

System Planning

**Monthly Status Report**

Report Highlights

* ERCOT is currently reviewing proposed transmission improvements with a total estimated cost of $1.525 billion as of December 31, 2023.
* Transmission Projects endorsed in 2023 total $3.231 billion as of December 31, 2023.
* All projects (in engineering, routing, licensing, and construction) total approximately $13.537 billion[[1]](#footnote-2) as of October 12, 2023.
* Transmission Projects energized in 2023 total approximately $1.553 billion[[2]](#footnote-3) (as of October 12, 2023).

Regional Planning Group Reviews

RPG Projects under Review:

* TNMP has submitted the Silverleaf and Cowpen 345/138-kV Stations Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG013). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $299.00 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 27, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $273.10 million. TAC voted unanimously to endorse the project on December 4, 2023. The ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 19, 2023, and ERCOT will issue the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* Oncor has submitted the Arlington Reliability Enhancement Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG018). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $72.00 million. ERCOT completed the independent review on December 20, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $73.00 million. ERCOT will not issue an ERCOT endorsement letter for this project, as it is needed to solely meet Oncor Transmission Planning Criteria.
* TNMP has submitted the Pecos County Transmission Improvement Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG023). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $108.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* WETT has submitted the Synchronous Condensers Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG026). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $468.00 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 27, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $467.70 million. TAC voted unanimously to endorse the project on December 4, 2023. The ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 19, 2023, and ERCOT will issue the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* LCRA TSC has submitted the Bakersfield Dynamic Reactive Substation Upgrade Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG027). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $145.00 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 27, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $144.50 million. TAC voted unanimously to endorse the project on December 4, 2023. The ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 19, 2023, and ERCOT will issue the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* STEC has submitted the Rio Medina Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG028). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $38.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the West Texas Synchronous Condenser Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG029). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $280.00 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 27, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $280.00 million. TAC voted unanimously to endorse the project on December 4, 2023. The ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 19, 2023, and ERCOT will issue the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* BEC has submitted the San Miguel to Marion 345-KV Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG032). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $258.50 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the West Texas 345-kV Infrastructure Rebuild Project (RPG Project ID: 23RPG034). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $1.120 billion. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.

RPG Project Reviews Completed in 2023:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RPG Project ID | RPG Project Name | Submitted Entity | Tier | Estimated Cost ($ Millions) | Review Completion Month |
| 22RPG043 | Haskell to Munday 69 kV Line Rebuild Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 31.00 | January |
| 22RPG044 | Escondido to Hamilton Road 138 kV Line Rebuild Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 73.50 | January |
| 22RPG045 | Yucca to Moss 138 kV Line Project | Oncor | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 60.70 | January |
| 22RPG046 | Peppervine to Temple 69 kV Line Conversion Project | Oncor | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 36.00 | January |
| 22RPG026 | Wimberley Loop Project | PEC | Tier 2 | 61.93 | February |
| 23RPG001 | Bessel to Falfurrias 138 kV Line Rebuild Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 84.76 | February |
| 23RPG002 | Hamlin to Roby 69 kV Line Rebuild Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 33.00 | February |
| 23RPG003 | Eagle Ford Large Load Interconnection Project | GVEC | Tier 3 | 35.15 | March |
| 23RPG004 | Lockhart to Luling 69-kV Transmission Line Overhaul Project | LCRA TSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 33.50 | March |
| 23RPG005 | La Palma to Stewart Road Rebuild and Conversion to 138-kV Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 71.50 | March |
| 23RPG006 | North Lake 138 kV Switch Rebuild | Oncor | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 34.11 | March |
| 22RPG047 | Peck to Driver 138 kV Line Project | Oncor | Tier 2 | 36.20 | May |
| 23RPG007 | Asherton to Uvalde 138-kV Conversion Project | AEPSC | Tier 3 | 56.00 | May |
| 23RPG008 | Fort Stockton Plant to Lynx 138-kV Line Rebuild Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 44.90 | May |
| 23RPG009 | Spraberry to Polecat 138-kV Line Rebuild Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 56.90 | May |
| 23RPG010 | Big Spring West to Stanton East 138-kV Line Rebuild Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 52.00 | May |
| 23RPG011 | Morgan Creek to McDonald Road 138-kV Line Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 40.20 | May |
| 23RPG012 | Stone Lake Area Upgrades Project | CNP | Tier 3 | 74.38 | May |
| 23RPG014 | Lamesa to Jim Payne POI to Paul Davis Tap 138-kV Line Rebuild Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 36.80 | June |
| 23RPG015 | Cuero Substation Upgrade Project | LCRA TSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 25.90 | June |
| 23RPG016 | Tributary Switch – Vincent Rebuild Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 29.30 | July |
| 23RPG017 | Watermill 345/138-kV Switch Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 74.90 | July |
| 22RPG048 | San Antonio South Reliability Project | CPS | Tier 1 | 329.10 | August |
| 23RPG019 | Stanton Loop South Dynamic Reactive Power Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 96.90 | August |
| 23RPG020 | Hackberry Switch to DFW D East 2 138-kV Double-Circuit Line Section Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 80.00 | August |
| 23RPG021 | West Columbia to Big Creek ckt 89 Reconductor Project | CNP | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 64.17 | September |
| 23RPG022 | McLennan County Transmission Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 42.31 | September |
| 23RPG024 | Big Foot to Dilley Switch 138-kV Conversion Project | AEPSC | Reclassified from Tier 3 to Tier 4 per Protocol | 53.10 | September |
| 23RPG025 | Britmoore to Bellaire Ckt 24 Upgrade Project | CNP | Tier 3 | 90.10 | September |
| 23RPG030 | Walleye Creek 345/138-kV Switch Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 74.00 | October |
| 23RPG031 | 345-kV Jeanetta Autotransformer Upgrades Project | CNP | Tier 3 | 47.08 | October |
| 23RPG033 | Watermill to Seagoville 138 kV Line Project | Oncor | Tier 3 | 33.00 | November |
| 23RPG013 | Silverleaf and Cowpen 345/138-kV Stations Project | TNMP | Tier 1 | 273.10 | December |
| 23RPG018 | Arlington Reliability Enhancement Project | Oncor | Tier 2 | 73.00 | December |
| 23RPG026 | Synchronous Condensers Project | WETT | Tier 1 | 467.70 | December |
| 23RPG026 | Bakersfield Dynamic Reactive Substation Upgrade Project | LCRA TSC | Tier 1 | 144.50 | December |
| 23RPG029 | West Texas Synchronous Condenser Project | Oncor | Tier 1 | 280.00 | December |

More information on current and past RPG projects can be found on the ERCOT MIS Secure (digital certificate required): https://mis.ercot.com/secure/data-products/grid/regional-planning

Past email communication on RPG projects can be found on the ERCOT listserv 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:

* By February 1, 2024 TPIT will be posted
* By May 31, 2024 24SSWG Cases and TPIT will be posted

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[[3]](#footnote-4)Other Notable Activities

* ERCOT is continuing to work with the TSPs to collect the Permian Basin Load data to initiate the Permian Basin reliability plan study in 2024 as directed by HB5066 and by the PUC.
* ERCOT presented the preliminary results for the 2023 Regional Transmission Plan economic study at the December 2023 RPG meeting.
* ERCOT presented the 2024 Long-Term Load Forecast (LTLF) at the December 2023 RPG meeting.
1. Based on the Total Project Estimated Cost for all future projects listed in the Transmission Project Information and Tracking (TPIT) report. TPIT is updated three times each year based on information TSPs provide in Model on Demand (MOD) as specified in the ERCOT Steady State Working Group Procedure Manual. The latest TPIT is available at https://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/planning. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Based on the Total Project Estimated Cost for all completed projects with Projected In-Service Dates in 2023 listed in the TPIT. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. +/- symbol indicates the increase or decrease from the previous month in oil rigs present in each county. There are 211 rigs, including an increase of 6 oil rigs, in the Permian Basin from November to December 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)