

mc.js Force Approval Queue (MC #100818)

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MC: #100818 (Reality Anchor P1.1 — Remove --force bypass)

Parent: [Reality Anchor Doctrine Phase 1](#)

Owner: CodeCraft / Petter Graff

Date Shipped: 2026-05-15

Code: `~/system/tools/mc.js` lines 2293-2412, 6837-6997

Problem Statement

The old `mc.js done --force` allowed agents to bypass evidence gates immediately with only a rate limit and audit log. This was a structural bypass that undermined the entire Reality Anchor doctrine. Any agent could self-authorize gate skips.

“ **Reality Anchor Doctrine (P1.1):** "Remove --force flag OR add 24h CEO approval queue."

The implemented solution: `--force` flag still exists but NO LONGER executes immediately. Instead, it enqueues the request for CEO approval with 24h TTL.

New Workflow

1. **Agent attempts** `mc.js done <id> --force --reason "..."`
 - Minimum reason length: 20 characters (enforced for audit quality)

- Example: `mc.js done 100818 --force --reason "Proveo verified manually, evidence at /tmp/evidence-100818/login-pass.json"`
2. **mc.js enqueues to** `~/system/state/force-pending.jsonl`
 - Generates `queue_id` (UUID)
 - Records: `task_id`, `task_title`, `actor`, `force_reason`, `requested_at`, `expires_at` (24h), `status=pending_ceo_approval`
 - Exits with code 45 (not executed)
 3. **CEO email alert sent**
 - Subject: `[FORCE-QUEUE] MC #<id> – approval required (<queue_id_short>)`
 - Body includes: task title, actor, reason, `queue_id`, approval/deny commands
 4. **CEO reviews queue**
 - `node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-pending` — list all pending requests
 - CEO decides: approve or deny
 5. **CEO approves OR denies**
 - **Approve:** `mc.js force-approve <queue_id>` → updates status to `ceo_approved`, logs to audit ledger, instructs actor to re-run WITHOUT `--force`
 - **Deny:** `mc.js force-deny <queue_id> --reason "..."` → updates status to `ceo_denied`
 6. **Auto-expiry after 24h**
 - Requests not approved/denied within 24h are listed as expired (effective denial)
-

Commands

List Pending Requests

```
node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-pending
```

Output:

```
=== FORCE-PENDING QUEUE (P1.1 Reality Anchor) ===
Pending CEO approval: 2 | Expired: 0 | Processed: 3

Queue ID: a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639
Task:      #100818 – Reality Anchor P1.1 force removal
Actor:     codecraft
Reason:    Proveo verified manually, evidence at /tmp/evidence-100818/login-pass.json
Expires:   2026-05-16T14:30:00Z (in 320 min)
Approve:   node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-approve a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639
Deny:      node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-deny a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639 --reason
"<text>"
```

Approve a Request

```
node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-approve <queue_id>
```

Example:

```
node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-approve a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639
```

Output:

```
CEO APPROVED: force request a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639
Task:      #100818 – Reality Anchor P1.1 force removal
Actor:     codecraft
Reason:    Proveo verified manually, evidence at /tmp/evidence-100818/login-pass.json
```

The actor may now re-run their mc.js done command WITHOUT --force.
The approval is recorded. Task completion will proceed through normal gates.

Note: CEO approval does NOT bypass evidence/verifier gates.
It only removes the --force block. All other gates (P1.3, P2.2) still apply.

Deny a Request

```
node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-deny <queue_id> --reason "<text>"
```

Example:

```
node ~/system/tools/mc.js force-deny a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639 --reason "Evidence
incomplete – missing commit verification"
```

Test Queue Entry

A test queue entry exists for validation:

```
{
  "queue_id": "a5fc1ca8-e62f-449b-9ce7-d8949f3fc639",
  "task_id": 100818,
  "task_title": "Reality Anchor P1.1 – remove --force bypass",
```

```
"actor": "codecraft",
"force_reason": "Proveo verified manually, evidence at /tmp/evidence-100818/login-pass.json",
"outcome_requested": "P1.1 gates operational",
"requested_at": "2026-05-15T14:30:00Z",
"expires_at": "2026-05-16T14:30:00Z",
"status": "pending_ceo_approval",
"approved_at": null,
"approved_by": null,
"node_argv": "done 100818 --force --reason \"Proveo verified manually, evidence at /tmp/evidence-100818/login-pass.json\""
}
```

Audit Trail

All force attempts and CEO decisions are logged to:

- `~/system/state/force-pending.jsonl` — queue state (pending/approved/denied/expired)
- `~/system/state/bypass-attempts.jsonl` — bypass audit ledger (legacy compatibility)

Each entry includes:

- `event_type`: `force_completion`
- `timestamp`, `mc_id`, `actor`, `reason`, `gate_bypassed`, `session_id`
- For approvals/denials: `approved_at`, `approved_by`, `denied_at`, `deny_reason`

Key Invariants

1. **No immediate execution:** `--force` NEVER completes the task immediately. It always enqueues.
2. **CEO-only approval:** Only CEO can approve (hardcoded in force-approve command).
3. **24h TTL:** Requests expire automatically. Actor must re-request if needed.
4. **--reason required:** Minimum 20 characters to ensure audit quality.
5. **Approval ≠ bypass:** CEO approval only removes the `--force` block. All other gates (P1.3 verifier, P2.2 writer≠witness) still apply.

Exit Codes

Code	Meaning
42	BLOCKED: --reason missing or <20 characters
45	Queued for CEO approval (not executed)
0	Success (for force-approve / force-deny commands)
1	Error (queue_id not found, already processed, expired)

Related

- **Parent MC:** #100818 (Reality Anchor P1.1)
- **Doctrine:** [Reality Anchor v1 Final](#)
- **Code:** `~/system/tools/mc.js` lines 2293-2412 (enqueue), 6837-6997 (queue commands)
- **Proveo Test:** MC #100818 validation includes synthetic force-approve attack (must reject if already processed)

Revision #3
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