

2026 Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP

Ray Lee

Sr. Lead Engineer, Generation

Madalin How

Analyst II, Generation

Operating Committee Special Session

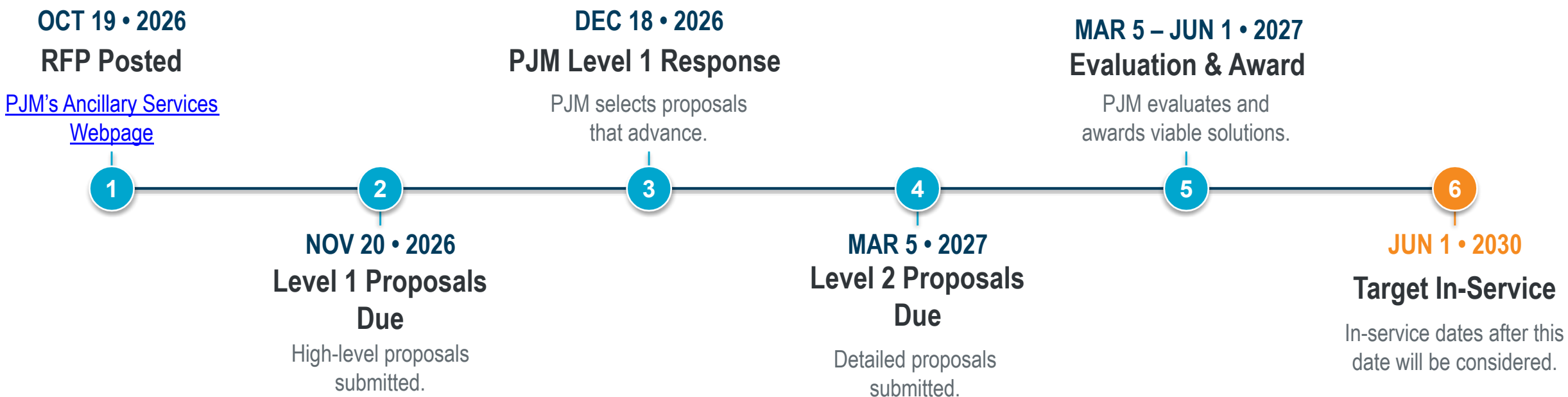
October 22, 2026

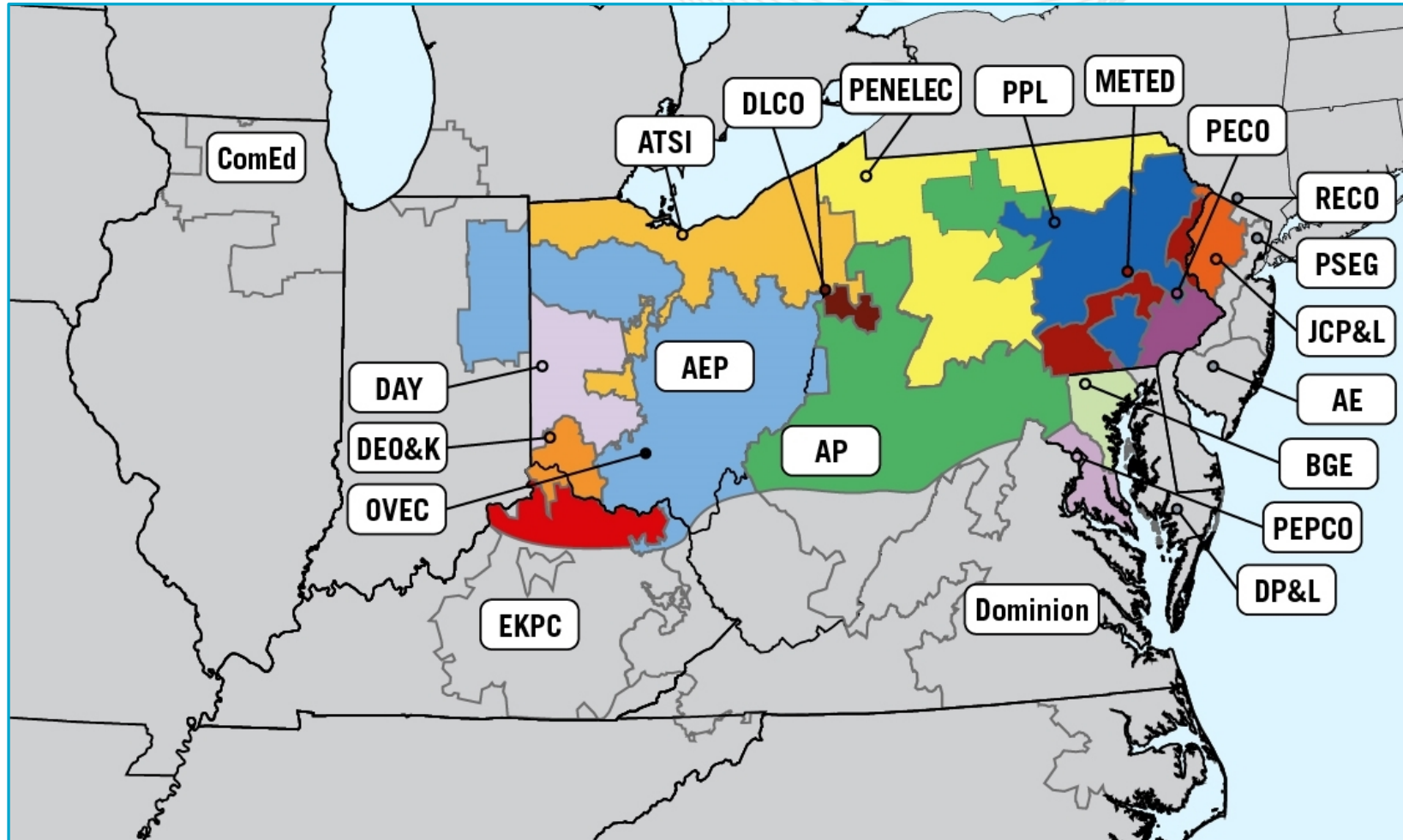
Disclaimer: While materials are current at the time of publishing, applicable requirements may change. PJM Governing Documents control.

PURPOSE: SATISFY MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

ONE Fuel-Assured (FA) Black Start (BS) resource in every zone

RFP TIMELINE MILESTONES





READING THE MAP

Colored regions are in scope

All areas shown in color are areas of interest; light-gray areas are outside the current focus.

CROSS-ZONAL SOLUTIONS

Large area to capture potential cross-zonal solutions

Cross-zonal solution: BS located in one zone is used to support restoration in a neighboring zone.

MAY SUBMIT

TOs and GOs

PJM accepts proposals from both Transmission and Generation Owners

MUST RESPOND

TOs without FA BS

Transmission Owners that have not satisfied the minimum Fuel-Assured Black Start requirement are required to submit

NO NEW RESPONSE REQUIRED

Current providers

Units already providing Black Start or Fuel-Assured Black Start Service **do not** need to respond and are expected to continue service

IMPORTANT

Existing Black Start Units not currently providing Fuel-Assured Black Start Service must submit a proposal to be considered

ELIGIBLE SOLUTION PATHS

- 1 New or existing units**
- 2 Add Black Start capability**
- 3 Enhance existing Black Start capability**

TWO QUALIFICATION GATES

Address the zonal requirement

The proposal must satisfy the Fuel-Assured Black Start requirements and the needs for the applicable zone.

Connect to the PJM region

The proposal must be physically located within, or electrically connected to, the PJM Region.

Fuel Assured Black Start & Requested Proposal Types

FUEL-ASSURED BLACK START

16 HOURS

Minimum fuel and non-fuel consumables available for system restoration.

REQUESTED PROPOSALS

Gas or dual-fuel units not located behind a Local Distribution Company city gate **OR** a proposal that meets one or more Fuel Assured options below.

QUALIFYING FUEL-ASSURANCE OPTIONS

- 1 ON-SITE FUEL STORAGE**
Fuel-assured Black Start with on-site fuel storage.
- 2 INDEPENDENT PIPELINE OPERATION**
Can operate independently on two or more interstate gas pipelines.
- 3 UPSTREAM GAS CONNECTION**
Direct connection to a natural gas gathering system ahead of any interstate pipeline.

- 4 QUALIFIED HYDRO**
Hydro Black Start meeting PJM Manual 12, Section 4.5 criteria.
- 5 QUALIFIED INTERMITTENT / HYBRID**
Non-hydro intermittent or hybrid Black Start meeting PJM Manual 12, Section 4.5 criteria.
- 6 DIVERSE GAS UNITS**
At least two gas Black Start units in a TO zone, connected to two separate interstate gas pipelines.

Fuel assurance options: PJM Manual 36, Attachment A

GO Proposed Solution



OATT Schedule 6A and PJM Manuals

TO Proposed Solution

- GO Owned: Contract with existing resource
- GO Owned: Contract for build of a new resource
- TO Owned: Build new BS resource



Cost Recovery

under OATT Attachment H or other cost recovery mechanism filed with and accepted by FERC

Note: Black Start Units which are owned or contracted for by a Transmission Owner as a result of the Black Start Reliability Backstop process shall be subject to cost recovery through such Transmission Owner's annual revenue requirement under such Transmission Owner's Tariff, Attachment H, as filed with, and accepted by, FERC under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act and in accordance with Tariff, Part I Section 9 or through such other cost recovery mechanism, provided such mechanism is filed with and accepted by FERC.

01 TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

- Ability to energize cranking paths to Critical Loads
- Proximity to Critical Loads and Existing Black Start resources
- Generator type
- Operational or Environmental Restrictions
- Black Start Testing

02 FUEL ASSURANCE

- Fuel Type and Diversity Relative to Existing Black Start
- Dual Fuel Capability
- Start-up Fuel Requirements and Fuel Switching Limitations
- Onsite Fuel and Non-Fuel Consumable Storage
- Fuel and Non-Fuel Consumable supply and replenishment

03 COST AND SCHEDULE

- Total Estimated Costs
- Net Present Value
- Black Start Commitment and Cost Recovery Periods
- Estimated In-service

AWARD PRINCIPLE

Best-fit proposal wins

PJM selects the proposal that best satisfies the RFP requirements, PJM Manual 10 Section 10.1.2 evaluation criteria, and the current and futures needs of the applicable zone.

01

ONLY VIABLE OPTION

Transmission Solution

PJM will award the TO solution if it is the only proposal and is viable.

02

RESTORATION OBLIGATION

Service is exclusive to PJM

Solutions awarded Black Start or Fuel-Assured Black Start service must support PJM during a restoration event, regardless of off-system sales, host loads, ancillary services, or other obligations.

RELIABILITY OUTCOME

ONE

Fuel-Assured Black Start resource in every zone

Cross-zonal options will be considered

1 RFP PARTICIPATION & REQUESTED PROPOSAL TYPES

TOs without Fuel-Assured Black Start must respond. PJM will accept proposals to build new or add/enhance Black Start capability to existing units.

2 FUEL ASSURED SOLUTION

Must satisfy Fuel Assurance requirements and needs for the applicable zone.

3 COST RECOVERY

GO Solutions – OATT Schedule 6A & PJM Manuals
TO Solutions – Under OATT Attachment H or another cost recovery mechanism filed with and accepted by FERC.

4 FIRST BLACK START RELIABILITY BACKSTOP RFP

The Black Start Reliability Backstop Process has never been used; flexibility and potential refinements may be needed as implementation proceeds.

TWO-TIER REVIEW

- 1 LEVEL 1**
 High-level proposal used to identify options for deeper review.
- 2 LEVEL 2**
 Detailed proposal submitted only after PJM advances the resource.

Both levels are non-binding.

PJM is using this two-tier approach for the Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP.

SUBMISSION PATH

- 01 FIND THE RFP**
 PJM.com → [Ancillary Services](#) → Black Start Service → Active Request for Proposals.
- 02 PREPARE THE PROPOSAL**
 Use the applicable Level 1 or Level 2 requirements.
- 03 SUBMIT ON SCHEDULE**
 Follow the RFP timeline referenced on [slide 2](#).

Black Start Service	
Revenue Requirements	
► Five (5) Year Review	
▼ Active Requests for Proposals	
	Date
2026 Black Start Reliability Backstop Request for Fuel Assured Black Start Service Proposals PDF	10.19.2026
2026 Black Start Reliability Backstop Request for Fuel Assured Black Start Service Proposals Level 1 Proposal Response DOC	10.19.2026
2026 Black Start Reliability Backstop Request for Fuel Assured Black Start Service Proposals Level 2 Proposal Response XLS	10.19.2026

EMAIL PROPOSALS TO:

Blackstart@pjm.com

LEVEL 1 AT A GLANCE

HIGH-LEVEL NON-BINDING

Submit one Level 1 form per each proposed Black Start site.

MULTIPLE PROPOSALS AT SAME BLACK START SITE

May be submitted using a single Level 1 form. Please submit as a PDF file.

PJM's invitation to Level 2 is an initial indication of interest—not a final viability determination.

INFORMATION NEEDED

01

TYPE OF PROPOSAL

02

GENERAL UNIT INFORMATION

03

FUEL ASSURANCE INFORMATION

04

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

PJM reviews the package and identifies resources that may proceed to Level 2.

Proposal Type:	Choose an item. ▾
Fuel Assurance	Choose an item.
Resource Status	Generation Owner (GO) Transmission Owner (TO Contract) Transmission Owner Owned

PROPOSAL TYPE

Who is submitting the proposal?

Generation Owner

Transmission Owner (TO Contract)

TO contracts with a GO for a Fuel-Assured Black Start unit.

Transmission Owner

TO owns the Fuel-Assured Black Start solution.

Fuel Assurance Type:	Choose an item. ▾
Resource Status: Cho	Choose an item.
	Fuel Assured Non-Fuel Assured

FUEL ASSURANCE TYPE

Which type of Fuel Assurance being proposed?

Fuel Assured

Proposal for a Fuel-Assured Black Start Unit.

Non-Fuel Assured

Gas or dual fuel gas unit NOT located behind a Local Distribution Company City Gate.

Resource Status:	Choose an item. ▾
	Choose an item. Existing Black Start Existing Non-Black Start New Build

RESOURCE STATUS

What work is required?

Existing Black Start

In service with Black Start capability.

Existing Non-Black Start

In service without Black Start capability.

New Build

Not in service; would need to be built.

LEVEL 2 AT A GLANCE

DETAILED NON-BINDING

Submit a single Level 2 file for all proposals. Use individual columns for each proposal.

PURPOSE

Provide the project scope, cost, schedule, operational details, and ownership information PJM needs for a deeper evaluation.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---|
| 01 | PROPOSED UPGRADES | Black Start and Fuel-Assured Black Start upgrades |
| 02 | OPERATING LIMITATIONS | Minimum loading, emissions constraints, and emergency waivers |
| 03 | TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS | Capital-cost detail for the proposed work |
| 04 | PROJECT SCHEDULE | Major milestones and delivery timing |
| 05 | OWNER CONTACT | Black Start Unit owner contact information |

FORM STRUCTURE

01

ONE FORM

Submit a single Level 2 file covering all proposals.

02

ONE COLUMN PER SITE

Use an individual column for each Black Start site.

03

SEPARATE EACH PROPOSAL

If one site has multiple proposals, give each proposal its own column.

PROPOSAL TYPE FIELD

The Level 2 drop-down aligns with the proposal-type options used on the Level 1 form.

Proposal Type	Proposal Type
Fuel Assurance Type	Fuel Assurance Type
Resource Status	Resource Status
Proposal 1 (Name of Facility)	Proposal 2 (Name of Facility)

GENERATOR OWNER PROPOSALS

GO Separate cost estimates into two upgrade categories.

01 BLACK START UPGRADES
Capital work required to establish or enhance Black Start capability.

02 FUEL ASSURANCE UPGRADES
Capital work required to satisfy Fuel Assurance requirements.

Show the two cost categories distinctly.

TRANSMISSION OWNER PROPOSALS

TO Define the ownership model and full recovery approach.

01 OWN OR CONTRACT State whether the TO will own the solution or contract with a GO.

02 CAPITAL COSTS Outline estimated project costs.

03 CONTRACTS Describe relevant contractual agreements.

04 COST RECOVERY Detail the regulatory approach for recovery through the TO tariff.

TARIFF & OPERATIONS

- S6A** **PJM OATT Schedule 6A — Black Start Service**
Tariff requirements for Black Start and Fuel-Assured Black Start generators.
- M-01** **Control Center & Data Exchange Requirements**
Control-center and telecommunication requirements between PJM and its members.
- M-10** **Pre-Scheduling Operations**
Black Start unit outage restrictions and cranking resource reporting requirements.
- M-12** **Balancing Operations**
Black Start Service requirements, participant obligations, performance and testing standards, non-performance provisions, and associated reporting and cost documentation forms.

GENERATOR, RESTORATION & STANDARDS

- M-14D** **Generator Operational Requirements**
Black Start procurement and selection process.
- M-27** **OATT Accounting**
Black Start Service accounting, credit, and charges.
- M-36** **System Restoration**
Defines generation, transmission, and restoration planning requirements needed to maintain Black Start capability and support coordinated system restoration across PJM.
- NERC** **Reliability Standards**
NERC Reliability Standards, as applicable.

BLACK START RELIABILITY BACKSTOP PROCESS AND RFP

Operating Committee materials provide background, educational material, and contain the RFP announcement.

MAY 8

2025

OPERATING COMMITTEE

Black Start Reliability Backstop Process Background and Overview

[VIEW MATERIALS](#)

JUL 30

2025

OPERATING COMMITTEE · SPECIAL SESSION

Black Start Reliability Backstop Process Education and Next Steps

[VIEW MATERIALS](#)

OCT 8

2026

OPERATING COMMITTEE

Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP Announcement

[VIEW MATERIALS](#)

SME/Presenter:
Ray Lee,
Ray.Lee@pjm.com

Madalin How,
Madalin.How@pjm.com

Direct Questions To:
Blackstart@pjm.com

PJM Black Start Reliability Backstop RFP



Member Hotline

(610) 666 – 8980

(866) 400 – 8980

custsvc@pjm.com