



# Postponement of Cluster 16 Interconnection Request Application Window

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# Management is seeking approval to postpone the Cluster 16 interconnection request application window beyond 2024

- Under the current tariff, the ISO opens an annual interconnection request application window every April, beginning a new two-year interconnection cluster study process
- The delay to Cluster 16 from April 2024 is needed to
  - Address timelines with FERC compliance filing requirements and our own process enhancements, and
  - Manage the large volume of existing projects currently in the study process

# The ISO's current interconnection queue processes and timelines require transformational reform

- Recent application windows have resulted in unprecedented and unsustainable interconnection queue volumes
  - The queue now contains over 185 GW, with an additional 347 GW of Cluster 15 applications received April 2023
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Order No. 2023 sets new standard requirements and timelines for the interconnection process
  - The ISO's compliance filing is due April 3, 2024
- The ISO is also working with stakeholders to design transformational reforms in track 2 of its interconnection process enhancement initiative that build on FERC Order No. 2023 changes
  - The ISO intends to present track 2 interconnection process enhancement reforms to the ISO Board of Governors in May 2024

The ISO proposed postponing the Cluster 16 window in the interconnection process enhancement initiative and received no opposition

- The ISO notified stakeholders of its intent to postpone Cluster 16 beyond 2024 during its interconnection process enhancement workshops and in the two most recent papers, published in September and December 2023
- Stakeholders did not comment on this postponement
- Stakeholders are engaged in the ISO's interconnection process enhancements initiative to transform the future interconnection request process and understand that FERC Order No. 2023 will impact the schedule for Cluster 16

# The ISO is committed to implementing significant interconnection reform prior to opening Cluster 16

- The ISO will propose a timeline for opening Cluster 16 in its FERC Order No. 2023 compliance filing
  - The April FERC compliance filing and the May FERC filing on the interconnection process enhancements reforms will seek FERC approval of the complete package of interconnection reforms needed for Cluster 16 and beyond