

System Planning

**Monthly Status Report**

Report Highlights

* ERCOT is currently reviewing proposed transmission improvements with a total estimated cost of $1,364.74 Million as of March 31, 2020.
* Transmission Projects endorsed in 2020 total $100.07 Million as of March 31, 2020.
* All projects (in engineering, routing, licensing and construction) total approximately $7.45 Billion as of February 1, 2020.
* Transmission Projects energized in 2020 total about $122 Million as of February 1, 2020.

Regional Planning Group Reviews

* AEPSC has submitted the LRGV Import Project. This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $73.4 million. AEPSC has also requested that ERCOT provide a conditional endorsement for an additional $357.2 million project.  The ERCOT Independent Review has been conducted in accordance with Protocol Section 3.11.4.9(3), and this project is currently placed on hold until the LNG loads are confirmed.
* STEC has submitted the Lower Rio Grande Valley Transmission Expansion Project. This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $511 million. The ERCOT Independent Review has been conducted in accordance with Protocol Section 3.11.4.9(3), and this project is currently placed on hold until the LNG loads are confirmed.
* AEPSC has submitted the Corpus North Shore Project. This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $259.57 million. This project is currently under ERCOT Independent Review.
* 7x Energy has submitted the Frio County Transmission Project. This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $23 million. This project is currently under ERCOT Independent Review.
* AEPSC has submitted the Quanah Area Improvement Transmission Project. This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $11.3 million. ERCOT completed the independent review on March 13 and has issued the endorsement letter.
* GP&L has submitted the Farmersville Area Reliability Project. This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $24.37 million. This project is currently under ERCOT Independent Review.
* AEPSC has submitted the Smith to Mathis 69-kV Line Rebuild Project. This is a Tier 3 project that is estimated to cost $38 million. This project completed the RPG review on March 18, and ERCOT has issued the acceptance letter.
* Oncor has submitted the Anna Switch - Royse Switch 138-kV Line Upgrade Project. This is a Tier 3 project that is estimated to cost $91.2 million. This project is currently in the RPG comment period.
* GP&L has submitted the Lookout Substation SVC Project. This is a Tier 3 project that is estimated to cost $25 million. This project is currently in the RPG comment period.

More information on current and past RPG projects can be found on the ERCOT MIS Secure (digital certificate required): [https://mis.ercot.com/pps/tibco/mis/Pages/Grid+Information/RegionalPlanning](https://mis.ercot.com/pps/tibco/mis/Pages/Grid%2BInformation/RegionalPlanning)

Past email communication on RPG projects can be found on the ERCOT listserve by signing up for the REGPLANGROUP list: <http://lists.ercot.com/scripts/wa-ERCOT.exe?A0=REGPLANGROUP>

Planning Model Activities

The short-term calendar of major planning model events is as follows:

* July 1, 2020 20SSWG cases and TPIT are posted
* By July 20, 2020 Post 20SSWG Contingency definitions and Planning Data Dictionary

The following table shows interconnection projects that met Planning Guide section 6.9(1) and 6.9(2) and were modeled in the SSWG cases as a full model or as a simple model in accordance with Planning Guide section 6.9.



Permian Basin Oil Rig Count[[1]](#footnote-1)



Other Notable Activities

* ERCOT presented an update on the 2020 Regional Transmission Plan (RTP) load review to the Regional Planning Group (RPG) in March.
* ERCOT presented an update on DC Tie and Wind-powered Generation Resource dispatch assumptions in the 2020 RTP to the RPG in March.
* The SPWG completed and posted the 2020 CY base case on March 27, 2020.
* The SPWG has begun building the 2020 FY cases.
* ERCOT is performing stability analysis for Panhandle and West Texas exports and plans to present preliminary results to ROS in May.
1. +/- symbol indicates the increase or decrease from the previous month in oil rigs present in each county. There are 251 rigs, including a total decrease of 44 oil rigs, in the Permian Basin from February to March 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)