

System Planning

**Monthly Status Report**

Report Highlights

* ERCOT is currently reviewing proposed transmission improvements with a total estimated cost of $11.100 billion as of January 31, 2026.
* Transmission Projects endorsed in 2026 total $100.50 million as of January 31, 2026.
* All projects (in engineering, routing, licensing, and construction) total approximately $32.631 billion[[1]](#footnote-2) as of February 1, 2026.
* Transmission Projects energized in 2026 total approximately $8.900 million (as of February 1, 2026).
* Transmission Projects planned to energize during the remainder of 2026 total approximately $7.525 billion (as of February 1, 2026).

Regional Planning Group Reviews

RPG Projects under Review:

* TNMP has submitted the Galveston Region Project (RPG Project ID: 24RPG039). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $133.73 million. ERCOT completed the independent review on December 19, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $95.90 million. ERCOT reclassified the project as a Tier 2 project and has issued the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* Oncor has submitted the Southern DFW Load Interconnection and General Grid Strengthening Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG004). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $1,219 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor and LCRA TSC have submitted the Muscovy and Voss Lake 345/138-kV Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG009). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $381.83 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* STEC has submitted the Ammonia Plant Load Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG012). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $65.47 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on January 13. The recommended project is estimated to cost $117.38 million and was reclassified as a Tier 1 project. TAC voted to endorse the project on January 21, 2026. ERCOT will present the recommendation for Board of Directors endorsement on February 8, 2026.
* CPS Energy has submitted the Reactive Power Planning Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG013). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $116.50 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* STEC has submitted the Nueces Green Ammonia Load Interconnection Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG016). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $74.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* CPS Energy has submitted the Helotes 345/138-kV Switching Station and Autotransformer Addition at Eastside Switching Station Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG017). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $110.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* CPS Energy has submitted the Large Load Additions Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG020). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $333.70 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor and AEPSC have submitted the Drill Hole to Sand Lake to Solstice 765-kV Line Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG022). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $742.20 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 12, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $742.2 million. TAC voted to endorse the project on November 19, 2025. ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 9, 2025, and ERCOT has issued the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* AEPSC has submitted the Blessing Area Improvements Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG024). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $256.00 million. This project was withdrawn by AEPSC on December 4 and ERCOT concluded the independent review on December 4. ERCOT will not post an independent report on ERCOT MIS – Regional Planning page and will not issue an endorsement letter for this project.
* AEP Texas, CPS Energy, Oncor and CNP have submitted the Texas 765-kV-STEP Eastern Backbone Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG025). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $9,384 million. ERCOT has completed the independent review on November 12, and the recommended project is estimated to cost $9,384 million. TAC voted to endorse the project on November 19, 2025. ERCOT Board of Directors endorsed the project on December 9, 2025, and ERCOT has issued the ERCOT endorsement letter.
* Oncor has submitted the Paris Switch to Monticello Switch 345-kV Line Rebuild Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG026). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $231.75 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* CNP has submitted the P.H. Robinson to W.A. Parish 345-kV Hardening Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG028). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $511.31 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the Oncor Skyview 345/138-kV Switch Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG033). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $56.82 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* LP&L has submitted the West Loop Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG037). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $309.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor and LST have submitted the Navarro and Ellis Area Reliability Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG038). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $759.95 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* STEC has submitted the Southeast Brownsville Large Load Transmission System Improvements Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG039). This is a Tier 2 project that is estimated to cost $96.35 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the Set 1 North & Central Texas Reliability Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG040). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $1,798 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the Set 1 North Central & South Central Texas Reliability Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG041). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $943.92 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the Set 2 North & Central Texas Reliability Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG042). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $1,330 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* Oncor has submitted the Set 2 North Central & South Central Texas Reliability Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG043). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $440.79 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* BEC has submitted the Whitney Autotransformer Upgrade Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG044). This is a Tier 3 project that is estimated to cost $33.50 million. The RPG review of this project was completed on January 8, and ERCOT has issued an acceptance letter.
* AEPSC has submitted the Alice Area Improvements Transmission Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG045). This is a Tier 3 project that is estimated to cost $67.00 million. The RPG review of this project was completed on January 8, and ERCOT has issued an acceptance letter.
* STEC has submitted the Medina County Large Load Additions Project (RPG Project ID: 25RPG046). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $492.00 million. This project is currently under ERCOT’s independent review.
* LCRA TSC and CEHE have submitted the Euclid 765-kV Substation and Transmission Line Addition Project (RPG Project ID: 26RPG001). This is a Tier 1 project that is estimated to cost $1,830 million. This project is currently in the RPG comment period.

RPG Project Reviews Completed in 2026:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RPG Project ID | RPG Project Name | Submitted Entity | Tier | Estimated Cost  ($ Millions) | Review Completion Month |
| 25RPG044 | Whitney Autotransformer Upgrade Project | BEC | Tier 3 | 33.50 | January |
| 25RPG045 | Alice Area Improvements Transmission Project | AEPSC | Tier 3 | 67.00 | January |

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>

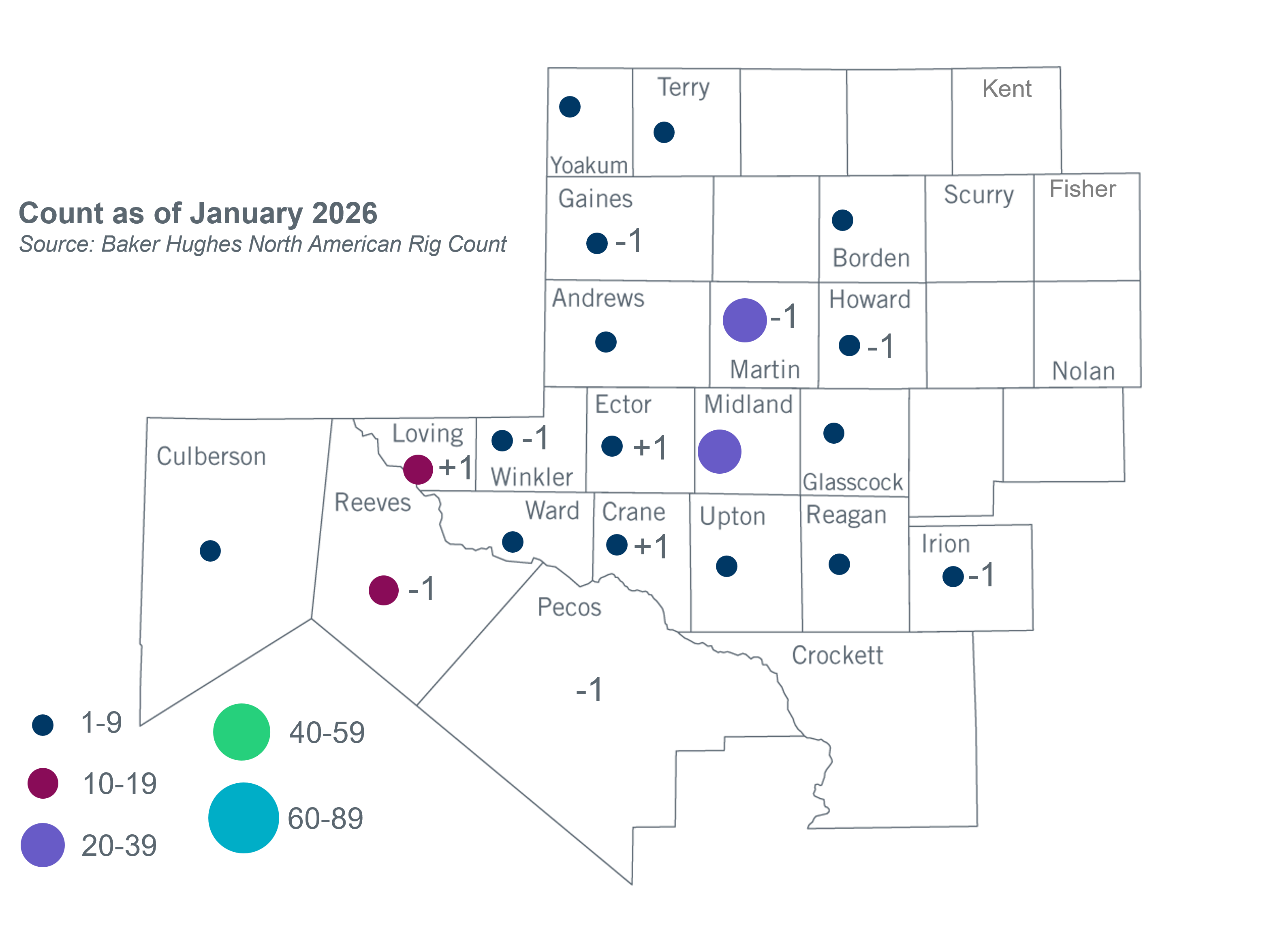
Planning Model Activities

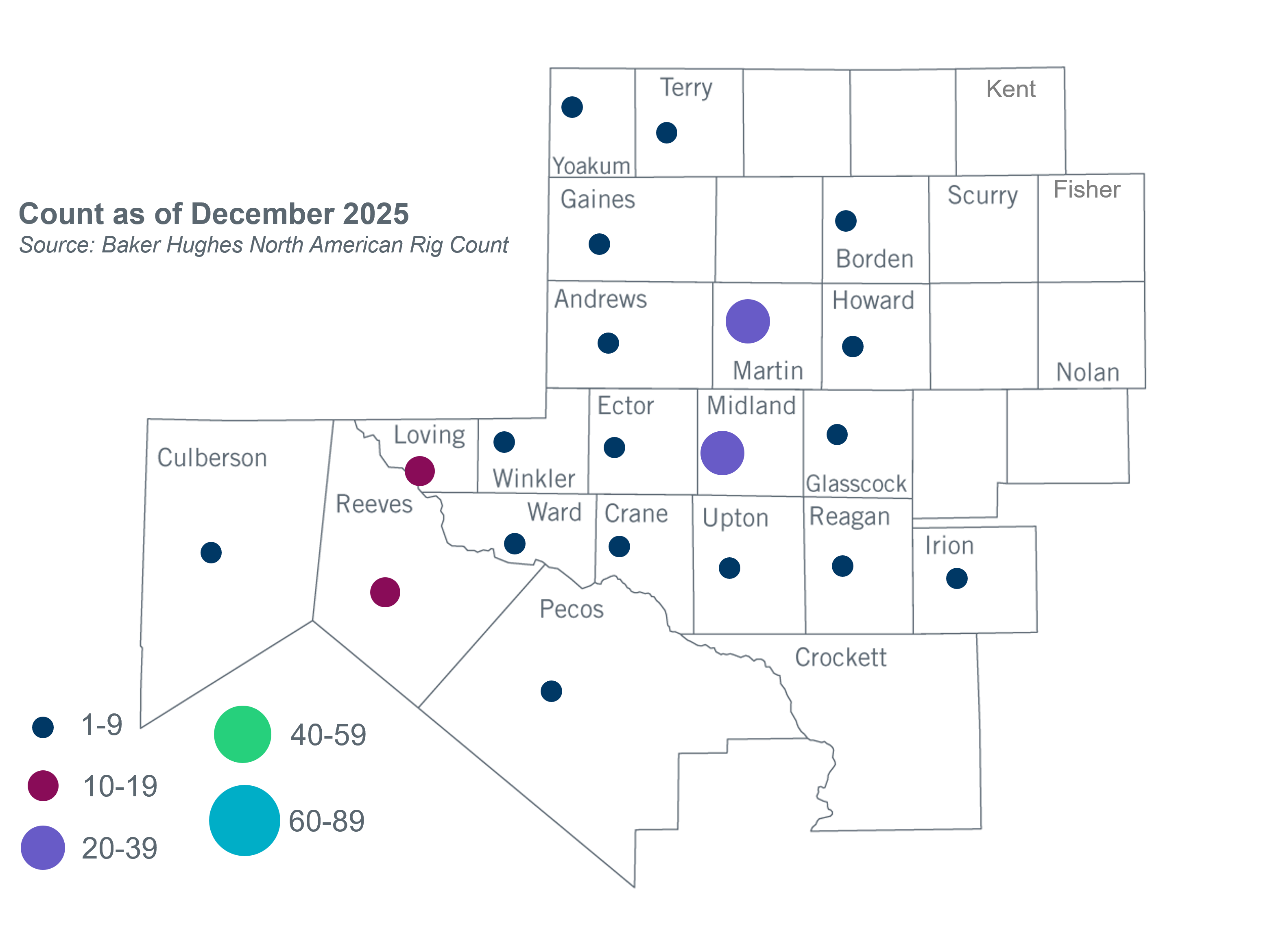
The short-term calendar of major planning model events is as follows:

* By June 5, 2026 26SSWG Cases and TPIT will be posted
* By June 12, 2026 26SSWG Contingency and Planning Data Dictionary 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[[2]](#footnote-3)



Other Notable Activities

* ERCOT presented the 2025 Regional Transmission Plan (RTP) final update and the 2025 RTP economc study results at the January 2026 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. +/- symbol indicates the increase or decrease from the previous month in oil rigs present in each county. There are 146 rigs, including a decrease of 4 oil rigs, in the Permian Basin from December 2025 to January 2026. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)