

WESTTEC 10-YEAR HORIZON REPORT

WestTEC, a first-of-its kind west-wide effort, brought together a broad range of diverse regional perspectives and expertise to produce the 10-Year Horizon Report that shows needed transmission solutions.

The 10-year Horizon Report offers a clear, actionable blueprint for advancing transmission projects by identifying solutions that can strengthen grid reliability and efficiency for decades to come. The report is intended to inform local and regional planning, drive development and support sustained investment in critical infrastructure.

The transmission planning challenge

WestTEC came about because transmission planning was siloed and construction of high-voltage transmission across the West was not keeping up with changing needs. A new coordinated, data-driven analysis of Western electricity transmission needs was required to support a future power grid that addressed a growing list of challenges including:

- An expected 30% increase in energy demand by 2035
- Existing energy resource retirements
- Addition of new generation resources expected at two times the historical rate
- Extreme weather events driving high peak demands and requiring shared resources across the West

PROJECT CATEGORY	NUMBER	MILES	COST (\$M)
Planned Projects	73	9,358	\$46,648
New Projects	32	3,292	\$13,680
Total	105	12,650	\$60,328

An actionable plan

The WestTEC 10-Year Horizon Report identifies the required transmission infrastructure that would bring broad benefits and enable:

- **A more reliable power system**
- **Power sharing across a larger footprint** to better leverage diverse loads and resources
- **Additional pathways for moving power between regions** to respond more quickly to disruptions and mitigate extreme weather impacts
- **Broader access to resources** to increase competition, help contain costs and support economic growth

With a holistic, region-wide approach and rigorous analysis led by industry experts, the study confirms the need for projects already underway and identified additional projects that may not have arisen through individual planning efforts.

- More than **12,600 miles** of significant upgrades or additions are required
- Of those, about **9,400 miles** of projects are already planned and must be completed
- The study found an additional **3,300 miles** worth of needed projects

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10-Year Horizon Study : Key findings

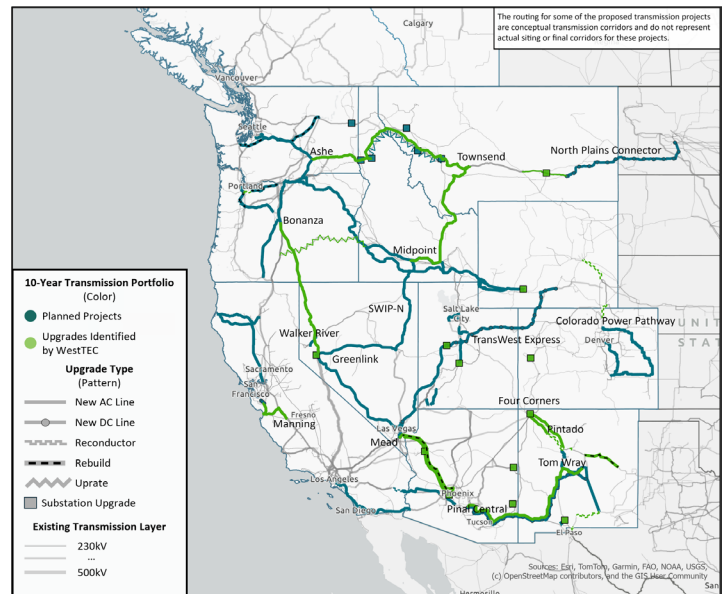
[+ View Map](#)

The analysis provides five key conclusions:

1. The transmission portfolio is necessary for the West to meet growing demand, integrate new resources and strengthen reliability.
2. Timely completion of the planned projects is essential.
3. The new projects identified in the study require sponsorship and support to develop.
4. Transmission costs are manageable in context of overall infrastructure needs.
5. Coordinated action among Western states, utilities, developers and regional partners can improve outcomes.

Each project identified would solve gaps found by one of the three types of analyses performed:

- Upgrades are required to assure system reliability - System Reliability Analysis (SRA)
- Projects will enhance the ability to share between regions - Interarea Deliverability Analysis (IDA)
- Upgrades will relieve “bottlenecks” on the system and remove economic inefficiencies - Congestion Analysis



The map shows the projects in the 10-year horizon *transmission portfolio*. **Lines on the map represent conceptual potential corridors and not actual final siting or alignment for the projects.**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The report provides a blueprint that is rooted in diverse perspectives and can be used to guide coordinated action.

Given long lead times required for siting, permitting and construction, transmission projects must begin moving forward now. Delaying transmission builds or upgrades is no longer an option. At the same time, meaningful stakeholder engagement with affected communities and interests is essential. This study provides a starting point

for these critical conversations with stakeholders as projects get developed.

COMING SOON...

Next up from WestTEC is the 20-Year Horizon Study, expected later in 2026. This work will expand on (and potentially adjust) the 10-year study by examining scenarios that explore possible future states of the Western grid based on different types of technology, evolving electricity load growth, policy changes and other factors .