

CLAUDE OPUS 4.7 MAY OMIT THINKING OUTPUTS AND CHANGE TOKEN COUNTS

OPERATIONAL SIGNAL

DOMAIN: CAP – Capability | CONFIDENCE LEVEL: Preliminary

INSTITUTIONAL DIMENSIONS: Authority | Attribution | Visibility | Escalation | Continuity

Signal ID	Platform	Source	Audience	Status	Date
SIG-CAP-003	Claude Opus	Link	PMO Risk Ops	Pilot	2026-04-28

CAPABILITY SHIFT

Claude Opus 4.7 changes what some API users see, configure, and are billed for. Thinking content is now omitted by default unless explicitly enabled. Some older output-control settings now cause API errors. A new token-counting system may make some text inputs use up to about 35% more tokens. Claude Opus 4 and Claude Sonnet 4 are scheduled for retirement on 15 June 2026.

ORGANISATIONAL CONSEQUENCE

Teams that relied on thinking content for review, QA, or record-keeping may find that detail missing after upgrade. The same prompt and workflow may return less visible reasoning detail by default. Separately, token counts may increase for some inputs, affecting usage forecasts.

WHAT TO WATCH

- Responses that previously included thinking content now returning without it
- QA or audit processes relying on visible reasoning
- Unexpected token or cost increases for similar work
- Existing integrations returning errors after a model version change
- Outputs that appear similar but lack the reasoning detail previously available

WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

The retirement timeline creates a limited migration window. Teams may need to identify where Claude is embedded, test changed defaults, update integrations, and adjust cost forecasts before migration becomes unavoidable.

WHAT TO REVIEW

- Which systems use Claude and which model version they run
- Whether thinking content is used for review, audit, or QA
- Token count forecasts
- Whether technical teams are ready for removed parameters such as non-default temperature, top_p, or top_k
- Vendor agreements assuming prior model behaviour

GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

This is a control and continuity consideration. The model may continue to produce outputs, but the surrounding evidence base, cost assumptions, and integration controls may change unless explicitly reviewed.

Scope Boundary: This artefact translates observed platform capability changes into operational considerations. It does not constitute policy, legal advice, or enforcement guidance.