Planning for Generation Interconnection

PRESENTED BY

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PREPARED FOR

ESIG Special Topic Webinar:

Generation Interconnection Criteria

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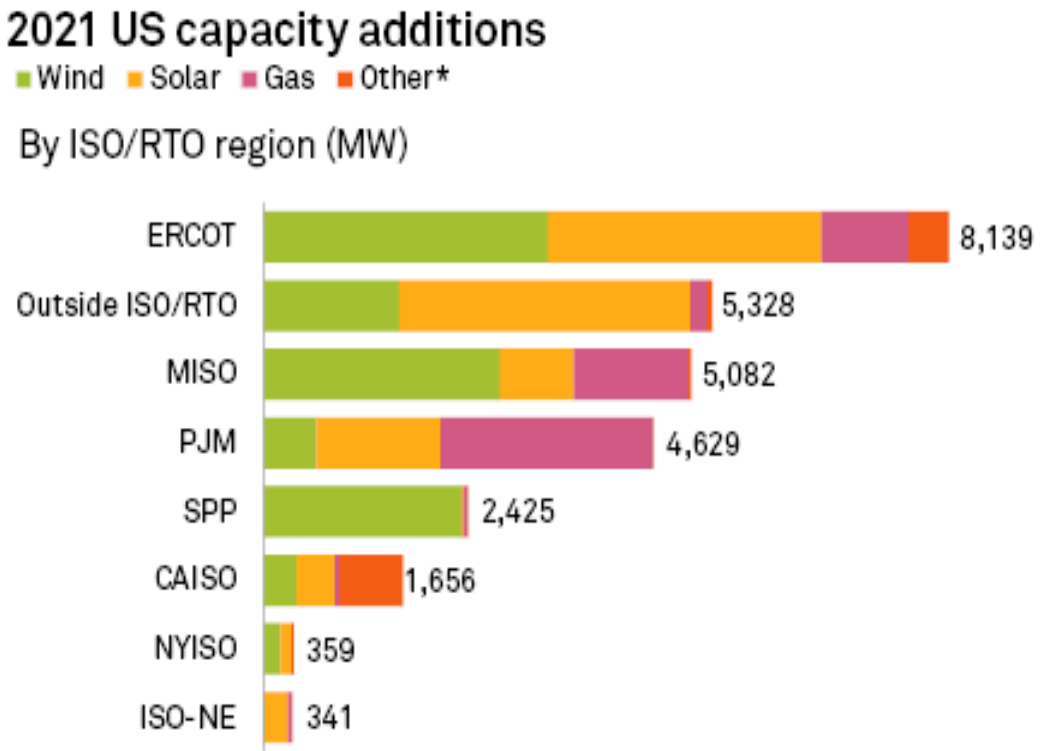
Challenge: The Generation Interconnection Process

Some RTOs are able to interconnect more generation (and more quickly) than others.

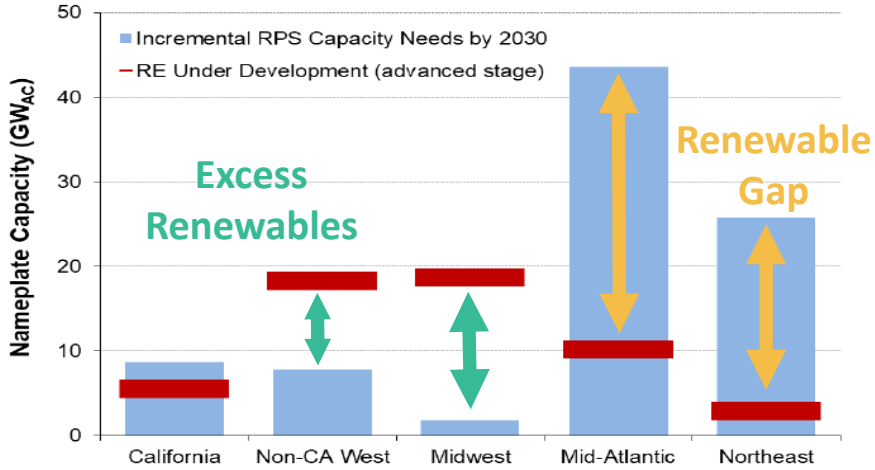


Data compiled Jan. 11, 2022.
* Includes hydro, biomass, oil, geothermal and energy storage capacity.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence

See also: Generation, Storage, and Hybrid Capacity in Interconnection Queues | Electricity Markets and Policy Group (lbl.gov)

RTO Size	Capacity in Queue
80 GW	135 GW
200 GW	330 GW
150 GW	155 GW
180 GW	245 GW
95 GW	100 GW
52 GW	160 GW
42 GW	75 GW
32 GW	30 GW

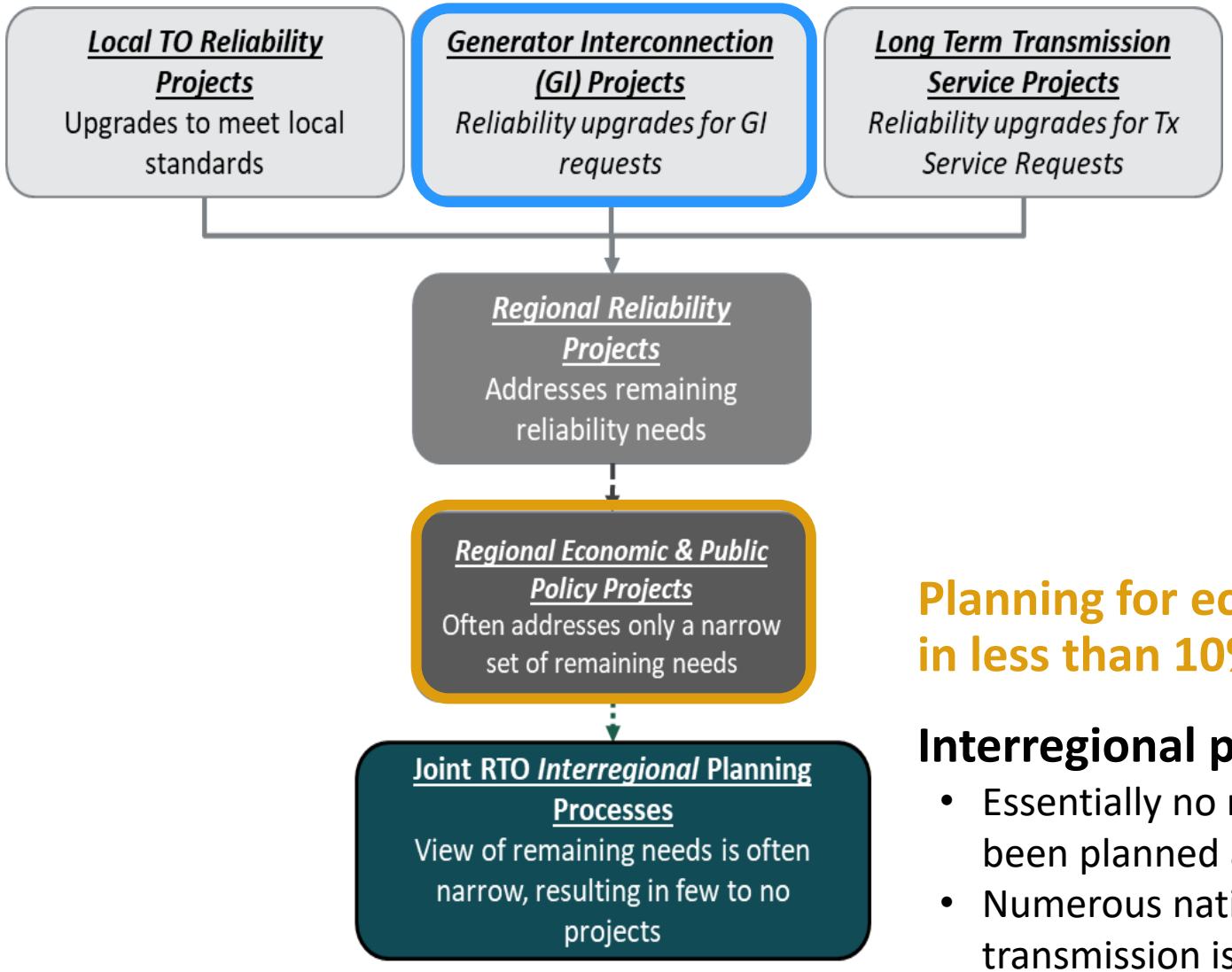
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
Estimated Renewables Development Gap



Source: Galen Barbose, "U.S. Renewables Portfolio Standards: 2021 Status Update (Early Release)," Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Feb 2021. rps.lbl.gov

The Mid-Atlantic and Northeast currently interconnect significantly less renewable generation -- making it challenging to meet the significant renewable development necessary to meet state clean-energy policies

Current U.S. Transmission Planning Processes for…`



These solely reliability-driven processes account for > 90% of all transmission investments

- None involve any assessments of economic benefits (i.e., cost savings offered by the new transmission)

Generation interconnection processes have become the primary tool (and barrier) to support public policy goals for clean energy

Planning for economic & public-policy projects results in less than 10% of all U.S. transmission investments

Interregional planning processes are large ineffective

- Essentially no major interregional transmission projects have been planned and built in the last decade
- Numerous national studies show that more interregional transmission is needed to reduce total system costs

Five Elements of Generation Interconnection

Improving generation interconnection requires addressing all five elements of the GI process (with most current reform discussions focused mostly on Nos. 1 and 5):

1. **GI Process and Queue Management:** individual vs. cluster studies, type of studies and contractual agreements, readiness criteria, financial deposits, study and restudy sequences, etc.
2. **GI Scope and "Handoff" to Regional Transmission Planning:** are major ("deep") network upgrades triggered by incremental generation interconnection requests or handled through regional transmission planning?
3. **GI Study Approach and Criteria:** study assumptions, modeling approaches, and specific criteria differ significantly across regions (e.g., ERIS vs. NRIS study differences, injection levels studied, are market-based redispatch opportunities considered?)

   Focus of Today's Webinar
4. **Selecting Solutions to Address the Identified Criteria Violations:** most regions select only traditional transmission upgrades to address criteria violations; grid-enhancing technologies, such as power-flow-control devices or dynamic line ratings, are not typically considered or accepted
5. **Cost Allocation:** most regions require the interconnecting generator (or group of generators) to pay for all upgrades identified, even though (a) there may be significant regional benefits to loads and other market participants and (b) more cost effective (multi-value) regional solutions may exist

Improving the Generation Interconnection Process

Reducing the scope of upgrades triggered by generation interconnection processes likely will be necessary to both accelerate and lower the cost of renewable interconnection:

- Attractive: UK "Connect and Manage" (replaced prior "Invest and Connect")
  - Similar to ERCOT; reduced lead times by 5 years; network constraints addressed later (e.g., with congestion management) https://www.gov.uk/guidance/electricity-network-delivery-and-access#connect-and-manage
- ERCOT's generation interconnection process is perhaps most effective in the U.S.
  - Efficient handoff of study roles by ERCOT and Transmission Owners limits restudy needs
  - Projects can be developed and interconnected within 2-3 years; in other regions, the interconnection study process itself may take longer than that
  - Upgrades focused only on local interconnection needs and are recovered through postage stamp
  - Network constraints managed through market dispatch – which imposes high congestion and curtailment risks on interconnecting generators … in part due to ERCOT's insufficiently proactive multi-value grid planning
  - See working-paper.pdf (enelgreenpower.com) [Note: Brattle was not involved]

Generation interconnection based on "connect and manage" when combined with proactive transmission planning offers more timely and cost-effective solutions

Examples: Benefit of Proactive Transmission Planning

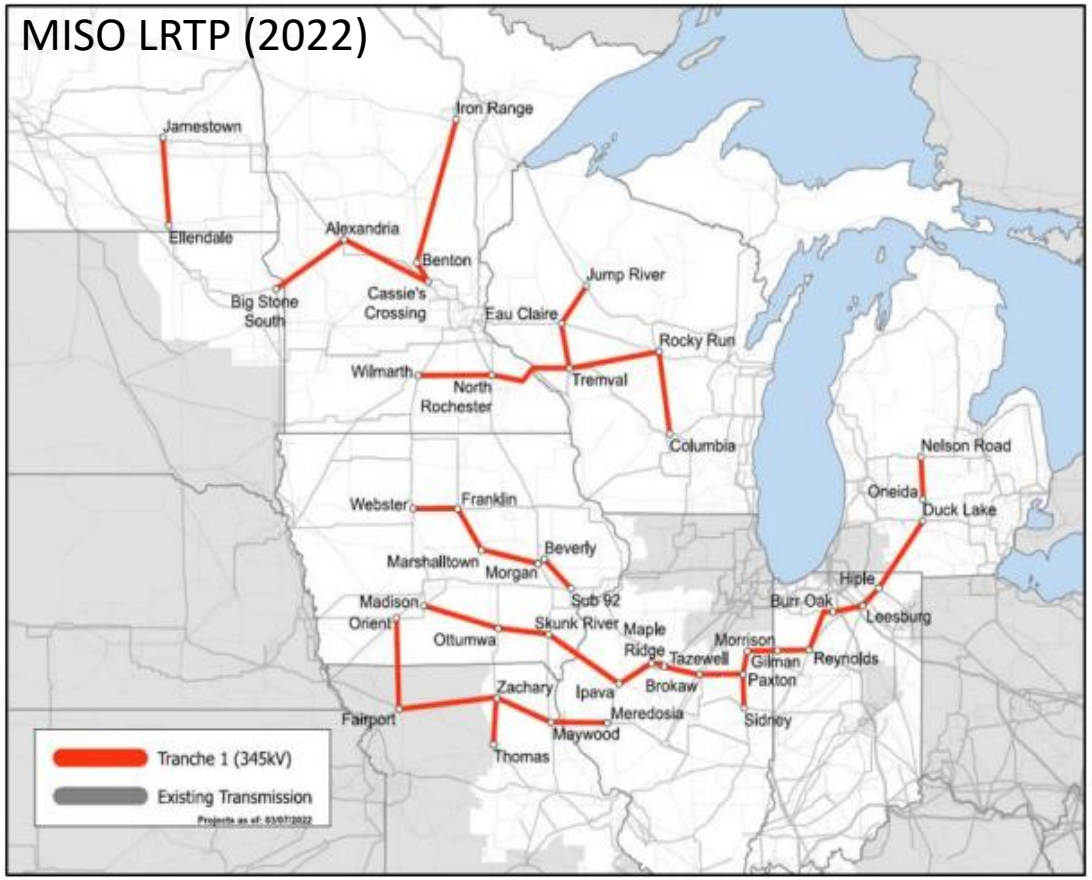
Proactive multi-value transmission planning can yield a more cost-effective grid and reduce the cost and time required to interconnect renewables at scale

MISO 2022 LRTP results (weblink)

- Tranche 1: $10 billion portfolio of proposed new 345 kV transmission projects for its Midwestern footprint
- **Supports interconnection of 53,000 MW of renewable resources**
- **Reduces other costs by $37-68 billion**

PJM Transmission Study (weblink)

- Proactively evaluated all existing state public policy needs
- **Identified only $3.2 billion in upgrades to integrate 75,000 MW of renewables ($40/kW)**
- Would be significantly more cost effective than continued reliance on incremental upgrades through PJM's interconnection process (which identified $6.4b in transmission upgrades for 15,000 MW of OSW)



About the Speaker

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Johannes (Hannes) Pfeifenberger, a Principal at The Brattle Group, is an economist with a background in electrical engineering and over twenty-five years of experience in wholesale power market design, renewable energy, electricity storage, and transmission. He also is a Visiting Scholar at MIT's Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR), a Senior Fellow at Boston University's Institute of Sustainable Energy (BU-ISE), a IEEE Senior Member, and currently serves as an advisor to research initiatives by the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Labs, and the Energy Systems Integration Group (ESIG).

Hannes specializes in wholesale power markets and transmission. He has analyzed transmission needs, transmission benefits and costs, transmission cost allocations, and transmission-related renewable generation challenges for independent system operators, transmission companies, generation developers, public power companies, industry groups, and regulatory agencies across North America. He has worked on transmission matters in SPP, MISO, PJM, New York, New England, ERCOT, CAISO, WECC, and Canada.

He received an M.A. in Economics and Finance from Brandeis University's International Business School and an M.S. and B.S. ("Diplom Ingenieur") in Power Engineering and Energy Economics from the University of Technology in Vienna, Austria.

Brattle Reports on Transmission Planning

Additional Reading on Transmission

Pfeifenberger, New York State and Regional Transmission Planning for Offshore Wind Generation, NYSERDA Offshore Wind Webinar, March 30, 2022.

Pfeifenberger, The Benefits of Interregional Transmission: Grid Planning for the 21st Century, US DOE National Transmission Planning Study Webinar, March 15, 2022.

Pfeifenberger, 21st Century Transmission Planning: Benefits Quantification and Cost Allocation, Prepared for the NARUC members of the Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission, January 19, 2022.

Pfeifenberger, Spokas, Hagerty, Tsoukalis, A Roadmap to Improved Interregional Transmission Planning, November 30, 2021.

Pfeifenberger, Tsoukalis, Newell, "The Benefit and Cost of Preserving the Option to Create a Meshed Offshore Grid for New York," Prepared for NYSERDA with Siemens and Hatch, November 9, 2022.

Pfeifenberger, Transmission–The Great Enabler: Recognizing Multiple Benefits in Transmission Planning, ESIG, October 28, 2021.

Pfeifenberger et al., Transmission Planning for the 21st Century: Proven Practices that Increase Value and Reduce Costs, Brattle-Grid Strategies, October 2021.

Pfeifenberger, Transmission Options for Offshore Wind Generation, NYSERDA webinar, May 12, 2021.

Pfeifenberger, Transmission Planning and Benefit-Cost Analyses, presentation to FERC Staff, April 29, 2021.

Pfeifenberger et al., Initial Report on the New York Power Grid Study, prepared for NYPSC, January 19, 2021.

Pfeifenberger, Ruiz, Van Horn, "The Value of Diversifying Uncertain Renewable Generation through the Transmission System," BU-ISE, October 14, 2020.

Pfeifenberger, Newell, Graf and Spokas, "Offshore Wind Transmission: An Analysis of Options for New York", prepared for Anbaric, August 2020.

Pfeifenberger, Newell, and Graf, "Offshore Transmission in New England: The Benefits of a Better-Planned Grid," prepared for Anbaric, May 2020.

Tsuchida and Ruiz, "Innovation in Transmission Operation with Advanced Technologies," T&D World, December 19, 2019.

Pfeifenberger, "Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission," Power Markets Today Webinar, December 11, 2019.

Chang, Pfeifenberger, Sheilendranath, Hagerty, Levin, and Jiang, "Cost Savings Offered by Competition in Electric Transmission: Experience to Date and the Potential for Additional Customer Value," April 2019. "Response to Concentric Energy Advisors' Report on Competitive Transmission," August 2019.

Ruiz, "Transmission Topology Optimization: Application in Operations, Markets, and Planning Decision Making," May 2019.

Chang and Pfeifenberger, "Well-Planned Electric Transmission Saves Customer Costs: Improved Transmission Planning is Key to the Transition to a Carbon-Constrained Future," WIRES and The Brattle Group, June 2016.

Newell et al. "Benefit-Cost Analysis of Proposed New York AC Transmission Upgrades," on behalf of NYISO and DPS Staff, September 15, 2015.

Pfeifenberger, Chang, and Sheilendranath, "Toward More Effective Transmission Planning: Addressing the Costs and Risks of an Insufficiently Flexible Electricity Grid," WIRES and The Brattle Group, April 2015.

Chang, Pfeifenberger, Hagerty, "The Benefits of Electric Transmission: Identifying and Analyzing the Value of Investments," on behalf of WIRES, July 2013.

Chang, Pfeifenberger, Newell, Tsuchida, Hagerty, "Recommendations for Enhancing ERCOT's Long-Term Transmission Planning Process," October 2013.

Pfeifenberger and Hou, "Seams Cost Allocation: A Flexible Framework to Support Interregional Transmission Planning," on behalf of SPP, April 2012.

Pfeifenberger, Hou, "Employment and Economic Benefits of Transmission Infrastructure Investment in the U.S. and Canada," on behalf of WIRES, May 2011.

Brattle Group Practices and Industries

ENERGY & UTILITIES

- Competition & Market Manipulation
- Distributed Energy Resources
- Electric Transmission
- Electricity Market Modeling & Resource Planning
- Electrification & Growth Opportunities
- Energy Litigation
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- Environmental Policy, Planning and Compliance
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- Gas/Electric Coordination
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