



ISO New England

- Manages the wholesale market
- Only works directly with aggregators—not individual DERs
- Requires accurate, timely information to keep the grid balanced and reliable



DERs

Distributed Energy Resources
(Small farm growers)

- Operate at the retail level
- Produce, consume, or control energy (generation, load, batteries, etc.)
- Contract with an aggregator—they don't interact with ISO markets directly



Aggregator

(Co-op)

- Wholesale market participants
- Coordinate many DERs
- Register the aggregation with the ISO
- Participate in wholesale markets on behalf of the DERs
- Handle payments, forecasts, and compliance



DERA

Distributed Energy Resource Aggregator
(Market stall at the farmers market)

- A collection of many individual DERs bundled together by an aggregator
- Large enough, when combined, to meet wholesale market requirements
- Represents the aggregated DERs as a single resource in the wholesale market
- Provides services such as selling energy and balancing the grid
- Exists only through an aggregator (DERs can't form a DERA on their own)



Electricity Market

(Farmers market)

- The wholesale platform where energy is bought and sold
- Managed by the ISO to keep supply and demand in balance
- Traditionally open only to large generators, but now accessible to DERs through aggregation
- Provides compensation for resources that supply energy or grid services