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Item 6.1: Update on Comprehensive Transmission Planning

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Board of Directors Meeting

June 1-2, 2026

Purpose

Provide an update on strategic discussions aimed to reimagine the transmission planning process to balance stakeholder needs while maintaining ERCOT's independent review authority.

For information only

No action is requested; for discussion only.

Key Takeaways

- In an environment where generation and large load construction can occur faster than the traditional transmission planning process, we must revisit long standing planning rules to ensure certainty, establish predictable planning cycles, deliver actionable plans and ensure efficiency.
- Utilizing principles established for Batch Zero, ERCOT is proposing to work with Stakeholders to reimagine the planning process for an ongoing integrated comprehensive transmission plan.

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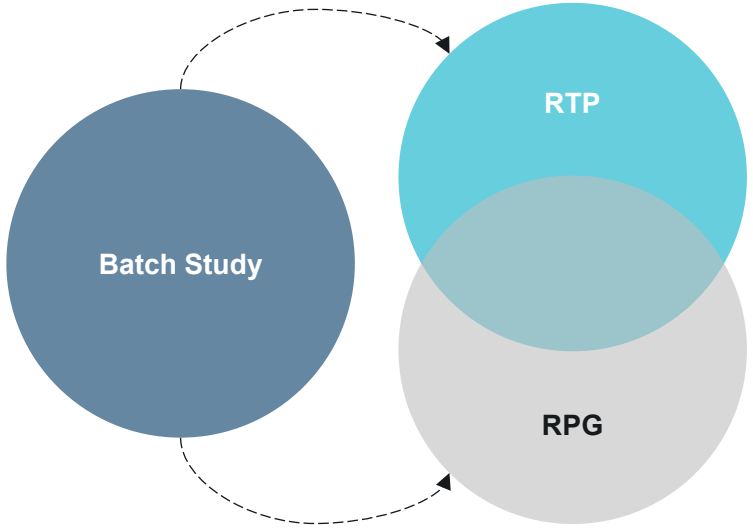
From distinct processes with similar activities and blurred hand-offs…

ILLUSTRATIVE



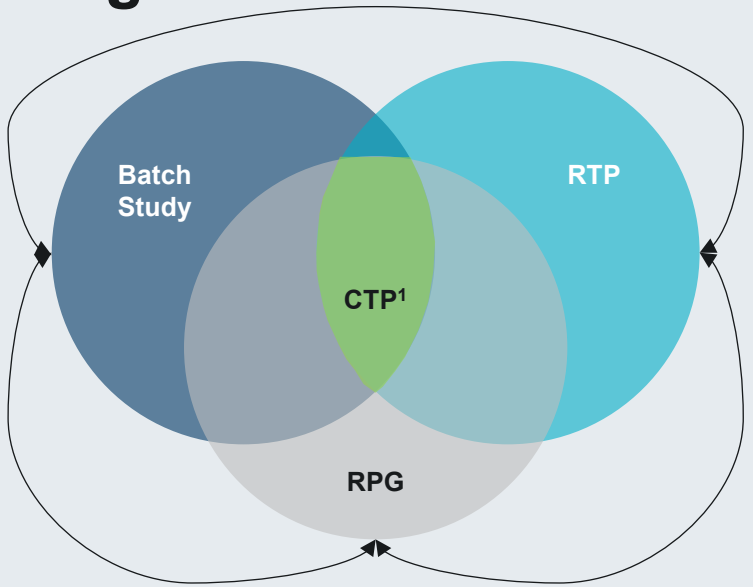
Overlapping analytical activities

Fragmented feedback loops

Gaps in timelines and hand-offs across processes

Partial and out-of-sync study horizons

…to an integrated comprehensive transmission planning framework



Integrated and consistent analytical foundation

Closed-loop process linking planning, validation, and outcomes

Shared milestones and aligned cadence

Comprehensive multi-year planning framework

1. Comprehensive Transmission Plan

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Transmission planning re-imagined: key objectives

Provide certainty	**Provide customers with clear, financeable outcomes** (incl. including MW allocation, ramp profile, and timelines) that can be relied upon for investment and execution decisions
Ensure timeliness	**Establish a predictable, time-bound planning cycle** that reduces delays from restudies and sequential processes while enabling faster and more reliable time to power
Deliver actionable plans	**Generate concrete, buildable transmission plans for TSPs** that fully reflect committed load and provide a clear roadmap for system expansion over time
Ensure efficiency	**Eliminate the risk of duplicative work and fragmented handoffs** by designing Batch, RTP, and RPG as a single coordinated planning process from the outset

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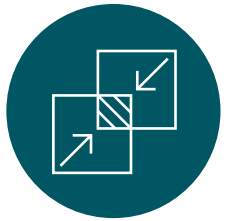
Key challenges in transitioning to Comprehensive Transmission Planning

1

Managing the transition without disrupting in-flight planning

Continue supporting existing RPG, RTP, and TPL obligations and in-flight projects while standing up the new Batch-based planning framework



2

Converge fragmented processes into a unified planning framework

Integrate today's separate planning and interconnection processes into a single coordinated framework with aligned studies, timelines, and outputs

3

Redesign planning processes around Batch as the primary pathway for large loads

Transition from legacy planning mechanisms toward a batch-centric model where Batch Studies become the primary pathway for large-load interconnection and transmission planning

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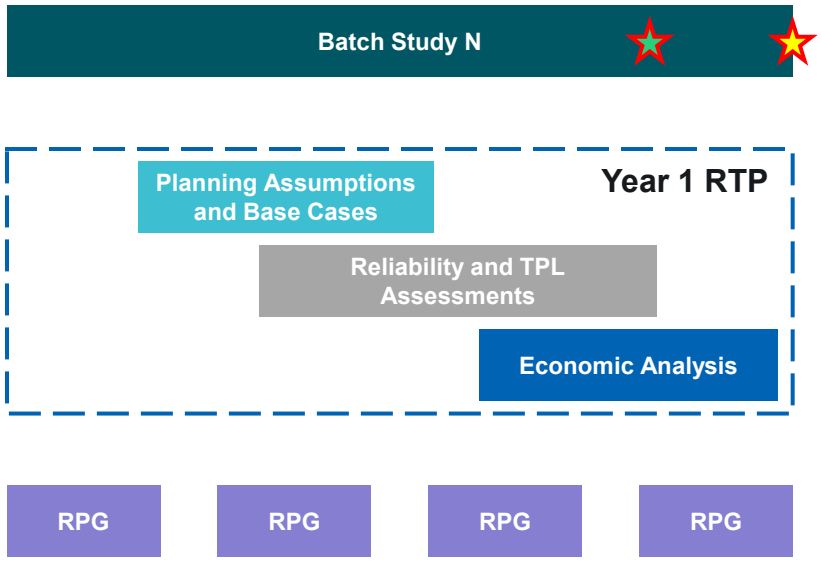
From fragmented annual studies to a staggered coordinated CTP planning framework with annual Batch cadence

Batch Report published

Actionable transmission plan

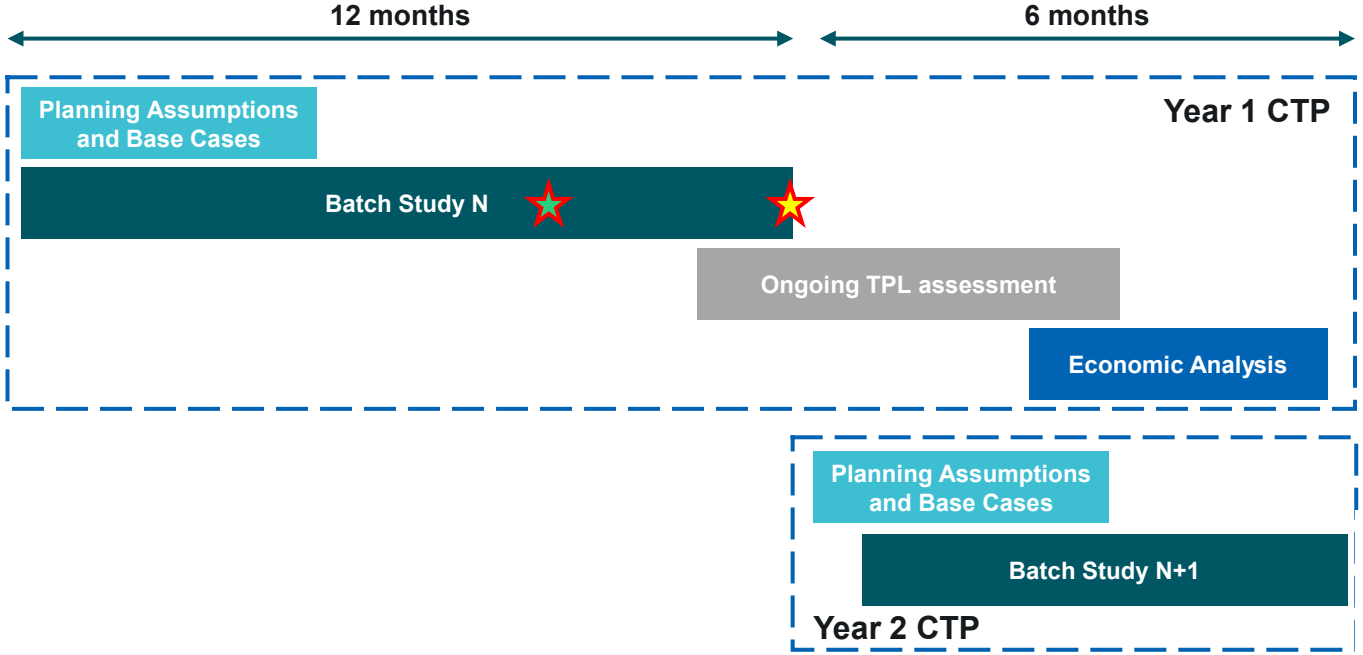
ILLUSTRATIVE AND HIGHLY PRELIMINARY

From a 12-month uncoordinated Planning/Batch cycle…



- **Duplicative and disconnected processes** (e.g., Batch Study and RTP/RPG all running independently with potential duplicative activities such as case building and transmission upgrade identification)
- **Multiple and decoupled processes for large load interconnection** (i.e., Batch Study, RPG)

..to an 18-month coordinated and optimized CTP planning with annual Batch cadence



- **Single integrated planning pathway for large load interconnection**, with RPG focus revisited
- **Coordinated CTP cycle with staggered activities**, enabling annual Batch Studies and annual planning decisions
- **Planning assumptions, Batch Studies, TPL assessments, and economic analysis coordinated within a unified framework**, reducing rework and improving consistency across studies
- **Actionable 5-year transmission plan and annual developer entry points**, ensuring complete project visibility for developers and decreasing pressure for getting into specific batches

Key Takeaway: Initial concept to kick off stakeholder discussion on how to align transmission planning requirements from each of the current distinctive processes into a comprehensive transmission planning process.

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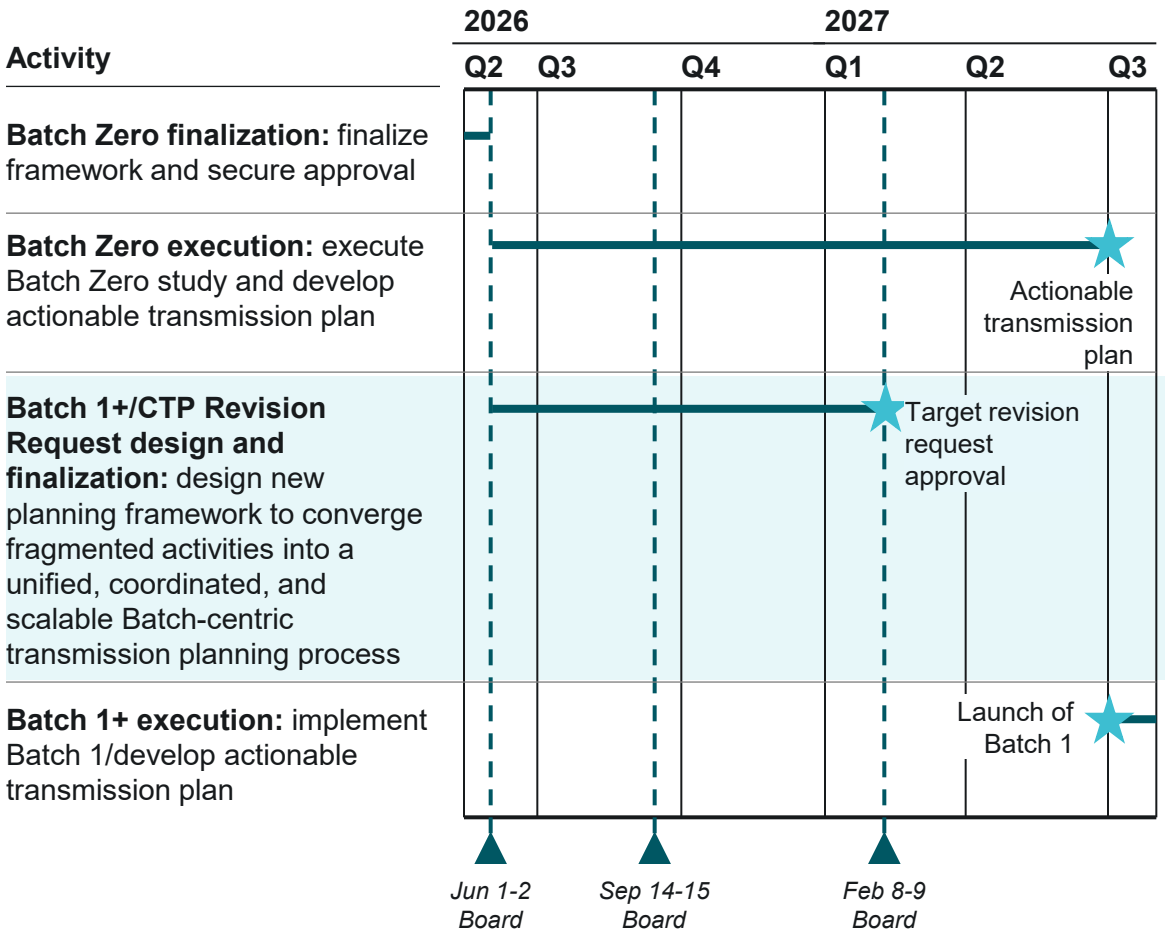
Targeting February Board approval for Batch 1+ framework, with Batch 1 launch targeted immediately following Batch Zero (~June 2027)

ILLUSTRATIVE AND HIGHLY PRELIMINARY

Illustrative roadmap to refine and implement post–Batch Zero CTP framework



Guiding principles for designing CTP

Execute a smooth transition

Continue supporting existing planning obligations, transmission studies, and in-flight projects while standing up the new planning framework

Converge into a unified planning framework

Integrate fragmented planning and interconnection activities into a coordinated ERCOT-wide Batch-centric framework with aligned studies, timelines, and outputs

Incorporate stakeholder feedback and Batch Zero learnings

Refine the long-term CTP framework through stakeholder engagement and implementation learnings emerging from Batch Zero execution

Key Takeaway: ERCOT has developed initial concepts for the post–Batch Zero planning framework and will continue engaging stakeholders throughout 2026 to evolve the planning framework, with target rule consideration by the February ERCOT Board.

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Remaining key initiatives to support Batch process execution and stabilization

NOT EXHAUSTIVE

Macro-area	Initiatives
Finalize and operationalize Batch process execution	• Define study fee structure, queue rollover, and re-study eligibility • Refine treatment of load ramps, in-service date changes, and post-study project modifications • Define treatment of projects seeking additional MWs or future re-entry into Batch Zero studies
Refine reliability, operational, and market design frameworks	• Enhance PCLR and WLPUN frameworks • Address treatment of WLPUN generation changes after commitment periods • Define RUC and telemetry requirements for PUNs
Build supporting governance, transparency, and technology capabilities	• Incorporate PUCT 58481 Rulemaking requirements • Develop the LLI portal, GIS-style reporting, and confidentiality frameworks • Establish ERCOT–ILLE and ERCOT–TSP coordination and communication processes • Standardize forms, reporting, FAQs, and stakeholder coordination mechanisms • Enable additional project-level specifications (e.g., configurable block-size submissions)

Key Takeaway: All initiatives above will require various Revision Requests.