

# **Balancing Service Election for Dispatchable Energy Resource Balancing Service (DERBS) and Variable Energy Resource Balancing Service (VERBS)**

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## **BPA Transmission Business Practice**

Version 7

3/14/2025

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## Version 7

The Balancing Service Election for Dispatchable Energy Resource Balancing Service (DERBS), and Variable Energy Resource Balancing Service (VERBS) Business Practice applies to the Dispatchable and Variable Energy Resources operating in the BPA Balancing Authority Area. This business practice describes the requirements for Dispatchable and Variable Energy Resources to make their elections for Balancing Services for the upcoming rate period.

### BPA Policy Reference

- [Open Access Transmission Tariff \(OATT\)](#): Transmission Ancillary and Control Area Service Rate Schedules

For more information, visit the [BPA Transmission Business Practices webpage](#) or submit questions to [techforum@bpa.gov](mailto:techforum@bpa.gov).

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## A. Balancing Service Election

1. Each Dispatchable Energy Resource (DER) and Variable Energy Resource (VER) Customer in the BPA Balancing Authority Area must submit the Balancing Service Election form to make a Balancing Service Election for the upcoming rate period by Close of Business of the first Business Day of April prior to the start of the upcoming rate period.
  - a. Balancing Service Election forms are located on the [Transmission Business Practice Forms webpage](#).
2. A Customer that has a current Balancing Service Elections form in place will continue that form of service until the Customer elects and qualifies for a different service.
3. Each DER Customer in the BPA Balancing Authority Area must either purchase DERBS from BPA or make a Balancing Service Election to self-supply comparable service for the upcoming rate period. The Customer's election options are to:
  - a. Purchase DERBS from BPA;
  - b. Self-supply balancing reserves; or
  - c. Dynamically transfer a Generating Facility out of BPA's Balancing Authority Area.
4. BPA will assume that a DER Customer with no election form on file is electing to purchase DERBS from BPA and will be subject to the applicable Transmission, Ancillary, and Control Area Service rate schedule for DERBS during the upcoming rate period.
5. Each VER Customer in the BPA Balancing Authority Area must either purchase VERBS from BPA or make a Balancing Service Election to self-supply comparable service for the upcoming rate period. The Customer's election options are to:
  - a. Purchase VERBS from BPA;
  - b. Self-supply balancing reserves; or
  - c. Dynamically transfer a Generating Facility out of BPA's Balancing Authority Area.
6. BPA will assume that a VER Customer with no election form on file is electing to purchase VERBS from BPA and will be subject to the applicable Transmission, Ancillary, and Control Area Service rate schedule for VERBS during the upcoming rate period.
7. If BPA adopts a timeline for its rates process – including timelines related to rate case settlement – that requires Customers to make elections prior to the election deadlines specified in this business practice, the election deadlines set in the rates process will supersede the deadlines in this business practice.
8. Prior to the notification deadline, identified in this section, Customers may change their election by submitting a new Balancing Service Election form to [techforum@bpa.gov](mailto:techforum@bpa.gov).
9. In order to elect to dynamically transfer out of BPA's Balancing Authority Area during the upcoming rate period, a Customer must have previously worked with BPA to obtain Dynamic Transfer Capability, a plan of service, and a schedule with an achievable date for moving out of the BPA Balancing Authority Area. To the extent the Customer is unable to meet that date due to technical issues and not due to Customer choice, BPA will work with the Customer to revise its election to match a new achievable date.

## **B. Eligibility Criteria for Self-Supply of VERBS and DERBS**

1. A VER Customer that elects to self-supply balancing reserves for the upcoming rate period must meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the [Self-Supply of Balancing Reserves Business Practice](#).
2. A DER Customer that elects to self-supply balancing reserves for the upcoming rate period must meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the [Self-Supply of Balancing Reserves Business Practice](#).

## **C. Eligibility Criteria for Dynamic Transfer Out of the BPA Balancing Authority Area**

1. A DER or VER Customer that will be subject to the DERBS or VERBS rate on October 1 of a rate period, and that expects to dynamically transfer the output of its Generating Facility to another Balancing Authority Area any time during that rate period, must satisfy the eligibility requirements of the [Dynamic Transfer Operating & Scheduling Requirements Business Practice](#) prior to implementing the Dynamic Transfer.