



## Current Energy

### Supply of and Demand for Electricity for California


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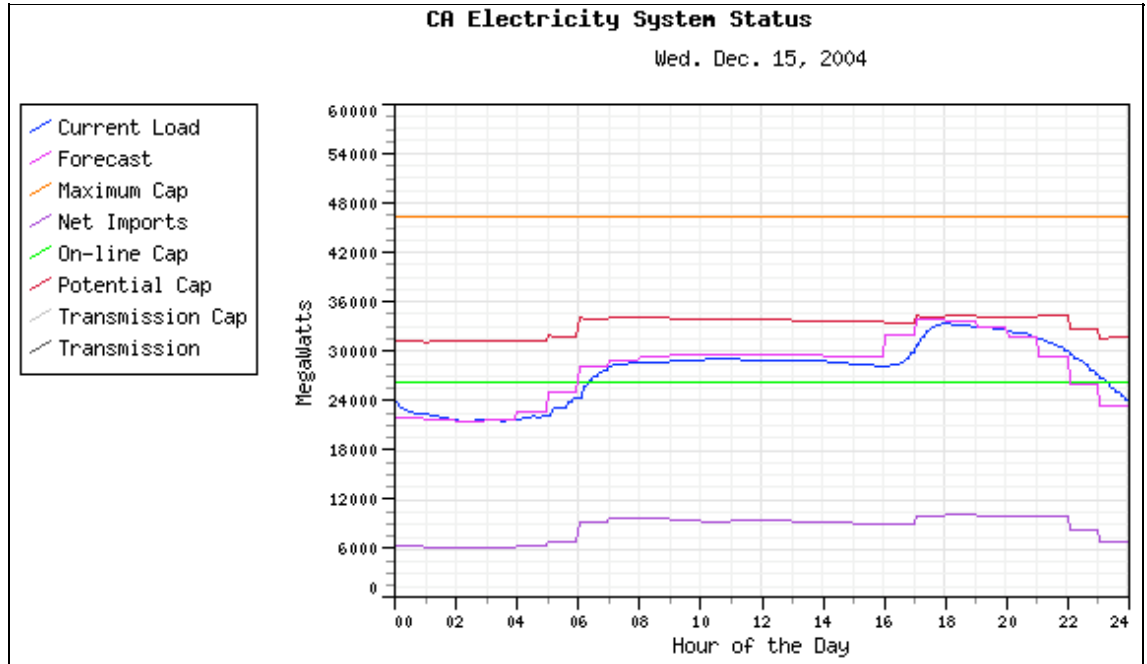
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The power grid that supplies the electric current coming into your home or business is designed to maintain a dynamic balance between the consumer demand for electricity and the amount being supplied by generators. The chart above is an approximate representation of this dynamic balance. Quantities which are forecasts or estimates are shown by dashed lines. **You may need to click your browser's reload button to update the graph.**

The current demand (or "load") depends on how much power consumers are using right now. While the load changes every time someone switches a light on or off, the sum of loads due to a large number of consumers varies slowly. In addition to the supply needed to meet this demand, some "reserve" generating capacity must be kept ready to operate in case of any unexpected events.

The current load is published every five minutes by the Electric Reliability Council of California (ERCOT) for the area it controls, which covers about 85% of electricity use in California. The official ERCOT website, with links to the official data can be found [here](#).

**CAISO Control Area** This graph shows data for the CAISO control area only, which covers about 75% of electricity use in California. It includes the service areas of the three major utilities ( PG&E, Southern California Edison, and San Diego G&E), but not the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) or the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power