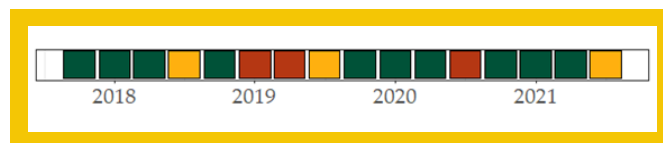# Indicator 4:
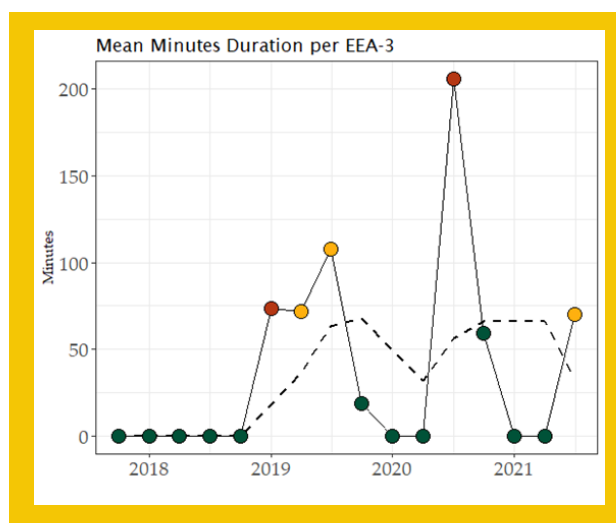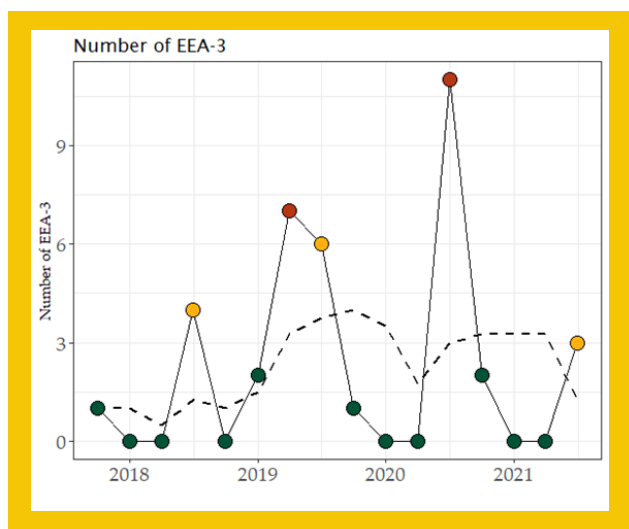# Number And Duration of Energy Emergency Alerts

What it measures

Indicator 4 measures the number and duration of Level 3 Energy Emergency Alerts (EEA-3) issued to Balancing Authorities each quarter. An EEA-3 alert is defined as a situation in which firm load interruption is imminent or in progress.

Combined Indicator Performance History

How it is measured

Indicator 4 is based on two metrics related to EEA-3 alerts:

1. The number of EEA-3 alerts issued each quarter.
2. The mean duration of the EEA-3 alerts issued each quarter.

Why this matters

EEA-3 alerts can indicate a lack of sufficient bulk electric system generation capacity, energy, or transmission capability. EEA-3 alerts are an important indicator of system operational reliability.

What does the Q3 2021 evaluation tell us?

After two quarters without any EEA-3 events, Q3 had three. The indicator is classified "yellow," not because of the number of alerts alone, but also because of the average duration of the series of alerts associated with each EEA-3, (70 minutes). All three EEA-3 events for the quarter were a direct result of the Bootleg Fire which relayed three major 500 KV lines, creating a Potential Open Loop for WECC and a reduction to Total Transfer Capability values for the Pacific DC Intertie. Fortunately, the affected BAs were all able to operate through the event without shedding firm load.