – Error Reports;

(j) ERS QSE Portfolio Availability Summary;

(k) ERS QSE Portfolio Event Performance Summary;

(l) ERS Meter Data Error Report;

(m) ERS QSE-level Payment Details Report; and

(n) ERS Obligation Report for TDSPs.

(4) At least 24 hours before an ERS Standard Contract Term begins, or within 72 hours after the beginning of a new ERS Contract Period within an ERS Standard Contract Term, ERCOT shall post the information below to the MIS Certified Area for each affected TDSP:

(a) A list of ERS Resources and members of aggregated ERS Resources located in the TDSP’s service area that will be participating in ERS during the upcoming ERS Standard Contract Term;

(b) The name of the QSE representing each ERS Resource;

(c) The ERS service type provided by each ERS Resource for each ERS Time Period;

(d) All applicable ESI IDs or unique meter identifier associated with each ERS Resource;

(e) Estimate of the ERS MW obligation by station code for TDSPs in competitive areas;

(f) Estimate of the ERS MW obligation by zip code for TDSPs in NOIE areas; and

(g) The date(s) of the interconnection agreement(s) for each generator in any ERS Generator.

(5) TDSPs shall maintain the confidentiality of the information provided pursuant to paragraph (4) above.

(6) ERCOT shall post to the ERCOT website the following information for each ERS offer no sooner than 60 days after the first day of the ERS Standard Contract Term and no later than 65 days after the first day of the ERS Standard Contract Term:

(a) The name of the QSE submitting the offer;

(b) For each ERS Time Period, the price and quantity offered, or if the offer is for self-provided ERS, the quantity offered and an indication that the MW will be self-provided; and

(c) The ERS service type.

8.1.3.1.2 Performance Evaluation for Emergency Response Service Generators

(1) ERCOT shall evaluate the event performance of an ERS Generator by measuring net injection of energy to the ERCOT System using data from metering as described in paragraph (5)(a) of Section 3.14.3.3, Emergency Response Service Provision and Technical Requirements.

(2) A Non-Weather-Sensitive ERS Load will be classified as co-located with an ERS Generator if each site in the ERS Load is physically located with a site in the ERS Generator, if both the ERS Generator and the ERS Load are represented by the same QSE, and if both the ERS Generator and the ERS Load are awarded in the same ERS service type and in all the same Time Periods. If separate offers are received from different QSEs, both offers will be rejected. A Weather-Sensitive ERS Load is not eligible to be classified as co-located with an ERS Generator.

(3) If an ERS Generator is co-located with an ERS Load the following shall apply:

(a) If a default baseline has been selected by a QSE for ERS performance evaluation for an ERS Load that is co-located with an ERS Generator, event and test performance of the ERS Generator and ERS Load shall be evaluated jointly using interval data from the Transmission and/or Distribution Service Provider (TDSP) installed metering. The joint performance will be attributed to both the ERS Load and ERS Generator.

(b) The self-serve capacity used to calculate availability in each ERS Time Period for the ERS Generator shall be deemed to be the lesser of the self-serve capacity specified on the offer or the peak Load of the ERS Load during that ERS Time Period over the 12 months preceding the beginning of the ERS Standard Contract Term.

(c) If the co-located ERS Load is assigned to the ERS Alternate Baseline, the performance during an ERS deployment event or ERCOT test shall be evaluated using one of two methods selected by the QSE:

(i) The QSE may elect to have the performance of the ERS Generator and ERS Load evaluated separately. In this case:

(A) All site Load must participate in the ERS Load and ERCOT shall calculate interval-by-interval values for the Load of each site in the ERS Load by adding the MWh output measured by the QSE-installed metering on the generator(s) at the site to the MWh consumption measured by the TDSP metering and by subtracting the MWh export from the site, as measured by the TDSP metering. The performance of the ERS Load shall be evaluated using the ERCOT calculated values of the site Load.

(B) The ERS Generator shall be evaluated using the interval data measured by the metering on the output of the generator(s) as required by paragraph (5)(a) of Section 3.14.3.3. For purposes of determining ERS Generator performance, the injection capacity in each ERS Time Period for the ERS Generator shall be deemed to be the sum of self-serve capacity and injection capacity submitted on the offer for that ERS Time Period, and the self-serve capacity used to measure performance for that ERS Time Period shall be deemed to be zero.

(ii) The QSE may elect to have the performance of the ERS Generator and ERS Load evaluated jointly. In this case, ERCOT shall use the TDSP metering installed for the performance evaluation.

(A) If ERCOT determines that one of its established default baseline types accurately represents the ERS Load’s Demand response contribution, the contribution of the ERS Load to the joint performance shall be based on that response.

(B) If ERCOT determines that none of its established default baseline types accurately represents the ERS Load’s Demand response contribution, the contribution of the ERS Load to the joint performance shall be deemed to be the product of the ERS Load’s obligation for the interval and the ERS Interval Performance Factor (EIPF*i*) as computed in Section 8.1.3.1.4, Event Performance Criteria for Emergency Response Service Resources.

(C) The joint performance will be attributed to both the ERS Load and ERS Generator.

(4) If the ERS Generator is not co-located with an ERS Load the following shall apply:

(a) For purposes of determining ERS performance, the self-serve capacity used to measure performance in each time period for the ERS Generator shall be deemed to be zero and the injection capacity used to measure performance shall be equal to the amount submitted on the offer.

(b) The ERS Generator shall have its performance based on its metered output to the ERCOT System as measured by the TDSP metering.