

PJM Synchronous Reserves

Earn more revenue for being available to use less energy on short notice when the grid is stressed.

Right now, PJM's Synchronous Reserves Program is paying considerably more than it has in years to organizations that can quickly reduce their electric loads when the grid is stressed or electricity prices are high.

When the grid is stressed due to an emergency like an unplanned generator outage or other unexpected spikes in demand, PJM can call on its synchronous reserves to quickly restore the balance between supply and demand.

The program pays participating organizations well for being on-call to help the grid react to short-term disturbances. The result is a more sustainable and efficient grid in PJM that benefits the community and all its ratepayers.



What are Synchronous Reserves?

Synchronous Reserves are load resources that can quickly come online if generated or offline if reduced via demand response within 10 minutes and help PJM balance the electrical grid in the event of an unexpected loss in power generation.

PJM's Synchronous Reserves Program is available 24/7/365 and helps the grid react to short-term disturbances. Each hour, customers may offer the kW they're willing to curtail if needed.

If their offer is accepted, they receive the hourly Synchronous Reserve Market Clearing Price and must be on-call to curtail for short durations (events average less than 9 minutes but can be up to 30 minutes max) and within 10 minutes of an event notification. Customers earn these standby payments whether they are needed or not. PJM calls about 16 events each year with events lasting less than 9 mins on average. The total event duration each year is typically under 3 hours if participants elect to participate in all hours.

PJM Synchronous Reserve Market Clearing Price (SRMCP)

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Monthly Avg	\$2,871	\$6,707	\$1,123	\$2,247
Yearly Avg	\$34,456	\$80,488	\$13,478	\$26,964

*through Sep 2024

Synchronous Reserve (SR) participants can offer load and price for any hour during which they have availability. If the offer clears the market then the participant is on standby as an emergency resource and may be dispatched if there is an SR event. SR Resources will be paid the hourly Synch Reserve Market Clearing Price (SRMCP) for each hour they clear regardless if dispatched or not.



Who can participate in PJM's Synchronous Reserve program?

The Synchronous Reserve program is available to commercial and industrial organizations in the PJM territory that meet the program's parameters described below.

Because the program requires a quick response to reduce load when called upon by the grid, it is an ideal match for organizations that already possess the infrastructure and ability to monitor and adjust their energy consumption on a moment-to-moment basis. A great attribute of the Synchronous Reserves program is that you can participate when you want to participate. The program is available whenever your organization is available!

If your organization is already engaged in energy management–which many commercial and industrial organizations in PJM are–why not participate in the program and be well compensated for it?

Minimum Size	100 kW. Loads may be aggregated within the same load zone.	
Compliance Period	Hourly clearing market. Must comply during hours awarded.	
Event Duration	Events average 9-mins but cannot last longer than 30-mins.	
Lead Time	10 min lead from PJM. Typically, at least 8 min lead to the customer.	
Compensation	Hourly SRMCP for each hour awarded	
Enrollment Deadline	Rolling.	
Metering	1-min interval settlement grade meter.	

Program Specs:

Why is now a good time to participate in PJM's Synchronous Reserve Program?

PJM's Synchronous Reserve Program is paying more now than it has in recent years.

That means, your organization-whether you have participated in DR before or are completely new to the program-has the potential to earn MORE for helping the grid than was possible in years past.

You can also participate in Synchronous Reserves if you currently participate in other PJM demand response programs such as the popular Capacity Performance program.

Find out how much your organization could earn for helping the grid evolve to a more efficient and dependable future. Contact CPower today.

Contact your CPower PJM Energy Team to learn more. 844.276.9371