

Summer Operations of the PJM Grid: June 1, 2021 – September 15, 2021

Operating Committee October 7, 2021

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Summer 2021 Overview

Average Temperature Jun. 1 – Aug. 31

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Temperature Anomalies (F) Jun to Aug 2021 Versus 1991–2020 Longterm Average



- Temperatures were above normal across the RTO this summer.
- Overall, overnight temperatures were more above average than the daytime highs, driving up the average temps.
- Twenty Hot Weather Alerts were issued between June 1st and August 31st, with an additional two between September 1st and September 15th.

Source: https://www.esrl.noaa.gov

Average Temperature Aug. 1 – Aug. 31

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Temperature Anomalies (F) Aug 2021 Versus 1991–2020 Longterm Average



- Of the three months, August's temperatures had the largest positive difference from average.
- 9 Hot Weather Alerts (40% of all issued this summer) were issued in August.
- August was also wetter than average for much of the PJM region, driven in part by tropical activity.

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- There is a strong relationship between load and Temperature Humidity Index (THI), a measure that accounts for the combined effects of temperature and relative humidity.
- In the summer, as THI goes up, the load goes up (and vice versa), exhibiting a strong, positive relationship.
- The following slide shows the close tracking between load and THI.





Historic Load and Weather

- The following slides show the historic relationship between cooling degree days and total energy, and historic summer peak loads, respectively.
- Cooling degree days measure the temperature's cumulative deviation from a base point, in this case 65 degrees, over a specified time period.
- Cooling degree days in 2021 were lower than they were in 2020, however, total energy use was higher in 2021 due to dampened load levels as a result of the Corona Virus in 2020.







- The following slide shows the daily average fuel prices for coal and natural gas.
- These fuel prices are straight averages of a selection of representative fuel pricing hubs in PJM's footprint. Averages are not load weighted, nor are they meant to represent the price that any particular market participant may have experienced.
- Steady demand, strong LNG exports, and low natural gas storage levels all contributed to rising natural gas prices over the course of the summer.



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- The following slides show the daily average LMP and the LMP at the time of the daily load peak, and the historic monthly average LMPs, respectively.
- LMPs were higher this summer than in recent years. There were 16 hours in which LMP exceeded \$100.
- Increasing natural gas prices, rebounding electricity demand relative to 2020, and sustained hot weather were all contributing factors to higher LMPs this summer.







Summer Uplift

- The following slide shows uplift for the past six summers.
- Total uplift, and more specifically, Balancing Operating Reserves (BOR) were up over recent summers.
- Given the higher load levels, hot weather, and constraint control dynamics, additional flexible resources were called throughout operating days. This resulted in higher levels of BOR when congestion and/or load patterns reduced localized LMP for the units in question.

pjm			Summer Uplift			
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Operations

Emergency Procedures

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Emergency Procedure	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
100% Spinning Reserve - RTO and/or MAD	7	4	11	3	4	6
High System Voltages	5	8	1	0	1	5
Minimum Generation Alert	12	20	3	0	0	0
Manual Load Dump Warning or Action	0	0	1	0	0	0
Hot Weather Alert - Any Region	23	15	19	13	20	22
Total	47	47	35	16	25	33

- Hot Weather Alerts accounted for 2/3 of the Emergency Procedures enacted this summer.
- The high number of Hot Weather Alerts corresponds with the high number of Cooling Degree Days on slide 8.



On-line Generation

- The following slide shows the fuel mix of on-line generation for the past six summers for all hours. Following that is a slide breaking out average wind and solar performance for all hours.
- Patterns are very similar when examining only peak hours.
- Since the summer of 2016, natural gas has overtaken coal as the most utilized online fuel across all hours of the summer.
- Since the summer of 2016, renewables have increased their share of the on-line fuel mix both during peak hours and all other hours.







Renewable Performance for all Summer Hours





Forced Outage Rates

- The following slides show the daily average and daily maximum forced outage rates, as well as the historic average forced outage rates, respectively.
- The 2021 daily data is sourced from eDART, however, historical data is from GADS.
- GADS data for September is for the entire month of September, not just September 1-15.
- Final GADS data for September 2021 is not yet available.

Daily Forced Outage Rates - eDART



10.0%



Historical Forced Outage Rates - GADS



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