

PJM Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP

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Operating Committee

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Disclaimer: While materials are current at the time of publishing, applicable requirements may change. PJM Governing Documents control.

- PJM will issue a Black Start (BS) Reliability Backstop RFP on October 19, 2026. RFP needed to procure Black Start to satisfy the minimum requirement of one Fuel Assured Black Start (FA BS) resource per zone
- Proposals from Transmission Owners (TOs) and Generation Owners (GOs) will be accepted. BS Backstop RFP requires TO's that have not met the minimum requirements to submit a proposal to address the needs within their own zone.
- 2026 Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP OC Special Session scheduled for October 22, 2026 13:00-15:00 EPT

Why is the BS Reliability Backstop RFP Needed?

BS Service is voluntary.
PJM can't require participation.

2023 RTO Wide and 2024 Incremental FA BS RFPs unsuccessful in securing FA BS in multiple transmission zones impacting four states

PJM FA Black Start Efforts

1

2023 RTO Wide and 2024 Incremental Black Start RFP OC Special Sessions to raise awareness and the need for FA proposals

2

Generation Owner outreach and FA education

3

Base Formula Rate (BFR) changed to address BS revenue instability with Net Cone variability

4

Collaborated with Transmission Owners to identify FA solutions

5

State Commission Education

FA BS resources are required to maintain a minimum of 16 hours of fuel and non-fuel consumables for system restoration to reduce the risk of BS unavailability due to fuel

1

FA BS with on-site fuel storage

2

FA BS capable of operating independently on two or more interstate gas pipelines

3

FA BS directly connected to a natural gas gathering system ahead of any interstate pipeline

4

Hydro BS that meets criteria in [PJM Manual 12 Section 4.5](#)

5

Non-Hydro Intermittent/Hybrid BS that meets criteria in [PJM Manual 12 Section 4.5](#)

6

Minimum of two gas Black Start units allocated to a TO zone that are connected on two separate interstate gas pipelines

Fuel Assurance Options: [PJM Manual 36 Attachment A](#)

BS Reliability Backstop Process Timeline

July 14, 2025

Black Start
Reliability
Backstop
Process
Announced at
OC

Oct 1, 2026

Black Start
Reliability
Backstop RFP
SOS
Announcement

Oct 19, 2026

PJM issues
Black Start
Reliability
Backstop RFP

July 30, 2025

OC Special
Session for
Black Start
Reliability
Backstop
Process
Education

Oct 8, 2026

Black Start
Reliability
Backstop RFP
OC
Announcement

Oct 22, 2026

OC Special
Session for
Black Start
Reliability
Backstop RFP

- Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP will be issued on October 19, 2026
- Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP OC Special Session scheduled for October 22, 2026 13:00-15:00 EPT
- Send Fuel Assured Black Start or Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP questions to Ray.Lee@pjm.com

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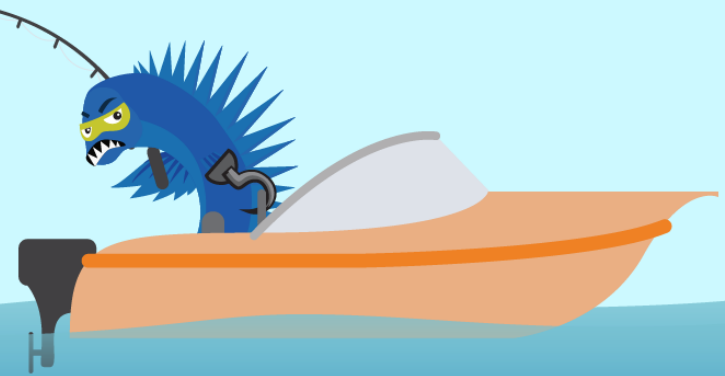
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