Revised Transmission Planning Process Amendment to Tariff

Draft Tariff Language

Fourth Replacement CAISO Tariff

May 5, 2010
24  COMPREHENSIVE TRANSMISSION PLANNING PROCESS.

24.1  Overview

The CAISO will develop a comprehensive Transmission Plan and approve transmission upgrades or additions using the Transmission Planning Process set forth in this Section 24. The CAISO will analyze the need for transmission upgrades and additions in accordance with the methodologies and criteria set forth in this Section 24, the Transmission Control Agreement, and the applicable Business Practice Manuals. The comprehensive Transmission Plan will identify transmission upgrade or addition projects associated with approved Project Sponsors that are needed to (1) maintain System Reliability; (2) satisfy the requirements of a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility; and (3) maintain the simultaneous feasibility of allocated Long-Term CRRs. The comprehensive Transmission Plan will identify transmission addition and upgrade elements with no approved Project Sponsors needed to (1) interconnect and ensure reliable delivery of supply resources needed to meet state and federal policy requirements and directives, including renewable and other environmental policies; and (2) reduce congestion costs, production supply costs, transmission losses, or other electric supply costs resulting from improved access to cost-effective resources. The comprehensive Transmission Plan will also include Merchant Transmission Facilities that meet criteria for such projects as set forth in this Section 24. For purposes of this Section 24, the term “the year X/(X+1) planning cycle” will refer to the Transmission Planning Process initiated during year X to complete a comprehensive Transmission Plan in year X+1.

24.2  Nature of the Transmission Planning Process

The CAISO will develop the annual comprehensive Transmission Plan and approve transmission upgrades or additions using a Transmission Planning Process with three phases. In Phase 1, the CAISO will develop and complete the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan and, in parallel, begin development of a conceptual statewide plan. In Phase 2, the CAISO will complete the comprehensive Transmission Plan. In Phase 3, the CAISO will evaluate proposals to construct and own specific transmission upgrade or additional elements specified in the comprehensive Transmission Plan. The Transmission Planning Process shall, at a minimum:
(a) Coordinate and consolidate in a single plan the transmission needs of the CAISO Balancing Authority Area for maintaining the reliability of the CAISO Controlled Grid in accordance with Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards, in a manner that promotes the economic efficiency of the CAISO Controlled Grid and considers federal and state environmental and other policies affecting the provision of Energy.

(b) Reflect a planning horizon covering a minimum of ten (10) years that considers previously approved transmission upgrades and additions, Demand Forecasts, Demand-side management, capacity forecasts relating to generation technology type, additions and retirements, and such other factors as the CAISO determines are relevant.

(c) Seek to avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities and ensure the simultaneous feasibility of the CAISO comprehensive Transmission Plan and the transmission plans of interconnected Balancing Authority Areas, and otherwise coordinate with regional and sub-regional transmission planning processes and entities.

(d) Identify existing and projected limitations of the CAISO Controlled Grid’s physical, economic or operational capability or performance and identify transmission upgrades and additions, including alternatives thereto, deemed needed to address the existing and projected limitations.

(e) Account for any effects on the CAISO Controlled Grid of the interconnection of Generating Units, including an assessment of the deliverability of such Generating Units in a manner consistent with CAISO interconnection procedures.
24.3. Transmission Planning Process Phase 1

24.3.1 Inputs to the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan

The CAISO will develop Unified Planning Assumptions and a Study Plan using information and data from the approved Transmission Plan developed in the previous planning cycle. The CAISO will consider the following in the development of the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan:

(a) WECC base cases for the relevant planning horizon;

(b) Transmission upgrades and additions approved by the CAISO in past Transmission Planning Process cycles, including upgrades and additions which the CAISO has determined address transmission elements in comprehensive Transmission Plan developed in the previous planning cycle;

(c) Transmission upgrades and additions that were not approved by the CAISO in the previous Transmission Planning Process cycles but which the prior comprehensive Transmission Plan identified as potentially needed depending on how renewable and other generation development occurs;

(d) Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facilities conditionally approved under Section 24.4.6.3;

(e) Network Upgrades identified pursuant to Section 25, Appendix U, Appendix ***, or Appendix ***relating to the CAISO’s Large Generator Interconnection Procedures and Appendix ***relating to the CAISO’s Small Generator Interconnection Procedures that were not otherwise included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan from the previous annual cycle;

(f) Operational solutions validated by the CAISO in the Local Capacity Technical Study under Section 40.3.1;

(g) Policy requirements and directives, as appropriate, including programs initiated by state and federal regulatory agencies;

(h) Energy Resource Areas identified as high priority by the CAISO, the CPUC, or the CEC or similar resource areas;
(i) Demand response programs that are proposed in comments on the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan for inclusion in the base case or assumptions for the comprehensive Transmission Plan;

(j) Generation and other non-transmission projects that are proposed in comments on the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan for inclusion in long-term planning studies as alternatives to transmission additions or upgrades;

(k) Beginning with the 2011/2012 planning cycle, Economic Planning Study requests submitted in comments on the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study.

24.3.2 Contents of the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan

The Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan shall, at a minimum, provide:

(a) The planning data and assumptions to be used, to the maximum extent possible, as base cases for each technical study to be performed in the Transmission Planning Process cycle, including, but not limited to, those related to Demand Forecasts and distribution, potential generation capacity additions and retirements, and transmission system modifications;

(b) A list of each technical study to be performed in the Transmission Planning Process cycle and a summary of each technical study’s objective or purpose;

(c) Where applicable, a description of significant modifications to the planning data and assumptions developed from the general base cases in Section 24.3.2 (a) made in each technical study performed in the Transmission Planning Process cycle;

(d) A description of the software tools, methodology and other criteria used in each technical study performed in the Transmission Planning Process cycle;

(e) The identification of any entities directed to perform a particular technical study or portions of a technical study;
(f) A proposed schedule for all stakeholder meetings to be held as part of the Transmission Planning Process cycle and the means for notification of any changes thereto, the location on the CAISO Website of information relating to the technical studies performed in theTransmission Planning Process cycle, and the name of a contact person at the CAISO for each technical study performed in the Transmission Planning Process cycle;

(g) To the maximum extent practicable, and where applicable, appropriate sensitivity analyses, including project or solution alternatives, to be performed as part of technical studies; and

(h) Descriptions of the High Priority Economic Studies as determined by the CAISO under section 24.3.5.

24.3.3 Stakeholder Process for Developing the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan

(a) Following review of relevant information, the CAISO will prepare and post on the CAISO Website a draft of the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan. The CAISO will issue a Market Notice announcing the availability of such draft, soliciting comments, and scheduling a public conference(s) as required by Section 24.3.3(c).

(b) All comments on the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and the Study Plan will be posted by the CAISO to the CAISO Website.

(c) No less than one week subsequent to the posting of the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan, the CAISO will conduct a minimum of one public meeting open to Market Participants, electric utility regulatory agencies, and other interested parties to review, discuss, and recommend modifications to the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan. Additional meetings, web conferences, or teleconferences may be scheduled as needed. All stakeholder meetings, web conferences, or teleconferences shall be noticed by Market
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Notice. Interested parties will be provided a minimum of two weeks following the first public meeting to provide comments on the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan.

(d) Beginning with the 2011/2012 planning cycle Market Participants, electric utility regulatory agencies and all other interested parties may submit during the comment period the following proposals for consideration in the development of the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan during the comment period(s) provided prior to the posting of the final Study Plan:

(i) Economic Planning Study requests based on the comprehensive Transmission Plan from the prior cycle;

(ii) Demand response programs for inclusion in the base case or assumptions; and

(iii) Generation and other non-transmission alternatives proposed for inclusion in long-term planning studies as alternatives to transmission additions or upgrades.

(e) Following the public conference(s), and under the schedule set forth in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will determine and publish to the CAISO Website the final Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual.

24.3.4 Developing the Conceptual Statewide Transmission Plan

The CAISO will develop a conceptual statewide transmission plan that identifies potential transmission upgrades or additions needed to deliver sufficient energy from resources to California load serving entities to enable them to serve load reliably and to interconnect and ensure reliable delivery of supply resources needed to meet state and federal policy requirements and directives, including renewable and other environmental policies. The CAISO will post a draft of the conceptual statewide transmission plan to the CAISO Website and will issue a Market Notice providing notice of the availability of such plan. In accordance with the schedule set forth in the applicable Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will hold a
minimum of one public conference and provide an opportunity for interested parties to provide comments on the draft before completion of the final statewide conceptual transmission plan. The draft conceptual statewide transmission plan may be completed during Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the transmission planning cycle.

24.3.5 Economic Planning Studies

24.3.5.1 CAISO Assessment of Requests for Economic Planning Studies

Following the submittal of a request for an Economic Planning Study, the CAISO will determine whether the request shall be designated as a High Priority Economic Planning Study for consideration in the development of the Comprehensive Transmission Plan. In making the determination, the CAISO will consider:

(a) Whether the requested Economic Planning Study seeks to assess Congestion not identified or identified and not mitigated by the CAISO in previous Transmission Planning Process cycles;

(b) Whether the requested Economic Planning Study addresses delivery of Generation from Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Generators or network transmission facilities intended to access Generation from an Energy Resource Area or similar resource area assigned a high priority by the CPUC or CEC;

(c) Whether the requested Economic Planning Study is intended to address Local Capacity Area Resource requirements;

(d) Whether resource and Demand information indicates that Congestion described in the Economic Planning Study request is projected to increase over the planning horizon used in the Transmission Planning Process and the magnitude of that Congestion; or

(e) Whether the Economic Planning Study is intended to encompass the upgrades necessary to integrate new generation resources or loads on an aggregated or regional basis.
24.3.5.2 Selection of High Priority Economic Planning Studies

In accordance with the schedule and procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will post to the CAISO Website the list of selected High Priority Economic Planning Studies to be included in the draft Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan. The CAISO may assess requests for Economic Planning Studies individually or in combination where such requests may have common or complementary effects on the CAISO Controlled Grid. The CAISO will perform a maximum of five High Priority Economic Planning Studies; however, the CAISO retains discretion to perform greater than five High Priority Economic Planning Studies should stakeholder requests or patterns of Congestion or anticipated Congestion so warrant. Market Participants may conduct Economic Planning Studies that have not been designated as High Priority Economic Planning Studies at their own expense and may submit such studies for consideration in the development of the comprehensive Transmission Plan.

24.4 Transmission Planning Process Phase 2

24.4.1 Conducting Technical Studies

(a) In accordance with the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan and with the procedures and deadlines in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will perform, or direct the performance by third parties of, technical studies and other assessments necessary to develop the comprehensive Transmission Plan, including such technical studies and other assessments as are necessary in order to determine whether and how to include elements from the conceptual statewide transmission plan or other alternative elements identified by the CAISO during the Phase 2 studies in the comprehensive Transmission Plan. According to the schedule set forth in the applicable Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will post the preliminary results of its technical studies and proposed mitigation solutions on the CAISO Website. The CAISO's technical study results and proposed mitigation solutions shall be posted not less than 120 days after the final Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan are published, along with the results of the technical studies conducted by Participating TOs or other third parties at the direction of the CAISO.
(b) All technical studies, whether performed by the CAISO, the Participating TOs or other third parties under the direction of the CAISO, must utilize the Unified Planning Assumptions for the particular technical study to the maximum extent practical, and deviations from the Unified Planning Assumptions for the particular technical study must be documented in the results of each technical study. The CAISO will measure the results of the studies against Applicable Reliability Criteria, the CAISO Planning Standards and other criteria established by the Business Practice Manual. After consideration of the comments received on the preliminary results, the CAISO will complete, or direct the completion of, the technical studies and post the final study results on the CAISO Website.

(c) The CAISO technical study results will identify needs and proposed solutions to meet Applicable Reliability Criteria, CAISO planning standards, and other applicable planning standards. The CAISO and Participating TOs shall coordinate their respective transmission planning responsibilities required for compliance with the NERC Reliability Standards and for the purposes of developing the annual Transmission Plan according to the requirements and time schedules set forth in the Business Practice Manual.

### 24.4.2 Submission of Reliability Driven Projects

Pursuant to the schedule described in the Business Practice Manual and based on the technical study results, the CAISO, CEC, CPUC, and other interested parties may propose any transmission upgrades or additions deemed necessary to ensure System Reliability consistent with Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards through the Phase 2 Request Window. Participating TOs will submit such project proposals through the Phase 2 Request Window within 30 days after the CAISO posts its preliminary technical study results.

### 24.4.3 Phase 2 Request Window

(a) Following publication of the results of the technical studies, and in accordance with the schedule set forth in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will open
a Request Window during Phase 2 to solicit proposals for reliability-driven projects, Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility projects not identified in the conceptual statewide transmission plan, and proposals for Merchant Transmission Facility projects.

(b) All facilities proposed during the Request Window must use the forms and satisfy the information and technical requirements set forth in the Business Practice Manual. Proposals for these transmission additions or upgrades must be within or connect to the CAISO Balancing Authority Area or CAISO Controlled Grid. The CAISO will determine whether each of these proposals will be considered in the development of the comprehensive Transmission Plan. A proposal can only be considered in the development of the comprehensive Transmission Plan if the CAISO determines that:

(i) the proposal satisfies the information requirements for the particular type of project submitted as set forth in templates included in the Business Practice Manual;

(ii) the proposal is not functionally duplicative of transmission upgrades or additions that have previously been approved by the CAISO; and

(iii) the proposal, if a sub-regional or regional project that affects other interconnected Balancing Authority Areas, has been reviewed by the appropriate sub-regional or regional planning entity, is not inconsistent with such sub-regional or regional planning entity’s preferred solution or project, and has been determined to be appropriate for inclusion in the comprehensive CAISO Transmission Plan, rather than, or in addition to, being included in or deferred to the planning process of the sub-regional or regional planning entity.
In accordance with the schedule and procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will notify the party submitting the proposal of any deficiencies in the proposal and provide the Market Participant an opportunity to correct the deficiencies.

(c) The duration of the Request Window will be set forth in the Business Practice Manual.

24.4.4 Comment Period on Conceptual Statewide Plan

In the month immediately following the publication of the final conceptual statewide transmission plan, the CAISO will initiate a comment period during which the CPUC, CEC, Market Participants, Participating TOs, and other interested parties may submit comments and recommend modifications to the conceptual statewide transmission plan and alternative transmission elements, including potential interstate transmission lines and proposals for access to resources located in areas not identified in the conceptual statewide transmission plan.

24.4.5 Determination of Needed Transmission Projects and Elements

The CAISO will evaluate the conceptual transmission elements identified in the statewide conceptual transmission plan or other alternative elements identified by the CAISO during the Phase 2 studies, potential alternative transmission upgrades and additions proposed by interested parties during the comment period, reliability project proposals, LCRIF projects proposals, project proposals required to maintain the feasibility of long term CRRs, proposed Network Upgrades pursuant to Section 24.4.6.5 and the results of Economic Planning Studies or other economic studies the CAISO has performed, to determine which projects and additional elements should be included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan in order to meet the criteria set forth in Sections 24.1 and 24.2.

24.4.6 Categories of Transmission Projects Eligible for Inclusion in the Comprehensive Transmission Plan

24.4.6.1 Merchant Transmission Project Proposals

The CAISO may include a transmission addition or upgrade in the comprehensive Transmission Plan if a Project Sponsor proposes a Merchant Transmission Facility and demonstrates to the CAISO the financial capability to pay the full cost of construction and operation of the Merchant Transmission Facility. The Merchant Transmission Facility must mitigate all operational concerns identified by the CAISO to the
satisfaction of the CAISO, in consultation with the Participating TO(s) in whose PTO Service Territory the Merchant Transmission Facility will be located, and ensure the continuing feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs over the length of their terms. To ensure that the Project Sponsor is financially able to pay the construction and operating costs of the Merchant Transmission Facility, and where the Participating TO is not the Project Sponsor and is to construct the Merchant Transmission Facility under Section 24.4.1 the CAISO in cooperation with the Participating TO may require (1) a demonstration of creditworthiness (e.g., an appropriate credit rating), or (2) sufficient security in the form of an unconditional and irrevocable letter of credit or other similar security sufficient to meet its responsibilities and obligations for the full costs of the transmission addition or upgrade.

24.4.6.2 Reliability Driven Projects.

The CAISO, in coordination with each Participating TO with a PTO Service Territory will, as part of the Transmission Planning Process and consistent with the procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual, identify the need for any transmission additions or upgrades required to ensure System Reliability consistent with all Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards. In making this determination, the CAISO, in coordination with each Participating TO with a PTO Service Territory and other Market Participants, shall consider lower cost alternatives to the construction of transmission additions or upgrades, such as acceleration or expansion of existing projects, Demand-side management, Remedial Action Schemes, appropriate Generation, interruptible Loads or reactive support. The CAISO shall direct each Participating TO with a PTO Service Area, as a registered Transmission Planner with NERC, to perform the necessary studies, based on the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan and any applicable Interconnection Study, and in accordance with the Business Practice Manual, to determine the facilities needed to meet all Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards. The Participating TO with a PTO Service Area shall provide the CAISO and other Market Participants with all information relating to the studies performed under this Section, subject to any limitation provided in Section 20.2 or the applicable LGIP. The Participating TO with a PTO Service Territory in which the transmission upgrade or addition is deemed needed under this Section 24 will have the responsibility to construct, own and finance, and maintain such transmission upgrade or addition.
24.4.6.3 Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility Projects.

24.4.6.3.1 Proposals for Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facilities

The CAISO, CPUC, CEC, a Participating TO, or any other Market Participant may propose a transmission addition as a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility. A proposal shall include the following information, to the extent available:

(a) Information showing that the proposal meets the requirements of Section 24.4.6.3.2; and

(b) A description of the proposed facility, including the following information:

1. Transmission studies demonstrating that the proposed facility satisfies Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards;

2. Identification of the most feasible and cost-effective alternative transmission additions, which may include network upgrades, that would accomplish the objective of the proposal;

3. A planning level cost estimate for the proposed facility and all proposed alternatives;

4. An assessment of the potential for the future connection of further transmission additions that would convert the proposed facility into a network transmission facility, including conceptual plans;

5. The estimated in-service date of the proposed facility; and

6. A conceptual plan for connecting potential LCRIGs, if known, to the proposed facility.

24.4.6.3.2 Criteria for Qualification as a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility.

(a) The CAISO shall conditionally approve a facility as a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility if it determines that the facility is needed and all of the following requirements are met:
(1) The facility is to be constructed for the primary purpose of connecting to the CAISO Controlled Grid two or more Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Generators in an Energy Resource Area, and at least one of the Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Generators is to be owned by an entity(ies) that is not an Affiliate of the owner(s) of another Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Generator in that Energy Resource Area;

(2) The facility will be a High Voltage Transmission Facility;

(3) At the time of its in-service date, the facility will not be a network facility and would not be eligible for inclusion in a Participating TO’s TRR other than as an LCRIF; and

(4) The facility meets Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards.

(b) The proponent of a facility that has been determined by the CAISO to meet the requirements of Section 24.1.3.1(a) shall provide the CAISO with information concerning the requirements of this subsection not less than ninety (90) days prior to the planned commencement of construction, and the facility shall qualify as a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility if the CAISO determines that both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The addition of the capital cost of the facility to the High Voltage TRR of a Participating TO will not cause the aggregate of the net investment of all LCRIFs (net of the amount of the capital costs of LCRIFs to be recovered from LCRIGs pursuant to Section 26.6) included in the High Voltage TRRs of all Participating TOs to exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the aggregate of the net investment of all Participating TOs in all High Voltage Transmission Facilities reflected in their High Voltage TRRs (net of the amount of the capital costs of LCRIFs to be recovered from
LCRIGs pursuant to Section 26.6) in effect at the time of the CAISO’s evaluation of the facility; and

(2) Existing or prospective owners of LCRIGs have demonstrated their interest in connecting LCRIGs to the facility consistent with the requirements of Section 24.1.3.2, which establishes the necessary demonstration of interest.

24.4.6.3.3. Responsibilities of Participating Transmission Owner

The Participating TO with a PTO Service Territory in which the LCRIF interconnects with the CAISO Controlled Grid will have the responsibility to construct, own, finance as provided in this Section 24.4.7.3, and maintain such LCRIF. Each Participating TO shall report annually to the CAISO the amount of its net investment in LCRIFs (net of the amount of the capital costs of LCRIFs to be recovered from LCRIGs pursuant to Section 26.6), and its net investment in High Voltage Transmission Facilities reflected in its High Voltage TRR (net of the amount of the capital costs of LCRIFs to be recovered from LCRIGs pursuant to Section 26.6), to enable the CAISO to make the determination required under Section 24.1.3.1(b)(1).

24.4.6.3.4 Demonstration of Interest in a Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facility.

A proponent of an LCRIF must demonstrate interest in the LCRIF equal to sixty percent (60%) or more of the capacity of the facility in the following manner:

(a) the proponent’s demonstration must include a showing that LCRIGs that would connect to the facility and would have a combined capacity equal to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the capacity of the facility have executed Large Generator Interconnection Agreements or Small Generator Interconnection Agreements, as applicable; and

(b) to the extent the showing pursuant to Section 24.1.3.2(a) does not constitute sixty percent (60%) of the capacity of the LCRIF, the proponent’s demonstration
of the remainder of the required minimum level of interest must include a showing that additional LCRIGs:

(1) in the case of Large Generating Facilities subject to the LGIP set forth in Appendix Y, have obtained Site Exclusivity or paid the Site Exclusivity Deposit in lieu of Site Exclusivity, provided that any Site Exclusivity Deposit paid pursuant to Section 3.5 of the LGIP set forth in Appendix Y shall satisfy this requirement, or, in the case of Large Generating Facilities subject to the LGIP set forth in Appendix U and Small Generating Facilities, have obtained control over their site or paid a deposit to the CAISO in the amount of $250,000, which deposit shall be refundable if the LCRIF is not approved or is withdrawn by the proponent; and

(2) have demonstrated interest in the LCRIF by one of the following methods:

(i) executing a firm power sales agreement for the output of the LCRIG for a period of five years or longer; or

(ii) in the case of Large Generating Facilities subject to the LGIP set forth in Appendix Y, filing an Interconnection Request and paying the Interconnection Study Deposit required by Section 3.5 of the LGIP set forth in Appendix Y; or

(iii) in the case of Large Generating Facilities subject to the LGIP set forth in Appendix U and Small Generating Facilities, being in the CAISO’s interconnection queue and paying a deposit to the CAISO equal to the sum of the minimum deposits required of an Interconnection Customer for all studies performed in accordance with the Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (Appendix U) or Small Generator Interconnection Procedures.
24.4.6.3.5 Coordination With Transmission Additions Proposed by Non-Participating TOs.

In the event that a facility proposed as an LCRIF would connect to LCRIGs in an Energy Resource Area that would also be connected by a transmission facility that is in existence or is proposed to be constructed by an entity that is not a Participating TO and that does not intend to place that facility under the Operational Control of the CAISO, the CAISO shall coordinate with the entity owning or proposing that transmission facility through any regional planning process to avoid the unnecessary construction of duplicative transmission additions to connect the same LCRIGs to the CAISO Controlled Grid.

24.4.6.3.6 Evaluation of Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Facilities.

In evaluating whether a proposed LCRIF that meets the requirements of Section 24.1.3.1 is needed, and for purposes of ranking and prioritizing LCRIF projects, the CAISO will consider the following factors:
(a) Whether, and if so, the extent to which, the facility meets or exceeds applicable CAISO Planning Standards, including standards that are Applicable Reliability Criteria.

(b) Whether, and if so, the extent to which, the facility has the capability and flexibility both to interconnect potential LCRIGs in the Energy Resource Area and to be converted in the future to a network transmission facility.

(c) Whether the projected cost of the facility is reasonable in light of its projected benefits, in comparison to the costs and benefits of other alternatives for connecting Generating Units or otherwise meeting a need identified in the CAISO Transmission Planning Process, including alternatives that are not LCRIFs. In making this determination, the CAISO shall take into account, among other factors, the following:

1. The potential capacity of LCRIGs and the potential Energy that could be produced by LCRIGs in each Energy Resource Area;

2. The capacity of LCRIGs in the CAISO’s interconnection process for each Energy Resource Area;

3. The projected cost and in-service date of the facility in comparison with other transmission facilities that could connect LCRIGs to the CAISO Controlled Grid;

4. Whether, and if so, the extent to which, the facility would provide additional reliability or economic benefits to the CAISO Controlled Grid; and

5. Whether, and if so, the extent to which, the facility would create a risk of stranded costs.

24.4.6.4 Projects Needed to Maintain the Feasibility of Allocated Long Term CRRs.

The CAISO is obligated to ensure the continuing feasibility of Long Term CRRs that are allocated by the CAISO over the length of their terms. In furtherance of this requirement the CAISO shall, as part of its
annual Transmission Planning Process cycle, test and evaluate the simultaneous feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs, including, but not limited to, when acting on the following types of projects: (a) planned or proposed transmission projects; (b) Generating Unit or transmission retirements; (c) Generating Unit interconnections; and (d) the interconnection of new Load. Pursuant to such evaluations, the CAISO shall identify the need for any transmission additions or upgrades required to ensure the continuing feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs over the length of their terms and shall publish Congestion Data Summary along with the results of the CAISO technical studies. In assessing the need for transmission additions or upgrades to maintain the feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs, the CAISO, in coordination with the Participating TOs and other Market Participants, shall consider lower cost alternatives to the construction of transmission additions or upgrades, such as acceleration or expansion of existing projects; Demand-side management; Remedial Action Schemes; constrained-on Generation; interruptible Loads; reactive support; or in cases where the infeasible Long Term CRRs involve a small magnitude of megawatts, ensuring against the risk of any potential revenue shortfall using the CRR Balancing Account and uplift mechanism in Section 11.2.4. As part of the CAISO’s Transmission Planning Process, the Participating TOs and Market Participants shall provide the necessary assistance and information to the CAISO to allow it to assess and identify transmission additions or upgrades that may be necessary under Section 24.1.4. To the extent a transmission upgrade or addition is deemed needed to maintain the feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs in accordance with this Section and included in the CAISO’s annual Transmission Plan, the CAISO will designate the Participating TO(s) with a PTO Service Territory in which the transmission upgrade or addition is to be located as the Project Sponsor(s), responsible to construct, own and finance, and maintain such transmission upgrade or addition.

24.4.6.5 LGIP Network Upgrades

Network Upgrades originally identified during the Phase II Interconnection Study of the Large Generation Interconnection Process as set forth in Section 7 of Appendix Y may be assessed as part of the comprehensive Transmission Plan if these Network Upgrades satisfy either of the following criteria:

(a) The Network Upgrades consist of new transmission lines requiring new rights of way, are 200 kV or above, and have capital costs of $50 million or greater; or
(b) The Network Upgrades are 500 kV substation facilities that have capital costs of $50 million or greater.

The CAISO will post a list of the Network Upgrades eligible for assessment in the Transmission Planning Process in accordance with the schedule set forth in the applicable Business Practice Manual. Network Upgrades included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan may include components not included in the Network Upgrades identified during the Phase II Interconnection Study or may be expansions of the Network Upgrades identified during the Phase II Interconnection Study if the CAISO determines during the Transmission Planning Process that such components or expansions are needed as additional elements under section 24.1. Network Upgrades identified in the LGIP Phase II studies but not assessed in the Transmission Planning Process will be included in Large Generator Interconnection Agreements, as appropriate. Construction of Network Upgrades specified in the comprehensive Transmission Plan under this section, including any needed additional components or expansions, will be the responsibility of the Participating TO to build.

24.4.6.6 Policy-Driven Elements

As part of the comprehensive Transmission Plan, the CAISO may evaluate the need for transmission upgrades and additions to deliver energy from supply resources to meet state or federal policy requirements, including renewable and other environmental policies. Elements identified in this section and not identified in Section 24.4.6.5 will be open for Project Sponsor solicitation during Phase 3. The elements comprising transmission upgrades and additions included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan to meet state and federal policy requirements will be designed to facilitate access to generation with a high commercial interest level in one or more resource areas under various resource location and integration assumptions. To determine the need for, and identify such policy-driven transmission upgrades or additions, the CAISO will consider, at a minimum, the following criteria:

(a) commercial interest in the resources in the applicable geographic area (including renewable energy zones) accessed by potential transmission elements as evidenced by signed and approved power purchase agreements and interconnection agreements;
(b) the expected planning level cost of the transmission element as compared to the potential planning level costs of other alternative transmission elements;

(c) the potential capacity (MW) and energy (MWh) of energy in particular zones that will meet the policy requirements, as well as the cost supply function of such resources;

(d) the extent to which the transmission element will provide additional reliability or economic benefits to the ISO grid;

(e) potential future connections to other resource areas and transmission elements;

(f) resource integration requirements and the costs associated with these requirements in particular resource areas designated pursuant to policy initiatives;

(g) the potential for a particular transmission element to provide access to resources needed for integration, such as pumped storage in the case of renewable resources;

(h) the effect of uncertainty associated with the above criteria, and any other considerations, that could affect the risk of stranded investment;

(i) the comparative costs and benefits of viable alternatives to the particular transmission element, including other potential transmission upgrades or additions, the effects of other additions or upgrades being considered or proposed during the planning process, Demand-side management, non-transmission alternatives, and acceleration or expansion of any transmission upgrade or addition already approved by the CAISO Governing Board or included in any CAISO annual Transmission Plan, or Generation.

24.4.6.7 Economic Studies and Mitigation Solutions

Once the CAISO has identified projects needed to maintain reliability, LCRIF projects eligible for conditional or final approval, qualified merchant transmission projects and policy driven elements, the CAISO will conduct the high priority economic planning studies selected under Section 24.4.4 and any
other studies that the CAISO concludes are necessary to determine whether additional transmission upgrades and additions are necessary to address:

(a) Congestion identified by the CAISO in the Congestion Data Summary published for the applicable Transmission Planning Process cycle and the magnitude, duration, and frequency of that Congestion;

(b) Delivery of Generation from Location Constrained Resource Interconnection Generators or network transmission facilities intended to access Generation from an Energy Resource Area or similar resource area assigned a high priority by the CPUC or CEC;

(c) Local Capacity Area Resource requirements;

(d) Congestion projected to increase over the planning horizon used in the Transmission Planning Process and the magnitude of that Congestion; or

(e) Integration of new generation resources or loads on an aggregated or regional basis.

In determining whether additional elements are needed, the CAISO shall consider the degree to which, if any, the benefits of the solutions outweigh the costs, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual. The benefits of the mitigation solutions may include a calculation of any reduction in production costs, Congestion costs, Transmission Losses, and capacity or other electric supply costs resulting from improved access to cost-efficient resources. The cost of the mitigation solution must consider any estimated costs identified under Section 24.4.6.4 to maintain the simultaneous feasibility of allocated Long Term CRRs for the length of their term. The CAISO in determining whether a particular solution is needed, shall also consider the comparative costs and benefits of viable alternatives to the particular transmission element, including other potential transmission upgrades or additions, the effects of other additions or upgrades being considered or proposed during the planning process, demand-side management, non-transmission alternatives and acceleration or expansion of any transmission upgrade or addition already approved by the CAISO Governing Board or included in any CAISO annual Transmission Plan, or Generation.
24.4.6.8 Economic Projects Submitted in Prior Request Windows

During Phase 2 of the 2010/2011 Transmission Planning Cycle, the CAISO will evaluate the specific economically-driven project proposals submitted during the 2008 and 2009 request windows. If any of these 2008 or 2009 request window proposals is found by the CAISO to be needed, using the criteria for approval of transmission elements under sections 24.4.6.6 or 24.4.6.7, the project will be included in the comprehensive 2010/2011 Transmission Plan. Upon Board approval of the Transmission Plan the Project Sponsor that submitted the proposal will be approved to finance, own and construct the approved additions and upgrades provided that Project Sponsor meets the criterion specified in Section 24.5.2.1(c). If competing projects have been submitted by multiple Project Sponsors in the 2008 and 2009 request windows for the same elements in the 2010/2011 comprehensive Transmission Plan, the CAISO will approve a Project Sponsor to build and own the project based on the criteria specified in Section 24.5.2.3.

24.4.7 Description of Transmission Elements

The transmission elements identified in the draft and final comprehensive Transmission Plan will provide sufficient engineering detail to permit Project Sponsors to submit complete proposals, under section 24.5.1 to build certain transmission elements. Such details may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Minimum Conductor Ampacity;
(b) Approximate Line impedance required;
(c) Approximate Series compensation levels;
(d) Substation bus and breaker configuration;
(e) Breaker clearing times;
(f) Transformer characteristics (capacity, impedance, tap range);
(g) Minimum Shunt capacitor and reactor sizes;
(h) Minimum FACTS device specifications;
(i) SPS requirements;
(j) Planning level cost estimates.

24.4.8 Additional Contents of Comprehensive Transmission Plan
In addition to the specific additions and upgrades and detailed descriptions of necessary transmission elements, the draft and final comprehensive Transmission Plan may include- (1) the results of technical studies performed under the Study Plan; (2) determinations, recommendations, and justifications for the need for identified transmission upgrade and addition projects and elements; (3) assessments of transmission upgrades and additions submitted as alternatives to the potential solutions to transmission needs identified by the CAISO and studied during the Transmission Planning Process cycle; (4) results of the Economic Planning Studies (except for the 2010/2011 cycle); (5) an update on the status of transmission upgrades or additions previously approved by the CAISO, including identification of mitigation plans, if necessary, to address any potential delay in the anticipated completion of an approved transmission upgrade or addition; (6) to the extent available, the results of Interconnection Studies; and (7) a plan for the ISO Controlled Grid that addresses all expected transmission needs over the 10 year planning horizon and includes a demonstration of how this plan is an efficient and reliable transmission plan and how projects and elements recommended for final approval are an orderly and logical phase in the implementation of this plan.

24.4.9 Phase 2 Stakeholder and CAISO Board Approval Process

(a) According to the schedule and procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual, the CAISO will schedule at least one public meeting after the CAISO technical study results have been posted and Participating TOs have submitted (i) the results of technical studies conducted at the direction of the CAISO (if applicable); and (ii) reliability-driven projects and mitigation solutions. All stakeholder meetings, web conferences, or teleconferences shall be noticed by Market Notice. Interested parties will be provided a minimum two week period to provide written comments regarding the technical study results and the proposals submitted by the Participating TOs.

(b) In accordance with the schedule and procedures in the Business Practice Manual, but not less than 120 days after the results of the CAISO’s technical studies are posted and not less than six weeks after the Request Window closes,
the CAISO will post a draft comprehensive Transmission Plan. The CAISO will subsequently conduct a public conference regarding the draft comprehensive Transmission Plan and solicit comments, consistent with the timelines and procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual. Additional meetings, web conferences, or teleconferences may be scheduled as needed. All stakeholder meetings, web conferences, or teleconferences shall be noticed by Market Notice and such notice shall be posted to the CAISO Website. After consideration of comments, the CAISO will post the revised draft comprehensive Transmission Plan to the CAISO Website.

(c) The revised draft comprehensive Transmission Plan, along with the stakeholder comments, will be presented to the CAISO Governing Board for consideration and approval. Following Governing Board approval, the CAISO will post the final comprehensive Transmission Plan to the CAISO website.

(d) All transmission addition and upgrade projects that are included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan approved by the CAISO Governing Board and for which no additional studies are required and all transmission elements included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan will be deemed approved.

(e) In the case of transmission addition and upgrade projects with an estimated capital investment of less than $50 million that are identified as needed in the comprehensive Transmission Plan approved by the CAISO Governing Board but for which additional studies are required, CAISO management may approve the projects transmission additions or upgrades without further CAISO Governing Board approval according to the procedures in the Business Practice Manual once studies are completed. Specific transmission addition and upgrade projects with an estimated capital investment of $50 million or more that are included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan approved by the CAISO Governing Board but for which additional studies are required must be further approved by the CAISO Governing Board following completion of the studies.
24.5 Transmission Planning Process Phase 3

24.5.1 Project Submissions

According to the schedule set forth in the Business Practice Manual, in the month following CAISO Governing Board approval of the comprehensive Transmission Plan, the CAISO will initiate a period of at least two months that will provide an opportunity for Project Sponsors to submit specific transmission project proposals to finance, own, and construct the transmission elements identified in the comprehensive Transmission Plan. Such project proposals must include plan of service details and supporting information as set forth in the Business Practice Manual sufficient to enable the CAISO to determine whether the proposal meets the criteria specified in section 24.5.2.1 and 24.5.2.4. The project proposal will identify the authorized governmental body from which the Project Sponsor will seek siting approval for the project.

24.5.2 Project Selection

At the end of the project submission period, the CAISO will post a list of proposed projects and project sponsors to its Website, subject to the confidentiality provisions set forth in Tariff section 20 and as further described in the Business Practice Manual, and will select projects and Project Sponsors pursuant to this section 24.5.2.

24.5.2.1 Project Sponsor Qualification

The CAISO will evaluate the proposals to finance, own and construct policy-driven transmission elements or transmission elements that are included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan based on the results of Economic Planning Studies or other economic studies conducted by the CAISO under section 24.4.6.7 to determine:

(a) whether the proposed project is consistent with needed transmission elements identified in the comprehensive Transmission Plan; and

(b) whether the proposed project satisfies Applicable Reliability Criteria and CAISO Planning Standards;

(c) whether the Project Sponsor is physically, technically, and financially capable of (i) completing the project in a timely and competent manner; and (ii) operating
and maintaining the facilities consistent with Good Utility Practice and applicable reliability criteria for the life of the project.

The information that Project Sponsors must submit to enable the CAISO to conduct its evaluation shall be specified in the Business Practice Manual.

24.5.2.2 Single Project Sponsor

If only one Project Sponsor submits a proposal to finance, own, and construct transmission elements under section 24.5.1, and the CAISO determines that the Project Sponsor is qualified to own and construct the project under the criteria set forth in section 24.5.2.1, the Project Sponsor may seek siting approval, and any other necessary approvals, from the appropriate authority or authorities.

24.5.2.3 Multiple Project Sponsors

(a) If two or more Project Sponsors submit proposals to own and construct the same transmission element or elements under section 24.5.1 and the CAISO determines that the two or more Project Sponsors are qualified to own and construct the project under the criteria set forth in section 24.5.2.1, the CAISO will, upon request, facilitate an opportunity for the Project Sponsors to collaborate with each other to propose a single project to meet such need. If joint projects are proposed following the collaboration period, the CAISO will revise the list of potential renewable transmission upgrades or additions eligible for selection.

(b) If the qualified Project Sponsors are unable to collaborate on a joint project and (i) the transmission elements constitute an upgrade of an existing facility or the construction and ownership of facilities within an existing substation, and (ii) the owner of the existing facility or substation is one of the qualified Project Sponsors, then the owner of the existing facility or substation will be the approved Project Sponsor and may seek siting approval, and any other necessary approvals, from the appropriate authority or authorities.

(c) If the qualified Project Sponsors are unable to collaborate on a joint project and are applying to the same authorized governmental body to approve the project siting, that siting authority shall designate the approved Project Sponsor and
specify the project to be constructed, and the approved Project Sponsor may seek siting approval, and any other necessary approvals, from the appropriate authority or authorities.

(d) If the qualified Project Sponsors are unable to collaborate on a joint project and are applying to different authorized governmental bodies for project siting approval, the CAISO will select one approved Project Sponsor based on a comparative analysis of the degree to which each Project Sponsor meets the criteria set forth in sections 24.5.2.1 and a consideration of the factors set forth in 24.5.2.4. Thereafter, the approved Project Sponsor may seek siting approval, and any other necessary approvals, from the appropriate authority or authorities.

24.5.2.4 Project Sponsor Selection Factors

In selecting an approved Project Sponsor from among multiple project sponsors, as described in section 24.5.2.3(d), the CAISO shall consider the following criteria, in addition to the criteria set forth in section 24.5.2:

(a) the Project Sponsor’s current and expected capabilities to finance, license, and construct the facility and operate and maintain it for the life of the project;

(b) existing rights of way that would facilitate approval and construction;

(c) the Project Sponsor’s proposed schedule for development and completion of the project and demonstrated ability to meet that schedule;

(d) the Project Sponsor’s financial resources;

(e) the Project Sponsor’s technical and engineering qualifications and experience;

(f) if applicable, the Project Sponsor’s previous record regarding construction and maintenance of transmission facilities, including facilities outside the CAISO Controlled Grid; and

(g) demonstrated advantages the Project Sponsor may have to build the specific project.

The information that Project Sponsors must submit to enable the CAISO to conduct its evaluation of these criteria shall be specified in the Business Practice Manual.
24.5.3 Notice to Project Sponsors

The CAISO will notify Project Sponsors as to results of the project evaluation process in accordance with the schedule and procedures set forth in the Business Practice Manual.

24.5.4 Information Provided to CAISO Governing Board

Once the Project Sponsors have been identified for the transmission elements, a report presenting the Project Sponsors and a description of the projects shall be provided to the CAISO Governing Board for approval.

24.6 Obligation to Construct Transmission Projects

A Participating TO that has a PTO Service Territory in which either terminus of the element or elements being upgraded or added is located shall be obligated to construct the transmission addition and upgrade element or elements included in the comprehensive Transmission Plan for which there is no approved Project Sponsor or for which the Project Sponsor is unable to secure all necessary approvals. In cases where the approved Project Sponsor is subsequently unable or unwilling to build the project, the CAISO may, at its discretion, direct the Participating TO with a PTO Service Territory in which either terminus of the facility being upgraded or added is located to build the element or elements, or open a new solicitation of Project Sponsors to finance, construct and own the element or elements. The approved Project Sponsor shall not sell, assign or otherwise transfer its rights to finance, construct and own the project until the project has been energized and turned over to the CAISO’s Operational Control and the CAISO has approved such proposed transfer.

24.7 Documentation of Compliance with NERC Reliability Standards

The Transmission Plan and underlying studies, assessments, information and analysis developed during the Transmission Planning Process, regardless of whether performed by CAISO or by Participating TOs or other third parties at the direction of CAISO, shall be used by the CAISO as part of its documentation of compliance with NERC Reliability Standards.

24.8 Additional Planning Information.

24.8.1 Information Provided by Participating TOs.
In addition to any information that must be provided to the CAISO under the NERC Reliability Standards, Participating TOs shall provide the CAISO on an annual or periodic basis in accordance with the schedule and procedures and in the form required by the Business Practice Manual any information and data reasonably required by the CAISO to perform the Transmission Planning Process, including, but not limited to: (1) modeling data for power flow, including reactive power, short-circuit and stability analysis; (2) a description of the total Demand to be served from each substation, including a description of any Energy efficiency programs reflected in the total Demand; (3) the amount of any interruptible Loads included in the total Demand (including conditions under which an interruption can be implemented and any limitations on the duration and frequency of interruptions); (4), a description of Generating Units to be interconnected to the Distribution System of the Participating TO, including generation type and anticipated Commercial Operation Date; (5) detailed power system models of their transmission systems that reflect transmission system changes, including equipment replacement not requiring approval by the CAISO; (6) Distribution System modifications; (7) transmission network information, including line ratings, line length, conductor sizes and lengths, substation equipment ratings, circuits on common towers and with common rights-of-ways and cross-overs, special protection schemes, and protection setting information; and (8) Contingency lists.

24.8.2 Information Provided by Participating Generators.

In addition to any information that must be provided to the CAISO under the NERC Reliability Standards, Participating Generators shall provide the CAISO on an annual or periodic basis in accordance with the schedule, procedures and in the form required by the Business Practice Manual any information and data reasonably required by the CAISO to perform the Transmission Planning Process, including, but not limited to (1) modeling data for short-circuit and stability analysis and (2) data, such as term, and status of any environmental or land use permits or agreements the expiration of which may affect the operation of the Generating Unit.

24.8.3 Information Requested from Load Serving Entities.

In addition to any information that must be provided to the CAISO under the NERC Reliability Standards, the CAISO shall solicit from Load Serving Entities through their Scheduling Coordinators information
required by, or anticipated to be useful to, the CAISO in its performance of the Transmission Planning Process, including, but not limited to (1) long-term resource plans; (2) existing long-term contracts for resources and transmission service outside the CAISO Balancing Authority Area; and (3) Demand Forecasts, including forecasted effect of Energy efficiency and Demand response programs.

24.8.4 Information Requested from Interconnected Balancing Authority Areas, Sub-Regional Planning Groups and Electric Utility Regulatory Agencies.

In accordance with Section 24.8, the CAISO shall obtain or solicit from interconnected Balancing Authority Areas, regional and sub-regional planning groups within the WECC, the CPUC, the CEC, and Local Regulatory Authorities information required by, or anticipated to be useful to, the CAISO in its performance of the Transmission Planning Process, including, but not limited to (1) long-term transmission system plans; (2) long-term resource plans; (3) generation interconnection process information; (4) Demand Forecasts; and (5) any other data necessary for the development of power flow, short-circuit, and stability cases over the planning horizon of the CAISO Transmission Planning Process.

24.8.5 Obligation to Provide Updated Information.

If material changes to the information provided under this Section 24.8 occur during the annual Transmission Planning Process, the providers of the information must provide notice to the CAISO of the changes.

24.9 Participating TO Study Obligation.

The Participating TO constructing or expanding facilities, will be directed by the CAISO to coordinate with the Project Sponsor or Participating TO(s) with PTO Service Territories in which the transmission upgrade or addition will be located, neighboring Balancing Authority Areas, as appropriate, and other Market Participants to perform any study or studies necessary, including a Facility Study, to determine the appropriate facilities to be constructed in accordance with the CAISO Transmission Planning Process and the terms set forth in the TO Tariff.

24.10 Operational Review.

The CAISO will perform an operational review of all facilities studied as part of the CAISO Transmission Planning Process that are proposed to be connected to, or made part of, the CAISO Controlled Grid to ensure that the proposed facilities provide for acceptable Operational Flexibility and meet all its...
requirements for proper integration with the CAISO Controlled Grid. If the CAISO finds that such facilities do not provide for acceptable Operational Flexibility or do not adequately integrate with the CAISO Controlled Grid, the CAISO shall coordinate with the Project Sponsor and, if different, the Participating TO with the PTO Service Territory, or the operators of neighboring Balancing Authority Areas, if applicable, in which the facilities will be located to reassess and redesign the facilities required to be constructed. Transmission upgrades or additions that do not provide acceptable Operational Flexibility or do not adequately integrate with the CAISO Controlled Grid cannot be included in the CAISO Transmission Plan or approved by CAISO management or the CAISO Governing Board, as applicable.

24.11 State and Local Approval and Property Rights.

24.11.1 The Participating TO obligated to construct facilities under this Section 24 must make a good faith effort to obtain all approvals and property rights under applicable federal, state and local laws that are necessary to complete the construction of the required transmission additions or upgrades. This obligation includes the Participating TO’s use of eminent domain authority, where provided by state law.

24.11.2 If the Participating TO cannot secure any such necessary approvals or property rights and consequently is unable to construct a transmission addition or upgrade found to be needed, it shall promptly notify the CAISO and shall comply with its obligations under the TO Tariff to convene a technical meeting to evaluate alternative proposals. The CAISO shall take such action as it reasonably considers appropriate, in coordination with the Participating TO and other affected Market Participants, to facilitate the development and evaluation of alternative proposals including, where possible, conferring on a third party the right to build the transmission addition or upgrade.

24.11.3 Where the conditions of Section 24.11.2 have been satisfied and it is possible for a third party to obtain all approvals and property rights under applicable federal, state and local laws that are necessary to complete the construction of transmission additions or upgrades required to be constructed in accordance with this CAISO Tariff (including the use of eminent domain authority, where provided by state law), the CAISO may confer on a third party the right to build the transmission addition or upgrade, which third party shall enter into the Transmission Control Agreement in relation to such transmission addition or upgrade.
24.12 **WECC and Regional Coordination.**  
The Project Sponsor will have responsibility for completing any applicable WECC requirements and rating study requirements to ensure that a proposed transmission addition or upgrade meets regional planning requirements. The Project Sponsor may request the Participating TO to perform this coordination on behalf of the Project Sponsor at the Project Sponsor's expense.

24.13 **Regional and Sub-Regional Planning Process.**  
The CAISO will be a member of the WECC and other applicable regional or sub-regional organizations and participate in WECC's operation and planning committees, and in other applicable regional and sub-regional coordinated planning processes.

24.13.1 **Scope of Regional or Sub-Regional Planning Participation.**  
The CAISO will collaborate with adjacent transmission providers and existing sub-regional planning organizations through existing processes. This collaboration involves a reciprocal exchange of information, to the maximum extent possible and subject to applicable confidentiality restrictions, in order to ensure the simultaneous feasibility of respective Transmission Plans, the identification of potential areas for increased efficiency, and the consistent use of common assumptions whenever possible. The details of the CAISO's participation in regional and sub-regional planning processes are set forth in the Business Practice Manual. At a minimum, the CAISO shall be required to:

(a) solicit the participation, whether through sub-regional planning groups or individually, of all interconnected Balancing Authority Areas in the development of the Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan and in reviewing the results of technical studies performed as part of the CAISO’s Transmission Planning Process in order to:

(1) coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable, planning assumptions, data and methodologies utilized by the CAISO, regional and sub-regional planning groups or interconnected Balancing Authority Areas;

(2) ensure transmission expansion plans of the CAISO, regional and sub-regional planning groups or interconnected Balancing Authority Areas
are simultaneously feasible and seek to avoid duplication of facilities.

(b) coordinate with regional and sub-regional planning groups regarding the entity to perform requests for Economic Planning Studies or other Congestion related studies;

(c) transmit to applicable regional and sub-regional planning groups or interconnected Balancing Authority Areas information on technical studies performed as part of the CAISO Transmission Planning Process;

(d) post on the CAISO Website links to the planning activities of applicable regional and sub-regional planning groups or interconnected Balancing Authority Areas.

24.13.2 Limitation on Regional Activities.

Neither the CAISO nor any Participating TO nor any Market Participant shall take any position before the WECC or a regional organization that is inconsistent with a binding decision reached through an arbitration proceeding pursuant to Section 13, in which the Participating TO or Market Participant voluntarily participated.

24.14 Cost Responsibility for Transmission Additions or Upgrades.

Cost responsibility for transmission additions or upgrades constructed pursuant to this Section 24 (including the responsibility for any costs incurred under Section 24.6) shall be determined as follows:

24.14.1 Where a Project Sponsor commits to pay the full cost of a transmission addition or upgrade as set forth in subsection (2) of Section 24.1.1, the full costs shall be borne by the Project Sponsor.

24.14.2 Where the need for a transmission addition or upgrade is determined by the CAISO, the cost of the transmission addition or upgrade shall be borne by the Participating TO that will be the owner of the transmission addition or upgrade and shall be reflected in its Transmission Revenue Requirement.

24.14.3 Provided that the CAISO has Operational Control of the Merchant Transmission Facility, a Project Sponsor that does not recover the investment cost under a FERC-approved rate through the Access Charge or a reimbursement or direct payment from a Participating TO shall be entitled to receive Merchant CRRs as provided in Section 36.11. The full amount of capacity added to the system by such
transmission upgrades or additions will be as determined through the regional reliability council process of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council or its successor.

24.14.3.1 Pursuant to its Project Sponsor status as specified in Section 4.3.1.3, consistent with FERC’s findings in Docket Nos. EL04-133-001, ER04-1198-000, and ER04-1198-001, issued on May 16, 2006 (115 FERC ¶ 61,178), Western Path 15 shall receive compensation associated with transmission usage rights modeled for Western Path 15. In the event that Western Path 15 has an approved rate schedule that returns excess revenue from any compensation obtained from the CAISO associated with the transmission usage rights for Western Path 15, such revenue shall be returned to the CAISO through a procedure established by the CAISO and the Western Area Power Administration for that purpose.

24.14.3.2 Pursuant to its Project Sponsor status, consistent with FERC’s findings in Docket No. ER03-407, issued on June 15, 2006 (115 FERC ¶ 61, 329), FPL Energy, LLC shall receive Merchant CRRs associated with transmission usage rights modeled for the Blythe Path 59 upgrade, such Merchant CRRs to be in effect for a period of thirty years, or the pre-specified intended life of the Merchant Transmission Facility, whichever is less, from the date of Blythe Path 59 was energized. For the purpose of allocating Merchant CRRs to FPL Energy, LLC over the Path 59 upgrade the allocation of Option CRRs in the import (east to west, from the Blythe Scheduling Point to the 230 kV side of the 161 kV to 230 kV transformer at the Eagle Mountain substation) as well as of Option CRRs in the export (west to east) direction will be based on 57.1 percent of the total upgrade (96 MWs out of the 168 MWs), which is FPL Energy, LLC’s share of the total upgrade as approved by FERC in the Letter Order issued by FERC on June 15, 2006 in Docket No. ER03-407 (115 FERC ¶ 61,329)

24.14.4 Once a New Participating TO has executed the Transmission Control Agreement and it has become effective, the cost for New High Voltage Facilities for all Participating TOs shall be included in the CAISO Grid-wide component of the High Voltage Access Charge in accordance with Schedule 3 of Appendix F, unless and with respect to Western Path 15 only, cost recovery is provided in Section 24.10.3. The Participating TO who is supporting the cost of the New High Voltage Facility shall include such costs in its High Voltage Transmission Revenue Requirement, regardless of which TAC Area the facility is geographically located.

24.15 Ownership of and Charges for Expansion Facilities.
24.15.1 All transmission additions and upgrades constructed in accordance with this Section 24 shall form part of the CAISO Controlled Grid and shall be operated and maintained by a Participating TO in accordance with the Transmission Control Agreement.

24.15.2 Each Participating TO that owns or operates transmission additions and upgrades constructed in accordance with this Section 24 shall provide access to them and charge for their use in accordance with this CAISO Tariff and its TO Tariff.

24.16 Expansion by Local Furnishing Participating TOs.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this CAISO Tariff, a Local Furnishing Participating TO shall not be obligated to construct or expand facilities, (including interconnection facilities as described in Section 8 of the TO Tariff) unless the CAISO or Project Sponsor has tendered an application under FPA Section 211 that requests FERC to issue an order directing the Local Furnishing Participating TO to construct such facilities pursuant to Section 24. The Local Furnishing Participating TO shall, within 10 days of receiving a copy of the Section 211 application, waive its right to a request for service under FPA Section 213(a) and to the issuance of a proposed order under FPA Section 212(c). Upon receipt of a final order from FERC that is no longer subject to rehearing or appeal, such Local Furnishing Participating TO shall construct such facilities in accordance with this Section 24.