

## Transmission improvements to address growth in Far West Texas

Over the past 10 years, electricity demand in Far West Texas has more than doubled due to oil and gas activity. In June 2019, load exceeded 4,000 MW for the first time and peaked at 4,322 MW in August. Since 2013, approximately \$2.2 billion in transmission additions and upgrades have been completed in the area, and another \$500+ million is expected to be completed by the end of 2020. These transmission improvements are planned to reliably serve the area through 2024; however, if demand continues to grow or grows faster than currently anticipated, more will likely be needed.

### Delaware Basin Load Integration Study

ERCOT, in coordination with Transmission Service Providers, oil and gas customers and other stakeholders, performed an [assessment of the Delaware Basin](#), which is a sub-basin of the Permian Basin and has experienced the majority of the increased electricity demand. The assessment used a higher-than-forecasted load growth for the area and was performed to identify potential reliability needs and cost-effective bulk power system upgrades, specifically those requiring long lead-times. Additional transmission improvements may be needed if the load in the Delaware Basin area increases at a rapid pace.

The results of the Delaware Basin Load Integration Study provide a roadmap for long-term transmission planning for ERCOT stakeholders and include phased-in transmission upgrades associated with varying load levels in the Delaware Basin area.



Transmission Improvement Projects Currently Underway in Far West Texas	ERCOT Endorsement	Anticipated Service Date
Far West Texas Project 1.0 (New Odessa-Riverton and Bakersfield-Solstice 345-kV lines)	June 2017	December 2020
Far West Texas Project 2.0 (New Riverton-Sand Lake-Solstice 345-kV line and Kyle Ranch-Riverton and Horseshoe Spring-Riverton 138-kV lines)	June 2018	September 2020 / May 2021
Ward and Winkler County Transmission Improvement Project (Conversion of TNMP Wink to Pecos from 69kV to 138kV)	October 2019	December 2020