

About ISO New England

ISO New England supports power availability whenever New England homes and businesses need it. We are an independent, nonprofit corporation responsible for the reliable, cost-effective supply of electricity for over 15 million people across the six New England states.

WHY AN INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR?

Independent system operators make sure the electric grid operates reliably, without favoring any utility, power plant owner, or electricity supplier or service.



Our Three Critical Roles

We are authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to plan and operate the power system, and develop and administer the wholesale electricity markets for the six-state New England region.

1 Grid Operation

We coordinate and direct the flow of electricity across the region's high-voltage transmission system 24/7 to keep power reliable and balance supply and demand.

2 Power System Planning

We study, analyze, and plan the electric system to ensure New England has the power it needs for the next 10 years and beyond.

3 Market Administration

We run and oversee wholesale electricity markets, where participants buy and sell power in a system that promotes competitive prices and efficient use of resources.

What We Do NOT Do

- ✗ Handle retail electricity
- ✗ Own power grid infrastructure
- ✗ Have a financial stake in companies that own grid infrastructure
- ✗ Have jurisdiction over fuel infrastructure
- ✗ Have control over siting decisions
- ✗ Plan the resource mix

ISO's independence allows us to ensure fair access to grid service for all entities buying, selling, and transporting electricity.

Reliability Is ISO-NE's Number One Priority

To be reliable in the short term, the power system must have enough resources to balance supply and demand, and provide services to keep system voltage and frequency stable. To be reliable over the longer term, these resources and the transmission lines that make up the power system must adapt to keep pace with changing consumer demand for electric energy, the retirement of legacy power plants, and the addition of new resources and technologies. ISO New England's three critical roles work together to ensure that the region's power system has the resources and processes in place to ensure power system reliability today and into the future.

Where Have We Been?

Over the past two decades, we have supported the integration of more efficient generation technologies, expanded the region's ability to import electricity, and enabled the growth of renewable resources, battery storage, energy efficiency, and demand response while maintaining reliability. During this period, carbon emissions from New England's power sector have fallen significantly.

Where Are We Going?

THREE TRENDS AFFECTING THE NEW ENGLAND POWER SYSTEM:



More reliance on **renewable energy**, especially intermittent, weather-dependent resources, as well as energy storage.



Distributed energy resources, such as rooftop solar, which ISO New England does not control, will continue to meet more of the region's energy needs.



More electric vehicles and more homes and businesses using electric heating will **increase overall demand**.

As New England's energy landscape evolves, the region must take near-term action to maintain reliability while planning for the longer-term. ISO New England will continue to provide independent analysis, market expertise, and system planning needed to help guide those decisions.



SCAN TO VISIT:
iso-ne.com/about/where-we-are-going

THE NEW ENGLAND GRID, BY THE NUMBERS

7.6 Million

Retail electricity customers

9,000

Miles of high-voltage transmission lines

9%

Projected increase in annual electric energy use between 2026 and 2035

400

Dispatchable generators

600

Active buyers and sellers in the wholesale electricity marketplace



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