

**From:** [Mason Galanski](#)  
**To:** [LLWG Feedback](#)  
**Cc:** [Renato Pereira](#); [Meg Gentle](#); [Sean Martyn](#)  
**Subject:** HIF USA comments to the ERCOT Batch Study Process for LLWG  
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**HIF USA comments to the ERCOT Batch Study Process for LLWG**  
**February 5, 2026**

- HIF USA is a “real” load with demonstrated readiness, not speculative queue inventory
  - HIF has made significant financial security payments to its TDSP (AEP) and has progressed through the interconnection process in good faith. In addition, through AEP, HIF has already secured long-lead equipment items, with certain components delivered and the balance on track for delivery well in advance of our planned energization (second half of 2027). These objective facts distinguish HIF from projects that have not made comparable commitments or procurement progress.
- The June 30, 2027 cutoff is an arbitrary proxy that fails to measure actual deliverability
  - A single date on an interconnection request does not capture whether a project can physically energize. We would suggest that Batch Zero A’s cutoff date be extended to December 31, 2027. As discussed in the workshop, multiple stakeholders raised concerns that many projects claiming June 30, 2027 energization will not be able to meet that schedule due to permitting, construction, and equipment lead times, while projects that used realistic requested dates are disadvantaged.
- ERCOT should replace (or supplement) the date cutoff with readiness-based criteria tied to verifiable milestones
  - ERCOT and the PUCT should prioritize projects based on demonstrated execution (e.g., TDSP security/CIAC posted, evidence of long-lead equipment procurement and delivery schedules, executed site control/construction readiness, and other objective milestones) rather than a requested energization date alone. Providing documentation to confirm readiness, like equipment procurement, can be easily done on a tight deadline by serious projects with real loads. This approach aligns with ERCOT’s stated goal of screening out speculative load while protecting projects that have “done the work” and is more thorough even if it means a slight delay to the batch study process.

**Mason Galanski**

HIF USA | [hifglobal.com](http://hifglobal.com)

M: 832.425.9821

711 Louisiana St, Suite 1100

Houston, TX 77002