California ISO

Memorandum

To: ISO Board of Governors

From: Neil Millar, Vice-President, Infrastructure & Operations Planning

Date: October 22, 2026

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 July 29, 2026, where Participating Transmission Owners provide updates on the status of transmission network upgrade projects that affect generators and all other transmission projects approved in the ISO's transmission planning process, and review changes from the previous forum.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The transmission development forum, initiated by the ISO in coordination with the California Public Utilities Commision (CPUC) in January 2022, provides a single forum to track the status of transmission network upgrade projects that affect generators and transmission projects approved in the ISO's transmission planning process. The forum is held twice a year, in January and July, to coordinate with the CPUC's Transmission Project Review Process (TPR).[1]

The workbooks presented in Attachment 1 and 2 provide information related to the original in-service date and the current expected in-service dates for the approved transmission expansion projects and the transmission network upgrade projects respectively, as submitted by the participating transmission owners.

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 January 28, 2026 to the July 29, 2026 transmission development forum. As illustrated within the table, some transmission projects and network upgrades have had their in-service dates advanced; however, a greater number of projects have had their in-service dates delayed. Challenges due to land rights acquisitions and supply chain logistics[2] were identified by the PTOs as the primary reasons for project delays.

---

[1] The CPUC's Transmission Review Process was initiated on January 1, 2024, as a part of the commissions Resolution E-5252.

[2] Supply chain logistics - Challenges with GIS equipment procurement due to limited vendor pool, obtaining materials like specific type of conductors and circuit breakers, and receiving fabrication windows for steel poles.

Table 1: In-service date changes between January 2026 and July 2026

	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	15	3	3	88	21	5	8
SCE	6	0	0	27	6	0	8
SDG&E	3	2	3	8	5	3	0
VEA/GLW	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
LSPower	0	0	0	7	0	0	1
Lotus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
HWT	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
CalGrid	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Network Upgrade Projects							
PG&E	22	2	3	72	20	7	8
SCE	0	0	0	19	0	2	1
SDG&E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VEA/GLW	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

The ISO implemented new schedule impact reporting updates in the Transmission Development Forum workbooks to improve consistency, transparency, and tracking of transmission project schedule changes. The template updates included standardized change categories for in-service date changes and a new delay resolver field to identify the entity responsible for addressing reported delays. These updates were developed in coordination with the CPUC and PTOs to create a clearer reporting structure for stakeholders. The ISO also introduced unique project identifiers to support consistent project tracking across TDF workbooks and related documents. Although the CPUC did not provide a separate presentation during this forum, CPUC staff remained actively engaged throughout the proceedings.

POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES

There continues to be significant stakeholder support for the transmission development forum as it provides a platform for stakeholders to receive information on transmission projects timelines and complements the CPUC's TPR process. Modifications to the submission templates were well-received by the CPUC and stakeholders and feedback received will help the ISO to further refine the process in subsequent TDF cycles.

Stakeholders submitted comments after the July 29, 2026 transmission development forum. Specifc questions related to PG&E, SCE, and LS Power projects on technical details, permitting timelines, and risk factors impacting current in-service dates, were submitted. The ISO coordinated with PG&E, SCE, and LS Power to provide responses to these questions.

CONCLUSION

The ISO continues to work with the CPUC on transmission projects data coordination and with participating transmission owners to respond to stakeholder comments on specific transmission projects. The next transmission development forum is targeted to be held on January 27, 2027.