

# DSGS Option 4 Seasonal Device Capacity Nomination Technical Guide

## 1 Objective

DSGS Option 4 monthly capacity nominations are composed of two parts: (1) per-device average load reduction commitment and (2) device enrollment. Per device load reduction commitments are submitted at the beginning of the program season in the “Seasonal Capacity Nomination” file, and device enrollments are submitted and updated monthly in the “Monthly Participant Enrollment Report” file.

The objective of this document is to detail the information that must be submitted by DSGS Option 4 providers to define the seasonal, per-device average load reduction commitments (ie. the “Seasonal Device Capacity Nomination”). Additionally, details on the implementation of the 2026 Option 4 capacity allocation process are included.

## 2 Submission Deadlines and Option 4 Capacity Allocation Details

No later than five business days before the first month of program participation, Option 4 aggregators must submit the “Seasonal Capacity Nomination” file with per-device average load reduction commitment nominations for each month of the season (May-October).

### **Additional notes:**

- The Device Capacity Nomination is a direct input into the Initial Aggregated Nomination, which directly impacts the Option 4 performance and settlement calculation. The Option 4 performance methodology uses a “performance band” structure that compares performance to aggregated nomination (after a weather-sensitive adjustment), and can include penalties. Aggregators should review the Option 4 performance and settlement methodology carefully prior to setting the per-device capacity.
- The Device Capacity Nomination can be set to a different value for each month and for each aggregation. However, the value for all aggregations and all program months must be included in a single file due prior to season start. No updates to per-device nominations are permitted after season start.
- An Option 4 aggregation is defined as the combination of enrolled distributed energy resources sharing the same Resource Type, Provider ID, and UDC zone for a given program month.

### **Relevance to Option 4 Capacity Allocation:**

Under 2026 DSGS Guidelines, Option 4 capacity and nominations are subject to program-wide capacity allocation. The process for implementing the capacity allocation is as follows:



1. Once per season, providers submit the Device Capacity Nomination information (described in this document).

2. Within the 5 business days leading up to the start of **each** program month:
  - a. No later than 5 business days before the start of a program month, providers submit Participation Reports defining their initial enrollments for the upcoming month.
  - b. For each aggregation, the Initial Aggregated Nomination is calculated as the product of the per-device nomination times the number of enrolled sites in the aggregation. The Initial Aggregated Nomination is summed across all of a provider's aggregations for the upcoming month to establish the monthly Provider Offered Capacity.
  - c. This Provider Offered Capacity is then subject to the program-wide capacity allocation process defined in Appendix of the 2026 Guidelines. Capacity allocation is carried out by CEC each month and depends on the overall enrollments and nominations of all providers.
  - d. The result of this allocation process will be communicated to providers no later than 3 business days prior to the start of the month. There are **two possible pathways**:
    - i. **[Full Allocation]** If the Final Allocated Capacity is equal to the full Provider Offered Capacity, then the previously-submitted enrollment data is considered final. For each aggregation, the Final Aggregated Nomination is set to the Initial Aggregated Nomination.
    - ii. **[Partial Allocation]** If the Final Allocated Capacity is less than the full Provider Offered Capacity, the provider has two options with respect to enrollment:
      1. **Option 1: Re-submit participation reports with fewer sites.** The provider has the option to reduce enrollment proportionally across all aggregations such that the new Provider Offered Capacity is at or under the allocated total. If the provider chooses this option, they must notify the administrator and re-submit revised participation reports no later than 1 business day prior to the start of the program month.
      2. **Option 2: Keep all enrolled sites.** The provider can keep all original sites enrolled. In this case, the administrator will calculate a "derated" Final Aggregated Nomination for each aggregation (calculated via a simple proportional derate) such that the sum of Aggregated Nominations equals the Final Allocated Capacity. Performance and settlements will be based on the updated (derated) aggregated nomination values. Option 2 is the default if Option 1 is not taken by the provider prior to the specified deadline.

### 3 Submission Process and File Format

The Device Capacity report must be submitted in Tab-Separated Values (TSV) file format. In TSV format, individual fields (columns) are separated by tab characters. To submit:

1. Log into the Provider Portal (<https://app.olivineinc.com/i/dsgs>).

2. Navigate to “**Submit Data File**” and select file for submission. Providers only need to submit a single file per program year.
3. Select “**Validate**” to receive feedback on file format and contents. Correct any formatting issues that are identified and re-upload a revised file. Note that validation may produce warnings (Yellow triangle  ) and/or errors (red circle  ). Warnings are for informational purposes; resubmission is optional. Errors indicate data issues that are preventing the file from being accepted. **If there are errors, resubmission of a corrected data file is required for participation to be processed.**
4. Select “**Submit**” once file has been validated.
5. Contact DSGS Support with any questions or account access requests.

## 4 File Naming

Participation Files will be named in the following format:

**{ProgramName}-{ProviderID}-Nominations.tsv**

File Name Element	Description
ProgramName	For DSGS Option 4, the program name must be “DSGS_OPTION_4”.
ProviderID	The Provider ID is the three-digit code given to each provider that uniquely identifies the provider’s company.

An Example Option 4 capacity file name would be: DSGS\_OPTION\_4-ABC-Nominations.tsv, where “ABC” is the provider’s unique code.

## 5 Capacity Nomination Data Fields

The following table lists the individual data fields required in the Seasonal Capacity Nomination. Each table row is a column in the data file. The header row in each file must contain the exact name listed in the "Column Name" values. All fields must be supplied, even if they are optional and their values are blank. All values provided must follow the corresponding specified description. The columns must appear from left to right in the order in which they appear in the table and be separated by tab characters.

Column Name	Type	Description
Program_Name	string	The value must be "DSGS_OPTION_4"
Provider_ID	string	The 3-letter code provided by DSGS to uniquely identify the provider.
UDC	string	The Utility region of the resource aggregation. Must be one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "SCE"</li> <li>• "SDGE"</li> <li>• "SP15"<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
Average_Device_Load_Nomination	decimal	A <b>per-device average</b> load reduction nomination (kW). This value will be multiplied by the number of enrolled sites for a given month to calculate the initial Aggregated Nomination. For weather-sensitive resources, see UDC Planning Temperatures below.
Month	string	The year and month of the nomination. The format must be in YYYY-MM of the resource capacity estimation. For example, the month of May in 2026 would be entered as "2026-05".
Resource_Type	string	The resource type of the device. Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "THERM"</li> <li>• "HVAC"</li> <li>• "HPWH"</li> <li>• "ELWH"</li> <li>• "EVSE"</li> <li>• "BTMB"</li> <li>• "SMEP"</li> </ul> <p>Descriptions for the resource type abbreviations are found in Section 6.1.</p>

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<sup>1</sup> South Path 15 (SP15) consists of the POU's of Anaheim, Azusa, Banning, Pasadena, Riverside, and Vernon

## 6 Additional Clarifications

### 6.1 Resource Type

The following mapping gives a description of the submitted resource abbreviations.

Resource Abbreviation	Resource Description
THERM	Smart Thermostat HVAC with only Run-Time Data
HVAC	Smart Thermostats HVAC with Meter Data
HPWH	Heat Pump Water Heater
ELWH	Electric Resistance Water Heater
EVSE	Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
BTMB	Stationary Behind the Meter Battery
SMEP	Smart Electrical Panels

### 6.2 UDC Planning Temperatures for Weather-Sensitive Resources

For weather-sensitive aggregations, committed load reductions should reflect resource load reduction capabilities at the planning composite temperatures in Table 5, as defined in Section F.2 (Performance Evaluation) of the Program Guidelines. Peak composite temperatures in recent years are provided for reference.

**Table 5: UDC Planning and Historical Peak Composite Temperatures Planning UDC<sup>2</sup>**

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>PG&amp;E</b>	87.9	94.5	86.4	90.4	85.2	90.5
<b>Pasadena</b>	88.6	98.4	88.1	101.1	89.5	99.7
<b>SCE</b>	82.5	88.4	83.0	87.5	83.1	88.4
<b>SDG&amp;E</b>	75.3	85.7	76.4	81.2	76.3	83.4

<sup>2</sup> Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS) Program Guidelines, Fifth Edition. Pg 43.