



## Item 7: System Planning and Weatherization Update

*Kristi Hobbs*  
Vice President, System Planning and Weatherization

Board of Directors Meeting

April 20-21, 2026

### Purpose

Provide an update on recent activity related to transmission planning, modeling, resource adequacy and weatherization.

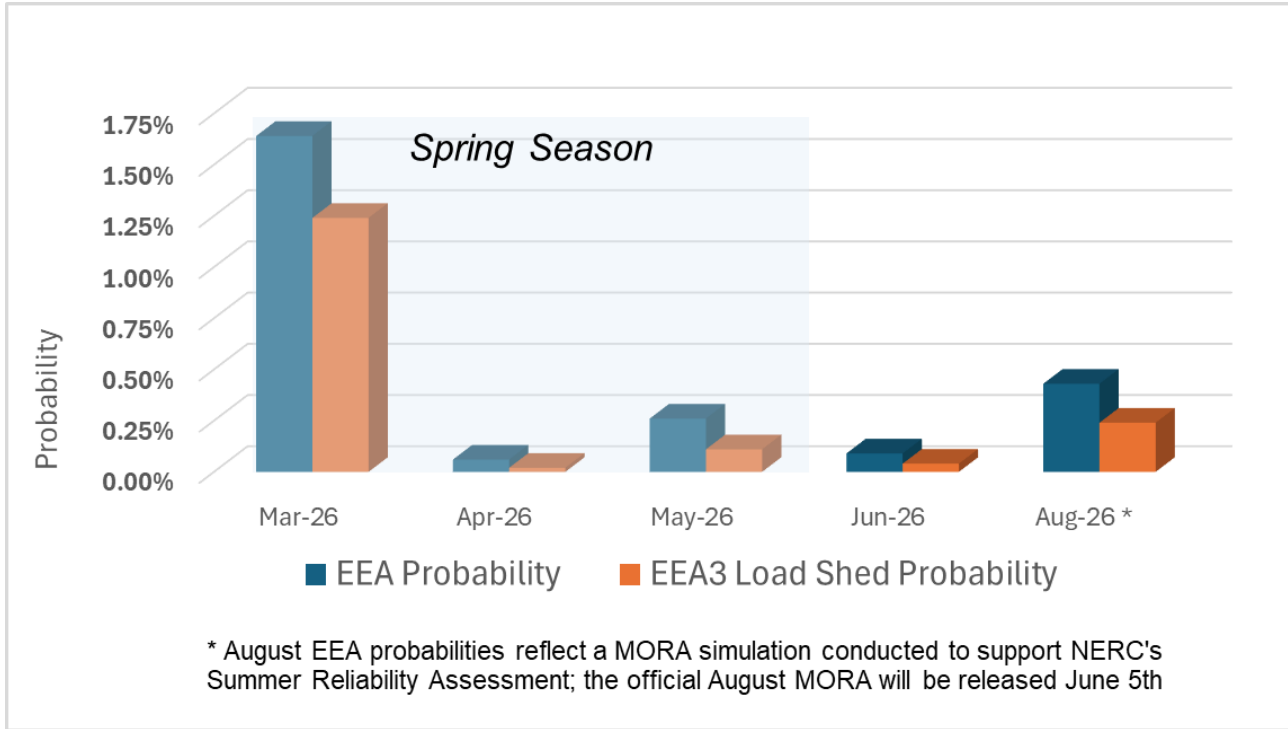
### For information only

No action is requested; for discussion only.

### Key Takeaways

- As the PUC finalizes data assumptions, ERCOT will begin data processing for the reliability assessment while also developing potential market revision options for PUC consideration if needed to meet the Reliability Standard.
- In 2025, ERCOT completed twice the number of transmission project independent reviews even as the complexity level has increased.

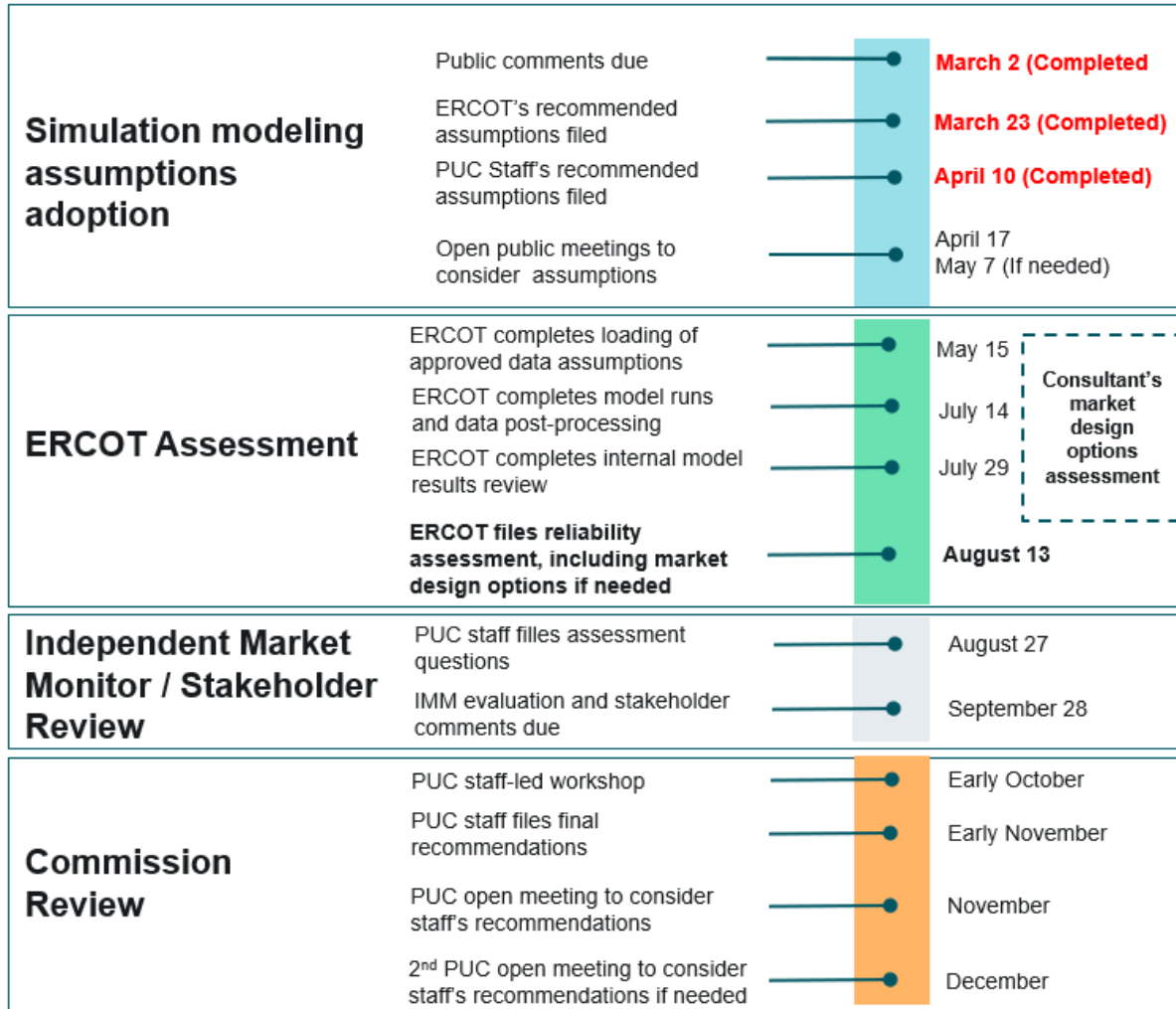
# Resource Adequacy Reporting – Recent Monthly Outlook on Resource Adequacy (MORA) Reports



**Key Takeaway:** For the 2026 spring and summer outlook, new solar and battery storage resources will help the grid keep pace with growing loads and potential wind generation volatility.

- Spring EEA risk was highest for March due to an early-month cold snap possibility combined with substantial thermal capacity undergoing planned maintenance
- Risk for subsequent months—highest in the early evening hours—is mitigated by increased solar generation supporting battery state of charge to be available to help meet potentially still-elevated loads
- Dynamics of crypto-mining demand response and increasing amounts of high availability data center loads are expected to drive changes in evening load patterns and the timing of the highest non-winter EEA risk hours

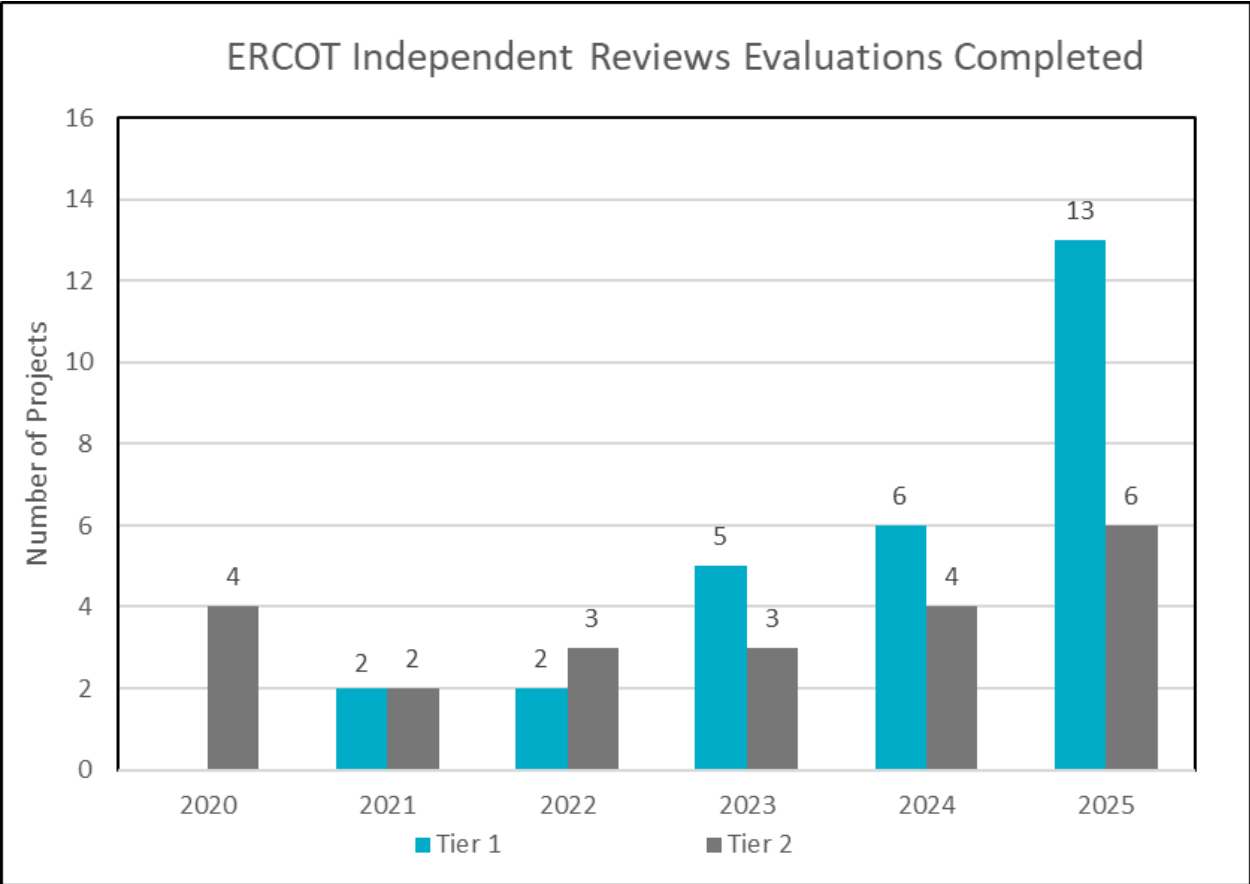
# 2026 Reliability Assessment Roadmap – Milestone Update



- The PUC and ERCOT are assessing the modeling input recommendations from the public comments received March 23; ERCOT provided the PUCT with its recommendation evaluation
  - A common recommendation is to have ERCOT conduct load forecast scenario simulations
  - Most commenters support updating CONE values to reflect recent gas turbine costs and supply chain constraints
- ERCOT issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to model and evaluate alternative market design options to be done concurrently with ERCOT model preparation and simulation activities
- The reliability assessment model is being enhanced to simulate ASDCs, DRRS, and the Emergency Pricing Program

**Key Takeaway:** As the PUC finalizes data assumptions, ERCOT will begin model runs and data processing while also developing potential market revision options for PUC consideration if needed to meet the Reliability Standard.

# ERCOT Regional Planning Group (RPG) Project Summary

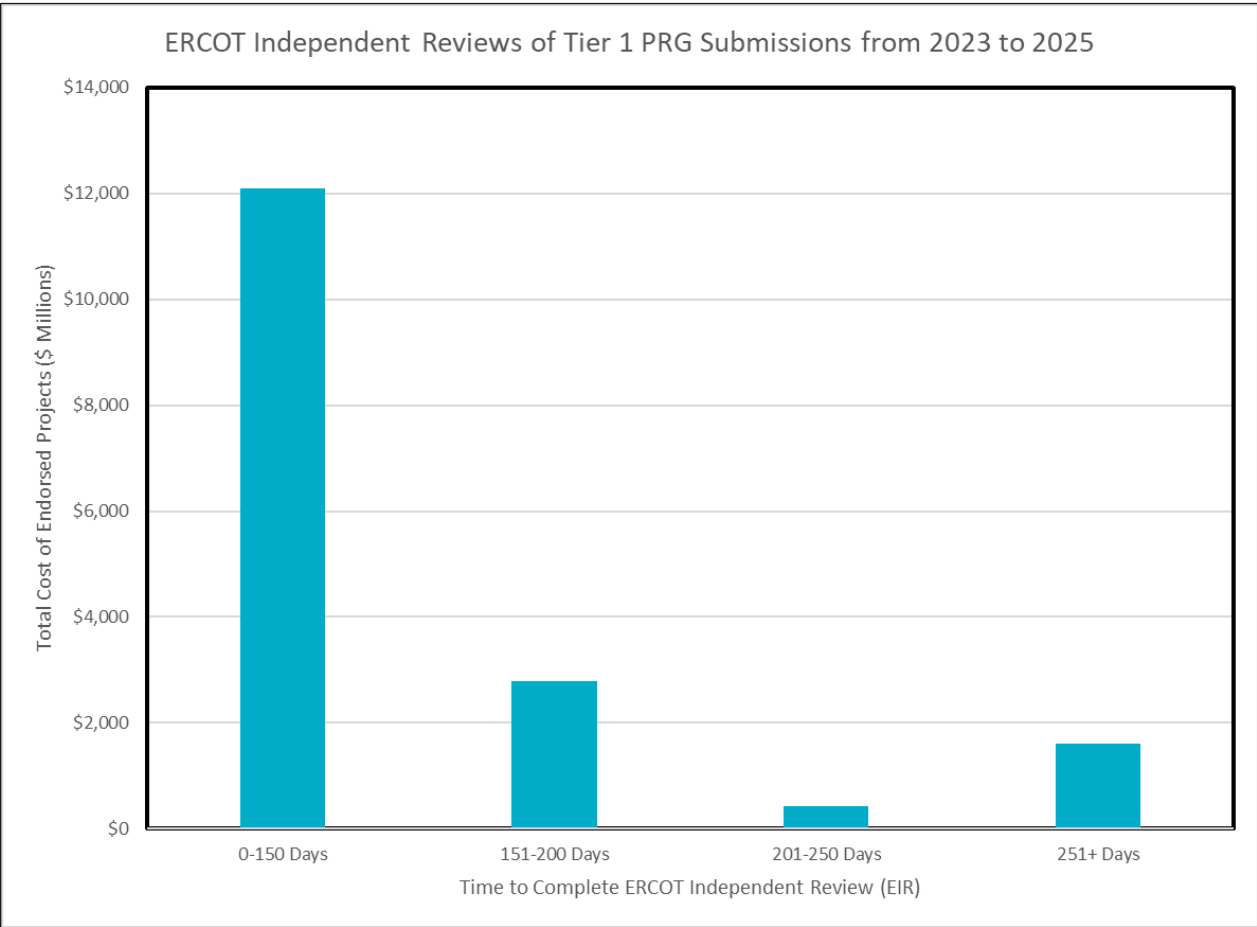


## 2025 ERCOT Independent Review (EIR) Stats:

- Doubled the number of combined Tier 1 and Tier 2 EIRs without an increase in staffing.
- Endorsed 42 RPG submissions totaling approximately \$14.036 Billion compared to \$3.785 Billion in 2024.

**Key Takeaway:** In 2025, ERCOT processed twice the amount of EIRs.

# ERCOT RPG Project Timelines

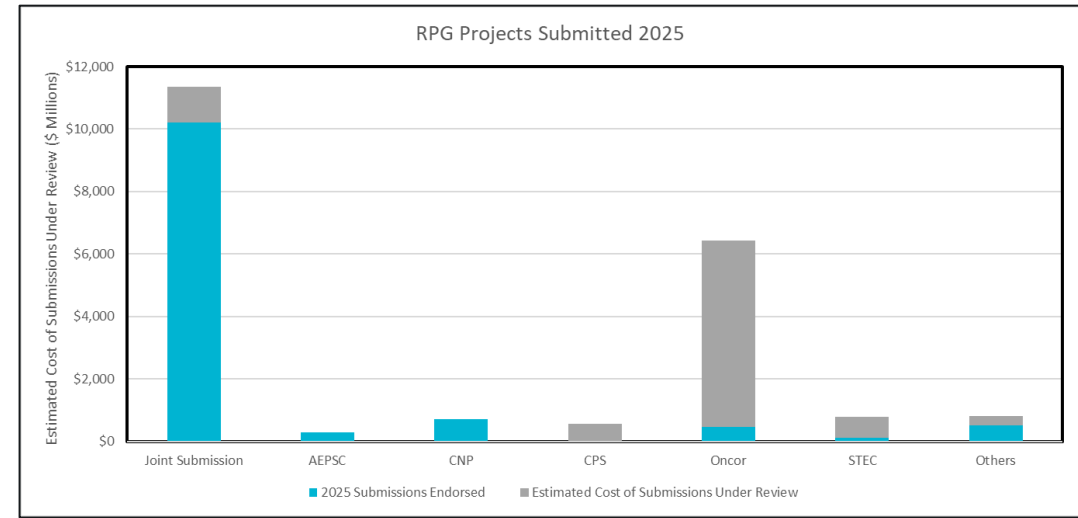
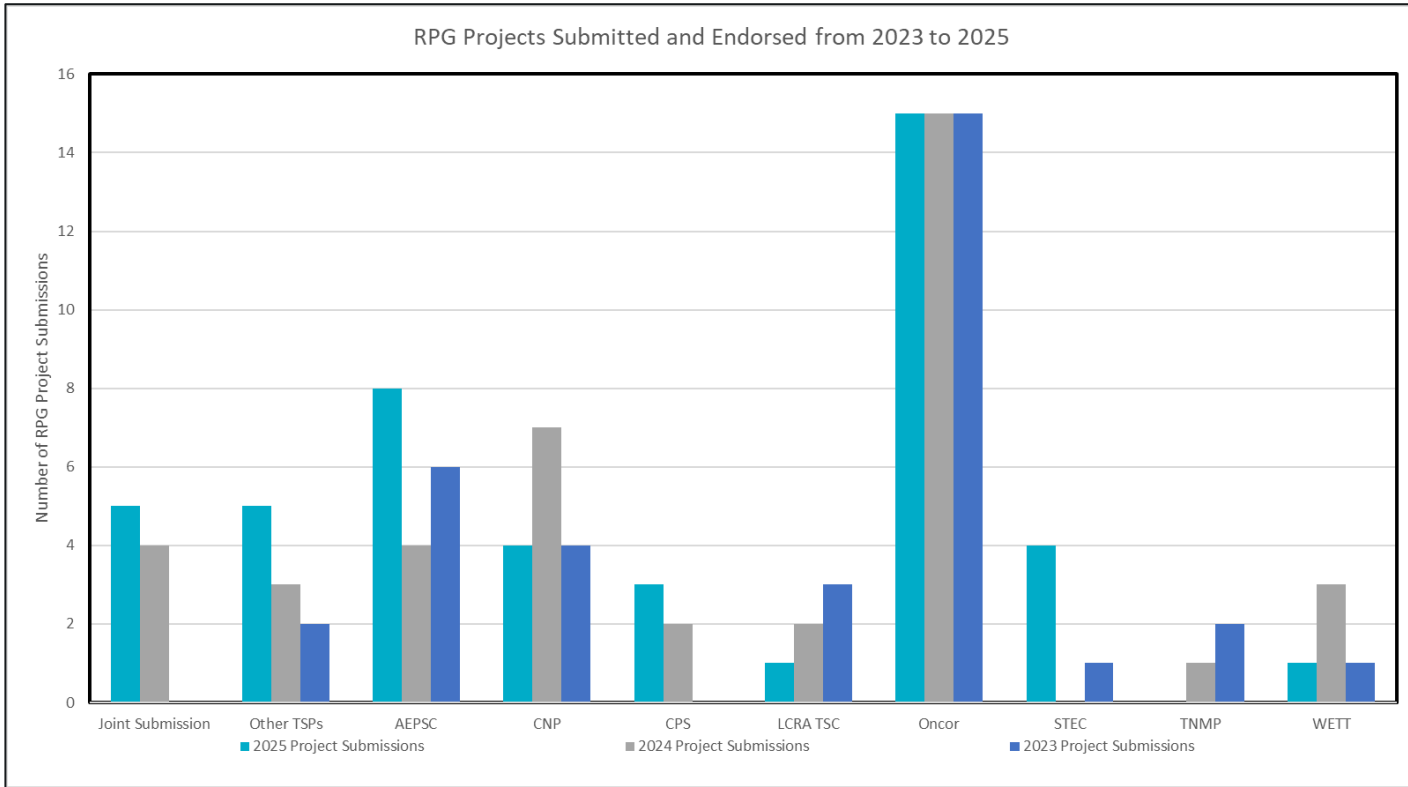


\$12.089 Billion of the \$16.920 Billion in Tier 1 RPG submissions submitted from 2023 to 2025 completed their ERCOT independent reviews in 150 days or less.

\$234.6 Million of the \$682.8 Million in Tier 2 RPG submissions submitted from 2023 to 2025 completed their ERCOT independent reviews in 120 days or less.

**Key Takeaway:** Even with increased volume and complexity of projects, ERCOT has continued to complete timely independent reviews.

# ERCOT RPG Project Summary



**Key Takeaways:** RPG submissions continue to increase in complexity often involving multiple TSPs. ERCOT is on track to exceed the number of RPG submission reviews.

Over \$10.214 Billion in jointly filled RPG submissions were endorsed in 2025.

The first 765-kV RPG submissions were endorsed by the ERCOT Board in 2025.

ERCOT is currently reviewing proposed transmission improvements with a total estimated cost of \$26.520 Billion as of March 31, 2026, including three separate 765-kV RPG submissions.

ERCOT has endorsed \$1.531 Billion in transmission projects in 2026.