



## Item 8: System Planning and Weatherization Update

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Vice President, System Planning and Weatherization

Board of Directors Meeting

September 14-15, 2026

### Purpose

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

### For information only

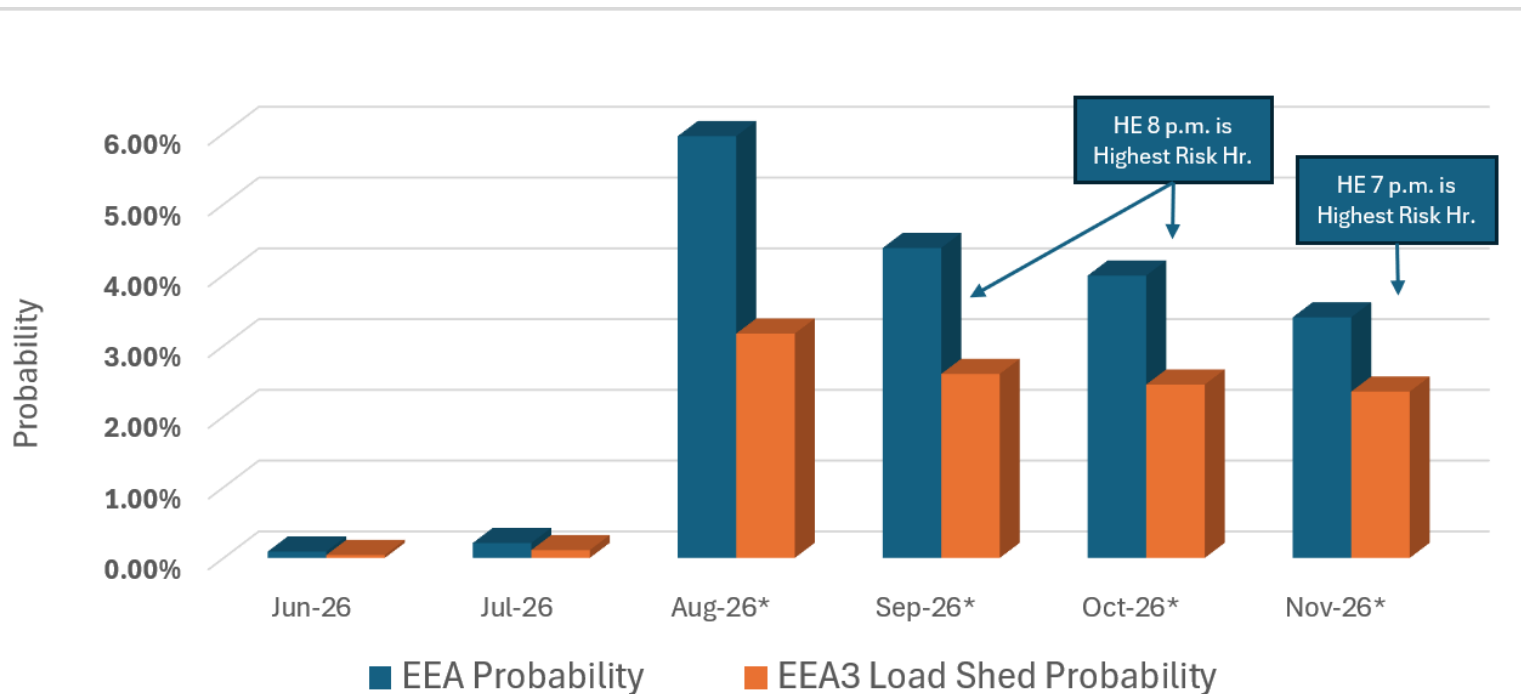
No action is requested; for discussion only.

### Key Takeaways

- Given the delay in the Long-Term Load Forecast, ERCOT Resource Adequacy Reports will be impacted.
- ERCOT is coordinating with Transmission Service Providers to determine whether ERCOT should continue reviewing current Regional Planning Group projects.
- The size and complexity of ERCOT Planning Models has continued to increase.

# Resource Adequacy Reporting Update

## Peak Load Day Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) Risk Trends June - November 2026



\* Jump in August-November EEA probabilities reflect an updated Long-Term Load Forecast prepared in April with more robust economic growth assumptions impacting residential/commercial loads

**Key Takeaway:** The increased EEA risk reported starting in August is due to an updated load forecast, reflecting higher overall growth in commercial/residential loads and more recent historical high-temperature summer trends for forecast model estimation.

A new Long-Term Load Forecast (LTLF) is not expected until mid-to-late December 2026 due to the Commission's approval of ERCOT's Batch Zero Good Cause Exceptions pertaining to Governor Abbott's Large Load directives.

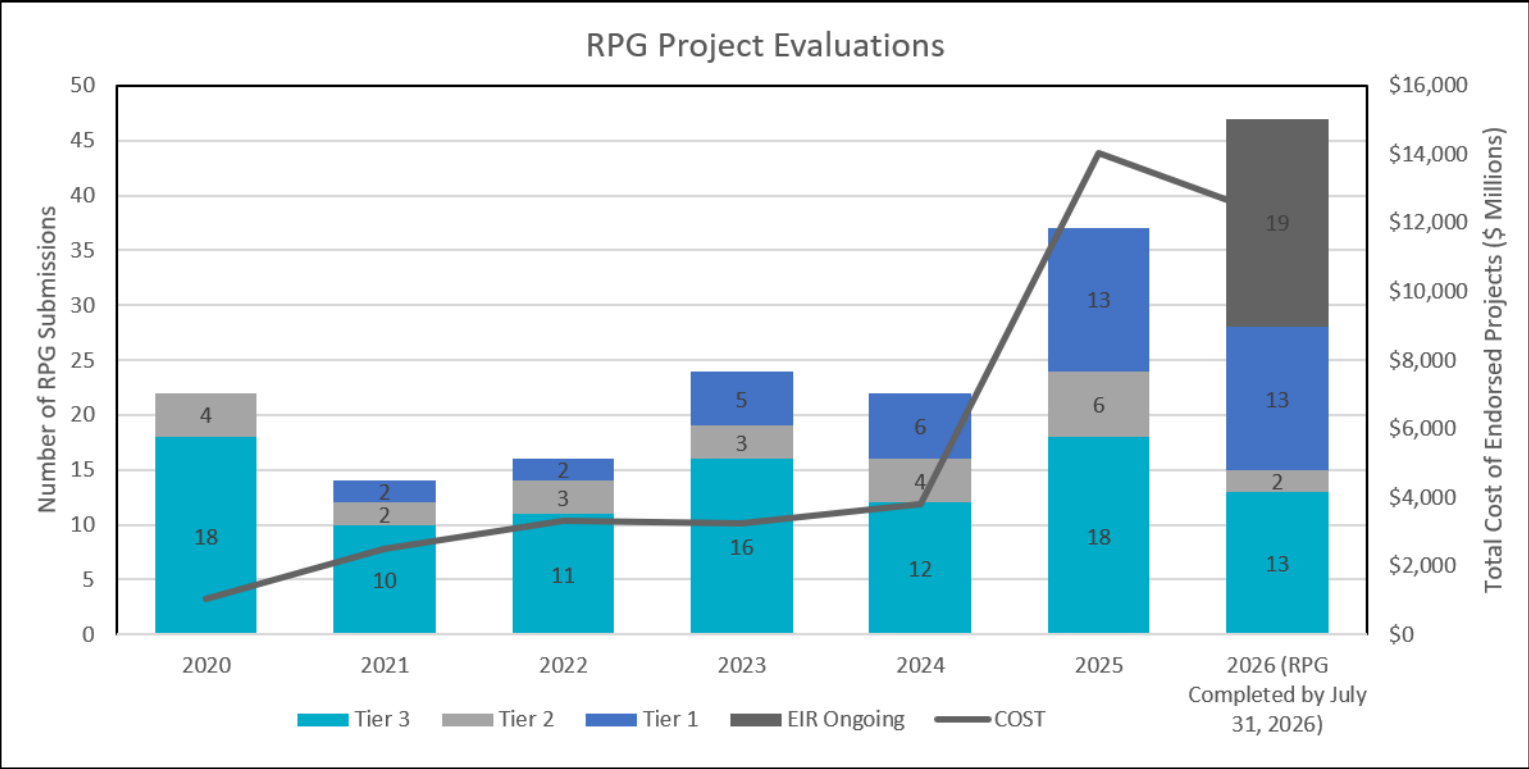
### Capacity, Demand and Reserves (CDR) Report

- The LTLF delay will require ERCOT to push the December CDR publication into early 2027.
- Once schedule is finalized, ERCOT will issue a Market Notice indicating a CDR delay and a new publication date.

### NERC Long-Term Reliability Assessment (LTRA)

- To meet NERC's 2026 LTRA publication deadline, ERCOT submitted a hybrid peak load forecast consisting of the April 2026 base econometric forecast plus ERCOT's TSP-adjusted April 2025 Large Load forecast.
- Due to the Commission-approved delay in completing its Triennial Reliability Assessment (in support of the Reliability Standard), NERC approved the use of its 15% default Reference Margin Level for ERCOT's peak load reliability reporting.

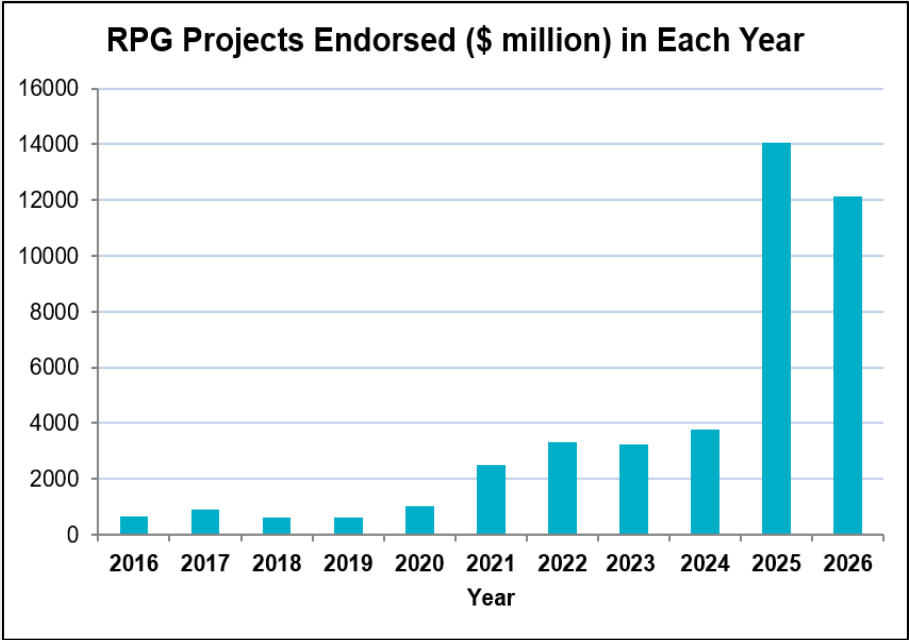
# Transmission Planning Summary



**Key Takeaway:** As the grid has continued to evolve (both types of load and generation), the volume and complexity of RPG evaluations has increased.

As of July 31, 2026, ERCOT has endorsed transmission projects totaling \$12.111 billion.

- Total endorsed transmission projects in:
- 2024 equaled \$3.785 billion
  - 2025 equaled \$14.036 billion



As of July 31, 2026

# Ongoing Regional Planning Group Reviews

- ERCOT is coordinating with TSPs to reconcile the Large Loads that have been included in current RPG submittals with the Large Loads that may be eligible for consideration in Batch Zero studies.
- ERCOT is also evaluating how much of the RPG Large Load would be considered computational vs. non-computational.
- Non-Large Load-dependent RPG projects will continue to move forward in the RPG processes.

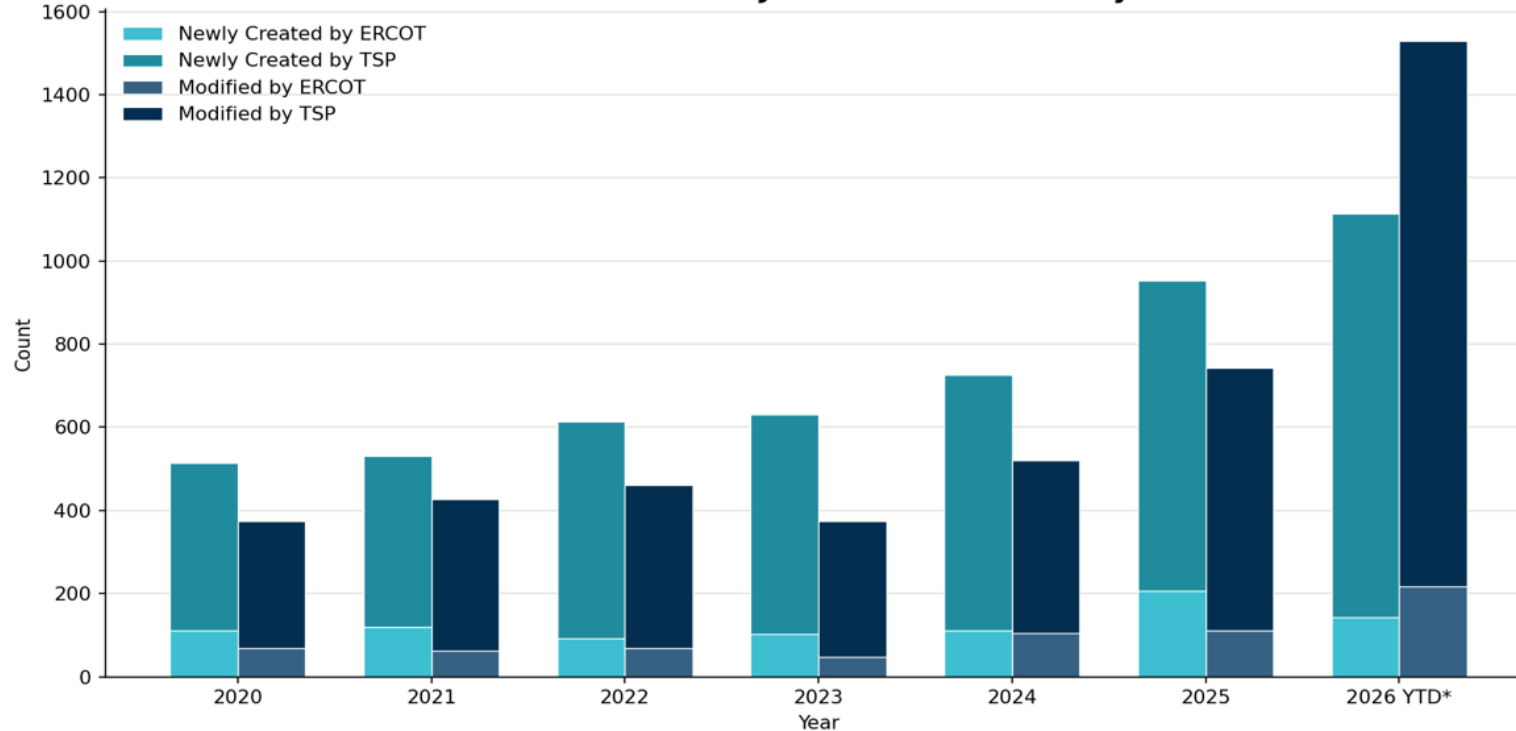
**Key Takeaway:** Findings from the review will help guide ERCOT's decisions on next steps for RPG projects that depend on Large Loads.

## Of the \$22.947 billion of RPG Projects ERCOT is currently reviewing:

- \$21.311 billion is Large Load-dependent and may not move forward depending on the status of the Loads driving project need.
- \$1.637 billion is Non-Large Load-dependent and ERCOT will continue its review.

# Project Submissions to ERCOT's Planning Models

NEW & MODIFIED PROJECTS: ERCOT vs TSP by YEAR



**Key Takeaway:** ERCOT continues to see growth in submissions to its planning models with the yearly project submission rate nearly doubling over the last five years.

- Submissions modify grid topology to support transmission projects and generation additions.
- Newly created projects have increased 85% from 514 in 2020 to 953 in 2025.
- Year to date 2026, 1,114 new projects have been submitted.