

2026 Long-Term System Assessment (LTSA) Planning

ERCOT Staff May 20, 2025

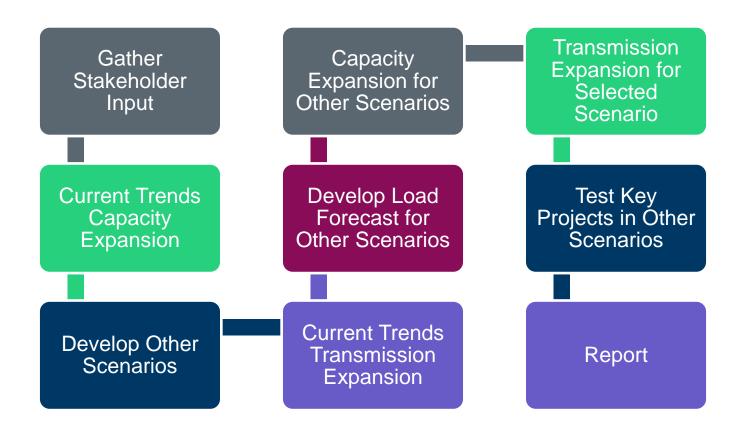
LTSA Overview

- The Long-Term System Assessment (LTSA) evaluates the potential needs of ERCOT's extra-high voltage system (345-kV and 765-kV) over the 10- to 15-year planning horizon.
- This assessment provides strategic guidance for the sixyear planning process by offering a longer-term perspective of system reliability and economic needs.
- To address the uncertainty in long-term planning, ERCOT utilizes multiple planning scenarios that explore a range of future outcomes.



2026 LTSA Process

The following outlines the key steps in the 2026 LTSA development process.





2026 LTSA Scenario Development

- ERCOT is requesting stakeholder feedbacks on the assumptions and key drivers to the 2026 LTSA scenarios.
- The Current Trends scenario serves as the baseline and incorporates *ERCOT* Adjusted Forecast, which includes adjustments applied to the TSP provided large load additions.
- Additional scenarios may be developed to represent different load growth trajectories.



2026 LTSA Current Trends Scenario

- Key assumptions 2026 LTSA Current Trends scenario
 - Load Forecast: ERCOT Adjusted Forecast reflecting adjustments applied to the TSP provided large load additions
 - Weather: Averaged weather year condition over 15 years
 - Roof-top PV and Electric Vehicle (EV): Moderate growth for Roof-top PV and EV
 - Environment Policies
 - Carbon price set at 0 \$/ton
 - No impact of EPA rules for coal and gas units
 - Generation Retirement
 - Economic retirement only
 - No fixed-age retirement will be considered
 - Large Flexible Load (LFL)
 - 60% of LFL with a Strike Price at 100 \$/MWh
 - 30% at 200 \$/MWh
 - 10% at 1,000 \$/MWh



Capacity Expansion Analysis and Starting Resource Mix

- The 2026 LTSA capacity expansion analysis will build upon existing and planned resources that meet the requirements of ERCOT Planning Guide Section 6.9(1).
 - No fixed-age retirement will be considered.
- Additions of new resources and economic retirements of existing generation fleet will be determined by capacity expansion analysis.



Questions

- Stakeholder input/feedback is welcomed
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