

Power plants are retired for many reasons. Sometimes, they can no longer compete in the market with more efficient resources. In other cases, power plants cannot upgrade to comply with environmental regulations and remain competitive. Rising maintenance costs and age of the plant also factor in.

PJM's Mission: Maintain Grid Reliability

PJM has no vested interest in keeping a plant running or closing down. PJM's job is to ensure the continued reliability of the high-voltage electric transmission system when generation is deactivated.

As part of that mission, PJM identifies transmission solutions that allow owners to retire generating plants as requested without threatening reliable power supplies to customers.

The Process Begins With Notification

Plant owners considering retirement must notify PJM within the quarter that is at least two quarters before the proposed deactivation date.

Transmission Owners will then complete the Reliability Analysis in the subsequent quarter. This process looks five years ahead, using standard criteria to identify any resulting potential transmission system problems in the surrounding area.

PJM may order transmission upgrades or additions to be built by Transmission Owners to accommodate the loss of generation.

PJM has no authority to order plants to continue operating. However, in certain cases, to maintain reliability, it may formally request that a plant owner continue operating, subject to FERC-authorized rates, while the transmission upgrades are completed.

If a generator is going to deactivate in the fourth quarter, notification must be given by the end of the second quarter (June 30) at the latest.

Notification Date

Deactivation Date

Q1	Jan
	Feb
	Mar
Q2	Apr
	May
	Jun ★
Q3	Jul
	Aug
	Sep
Q4	Oct
	Nov
	Dec

Deactivations, Upgrades Captured in RTEP

Generator retirements and any required system upgrades are included in the PJM Regional Transmission Expansion Planning process and are reviewed with PJM members and stakeholders during monthly meetings of the Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee.

The process to close a power plant, from start to finish, varies from several months to multiple years. Sometimes, generation owners decide to rescind their deactivation request and keep a plant operating.

PJM provides a [Generation Deactivations page](#) where visitors can search by state, fuel type, Transmission Owner zone, reliability analysis status or generating unit's name.

Jan. 10, 2025

