

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors
From: Neil Millar, Vice-President, Infrastructure & Operations Planning
Date: March 19, 2025
Re: **Transmission Development Forum update**

This memorandum does not require ISO Board of Governors action.

This memorandum provides an update on the most recent transmission development forum held on January 29, 2025. The transmission development forum reviews the status of transmission projects approved in the ISO's transmission planning process and network upgrade projects that affect generators, with a focus on changes from the previous forum.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The ISO, in coordination with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the participating transmission owners, initiated the transmission development forum in January 2022. The purpose of the transmission development forum is to create a single forum to track the status of transmission network upgrade projects that affect generators and all other transmission projects approved in the ISO's transmission planning process.

In 2022 and 2023, the transmission development forum was held quarterly. Starting in 2024, the transmission development forum schedule shifted to twice a year, with stakeholder calls held in January and July. This schedule change enables coordination with the CPUC's Transmission Project Review Process, initiated on January 1, 2024, as a part of the Commission's Resolution E-5252.

The ISO will convene an additional meeting on April 9, 2025, focusing on transmission project execution. Participating transmission owners will provide information on transmission project execution and management, and the CPUC will summarize its recent assessment of renewable and storage resources associated with delayed transmission projects, which was included as a chapter in their 2024 California Renewable Standard Annual Report, as required under SB 1174.¹

¹ <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/office-of-governmental-affairs-division/reports/2024/2024-california-renewables-portfolio-standard-rps-annual-report.pdf>

For each transmission development forum, two workbooks are posted, listing all of the approved transmission projects through the ISO's annual transmission planning process and the transmission network upgrade projects required through the generator interconnection process to interconnect the generator or provide deliverability for the generator. Presentations are also posted identifying schedule changes that occurred since the preceding forum and explaining the cause of the schedule changes.

The workbooks and presentations are available on the ISO website, found under Meetings and Events in the Transmission Development Forum tab.

Table 1 provides the number of projects for each of the participating transmission owners where the in-service date of the transmission projects and network upgrades have changed from the July 31, 2024, to the January 29, 2025, transmission development forum.

Table 1 In-service date changes from previous to latest meeting

	In-service Date Advanced			No Change	In-service Date Delayed		
	< 6 months	6 to 12 months	> 1 year		< 6 months	6 to 12 months	> 1 year
Approved Transmission Expansion Projects							
PG&E	10	7	11	47	11	6	15
SCE	4	4	3	17	3	0	0
SDG&E	1	0	2	10	0	2	0
VEA/GLW	1	0	2	2	1	0	0
Network Upgrade Projects							
PG&E	4	2	4	41	8	9	11
SCE	1	0	0	8	0	5	0
SDG&E	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
VEA/GLW	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES

There continues to be significant stakeholder support for the transmission development forum.

Comments submitted after January 31, 2025, transmission development forum addressed the following:

- Specific questions related to Pacific Gas and Electric and Southern California Edison projects. The ISO is coordinating with the utilities to provide responses to these questions.
- A request that the regulator status information provided be more specific regarding the type of permitting application. The ISO will coordinate with the

transmission owners as where more specific information can be included in the workbooks.

CONCLUSION

The ISO continues to work with the participating transmission owners to respond to stakeholder comments on specific transmission projects and the format of the transmission development forum. The next transmission development forum is targeted to be held on July 29, 2025.