

2026 Reserve Capacity Cycle timetable



For Reserve Capacity to be provided for the 2028-29 Capacity Year¹.

Date	Time	ESM Rule ²	Action
Thursday 15 January 2026	5:00pm	4.1.4 4.3.1(n)	AEMO publishes the Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The REOI publication includes the list of Transmission Nodes where Demand Side Programmes (DSP) seeking certification of Reserve Capacity in Year 1 cannot locate Associated Loads during the 2028-29 Capacity Year.
Tuesday 3 March 2026	5:00pm	4.1.5	Expression of Interest (EOI) submissions close.
Monday 16 March 2026	5:00pm	1.68.1	Economic Regulation Authority publishes its determination of the Peak Benchmark Reserve Capacity Price and Flexible Benchmark Reserve Capacity Price ³ .
Wednesday 1 April 2026	5:00pm	4.1.6	AEMO publishes a summary of responses to the REOI.
	9:00am	4.1.7	Opening date for Peak Certified Reserve Capacity (CRC) and Flexible CRC applications.
Tuesday 14 April 2026	9:00am	4.8A.1	For proponents who submitted an EOI for a new Facility or Facility Upgrade, AEMO must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assign an indicative Facility Class and one or more indicative Facility Technology Types. Notify the proponent of the assigned indicative Facility Class and indicative Facility Technology Types.
Friday 8 May 2026	5:00pm	4.4B.2	AEMO provides information to Western Power regarding: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> EOIs. Facility retirements. Early CRC applications, and whether any Facility has nominated to be classified as a Network Augmentation Funding Facility. Non-Co-optimised Essential System Services (NCESS) Contracts. Preliminary peak demand forecasts for the 2028-29 Capacity Year.
Tuesday 19 May 2026	5:00pm	4.8A.4(b)	Closing date for indicative Facility Class and indicative Facility Technology Type(s) assessment submissions from proponents of new Facilities and Facility Upgrades seeking CRC or Early CRC, who did not submit an EOI.
Wednesday 10 June 2026	5:00pm	4.1.8	AEMO publishes the 2026 Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) Electricity Statement of Opportunities (ESOO) which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid Peak Electric Storage Resource (ESR) Obligation Interval, ESR Duration Requirement, ESR Obligation Duration, and (Peak and Flexible) ESR Obligation Intervals. Peak Demand Side Programme (DSP) Dispatch Requirement. Peak Reserve Capacity Requirement and Flexible Reserve Capacity Requirement.
	5:00pm	4.1.10	AEMO publishes the Reserve Capacity Information Pack ⁴ .
Friday	5:00pm	4.4B.5	Western Power must provide the following information to AEMO:

¹ A Capacity Year commences in the Trading Interval starting at 8:00 AM on 1 October and ends in the Trading Interval ending at 8:00 AM on 1 October of the following calendar year.

² The Electricity System and Market (ESM) Rules are available at: <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/wholesale-electricity-market-rules>.

³ The Economic Regulation Authority's determination for Peak and Flexible Benchmark Reserve Capacity Prices are available at <https://www.era.gov.au/markets/wholesale-electricity-market/price-setting/benchmark-reserve-capacity-prices>.

⁴ The Reserve Capacity Information Pack for 2026 will be available at: <https://www.aemo.com.au/energy-systems/electricity/wholesale-electricity-market-wem/wem-forecasting-and-planning/wem-electricity-statement-of-opportunities-wem-esoo>

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12 June 2026			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Estimated proportion of peak demand at each Electrical Location on its Network. b. Preliminary estimate of Thermal Network Limits. c. Electrical Location and identity of new loads or increase of existing loads equal to or greater than 10 MW. d. RCM Limit Advice. e. An explanation of any changes from previous RCM Limit Advice.
Friday 19 June 2026	5:00pm	4.4B.6	AEMO publishes the information provided by Western Power under ESM Rule 4.4B.5.
Wednesday 24 June 2026	5:00pm	4.1.11	Closing date for Peak CRC and Flexible CRC applications, including Early CRC applicants for assessment in the 2026 RC Cycle.
Wednesday 1 July 2026	5:00pm	4.4B.7	<p>AEMO provides information to Western Power regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CRC applications. b. Facility retirements. c. Early CRC applications, and whether the Facility has nominated to be classified as a Network Augmentation Funding Facility. d. NCESS Contracts. e. Peak demand forecasts for the 2028-29 Capacity Year (sourced from the 2026 WEM ESOO).
Wednesday 29 July 2026	5:00pm	4.4B.9	<p>Western Power provides information to AEMO regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Estimated proportion of peak demand at each Electrical Location on its Network. b. Estimate of Thermal Network Limits. c. Electrical Location and identity of new loads or increase of existing loads equal to or greater than 10 MW. d. RCM Limit Advice. e. An explanation of any changes from previous RCM Limit Advice. f. The List of substation names and all associated Transmission Node Identifiers, that are expected to be in service on 1 October of Year 3 of the Reserve Capacity Cycle.
Wednesday 12 August 2026	5:00pm	4.1.12 4.28C.7	AEMO notifies each applicant of the Peak CRC and Flexible CRC to be assigned to each Facility, including Early CRC applicant.
Tuesday 25 August 2026	5:00pm	4.1.13	If required, Market Participants must provide Reserve Capacity Security (RCS) or DSP RCS for Peak CRC.
	5:00pm	4.1.14 4.14.1	<p>Market Participants holding Peak CRC and Flexible CRC must notify AEMO as to how their Peak CRC and Flexible CRC will be dealt with.</p> <p>Market Participants must specify the amount of Peak CRC and Flexible CRC which they will trade bilaterally, and the amount not to be made available to the market.</p>
	5:00pm	4.14.1B	Market Participants may nominate that a Facility be classified as a Fixed Price Facility, or a Facility Technology Type within that Facility be classified as a Fixed Price Component, for a duration of either five or ten years.
Wednesday 26 August 2026	5:00pm	4.1.15	AEMO confirms the quantity of Peak CRC and Flexible CRC that can be traded bilaterally from each Facility.
Thursday 27 August 2026	5:00pm	4.1.15A	AEMO publishes the level of Peak CRC and Flexible CRC assigned to each Facility.
Wednesday 23 September 2026	5:00pm	4.28C.8	If required, Market Participants must provide RCS for Peak Early CRC and Flexible Early CRC.
Wednesday 30 September 2026	5:00pm	4.1.16A	<p>AEMO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assigns Peak Capacity Credits and Flexible Capacity Credits in accordance with clause 4.20.5A(a). b. Publishes the required information pursuant to clause 4.20.5A(b) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o For each Facility:

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quantity of Peak Capacity Credits and Flexible Capacity Credits assigned. The Facility Class. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Peak Reserve Capacity Price and Flexible Reserve Capacity Price. If it is a Transitional Reserve Capacity Cycle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Transitional Daily Peak Reserve Capacity Price, as determined under clause 4.29.1B, multiplied by the number of Trading Days in 2028-29 Capacity Year. The Transitional Daily Flexible Reserve Capacity Price, as determined under clause 4.29.1G, multiplied by the number of Trading Days in 2028-29 Capacity Year. If it is a Fixed Price Reserve Capacity Cycle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fixed Daily Peak Reserve Capacity Price, as determined under clause 4.29.1D, multiplied by the number of Trading Days in 2028-29 Capacity Year. The Fixed Daily Flexible Reserve Capacity Price as determined under clause 4.29.1H, multiplied by the number of Trading Days in 2028-29 Capacity Year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notifies each Market Participant of the Network Access Quantity (NAQ) determined for each of its Facilities. Publishes the NAQ Model Inputs, the NAQ or Indicative NAQ determined for each Facility assessed in the NAQ Model and the Highest NAQ for each Facility.
Thursday 1 October 2026	5:00pm	4.1.21	Market Participants may apply for a recalculation of the amount of RCS or DSP RCS required to be held for a Facility (applications may only be made after this date/time).
Friday 30 October 2026	5:00pm	4.1.21A	Market Participants must notify AEMO of the number of Capacity Credits that are to be associated with each component of a Facility, where applicable, in accordance with clause 4.20.16 (applicable to Facilities who have been assigned less Capacity Credits than their CRC).
	5:00pm	4.1.22	AEMO sets and publishes the number of Peak Capacity Credits and Flexible Capacity Credits associated with each component of a Facility.
Friday 6 November 2026	5:00pm	4.20.5AA	<p>AEMO publishes the Reserve Capacity Prices, and the aggregate quantity of MW of Capacity Credits assigned at each price:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Peak Reserve Capacity Price and Flexible Reserve Capacity Price. The Reserve Capacity Price for each Transitional Facility or Transitional Component. The Reserve Capacity Price for each Fixed Price Facility or Fixed Price Component.
	5:00pm	4.20.17B 4.1.26(e)ii.	<p>AEMO publishes its determination on whether the Peak Reserve Capacity Requirement and Flexible Reserve Capacity Requirement have been met or exceeded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If AEMO determines the Reserve Capacity Requirement is not met by Facilities required to lodge a RCS, eligible Facilities or Facility Upgrades may commence Reserve Capacity Obligations prior to the Trading Day of 1 October 2028.