Welcome!
Transmission Corridors Work Group
Meeting #6
Day 1: June 8, 2022; 9 AM – 12 PM

Observers: Please join the meeting via Livestream: www.rossstrategic.com/livestream
If you are having technical difficulties, please email Micaela at munda@rossstrategic.com
Public Participation

- Public observers, if you are currently in the Zoom meeting, please log off and listen/watch the meeting via livestream: [www.rossstrategic.com/livestream](http://www.rossstrategic.com/livestream)
- If you wish to provide public comment, please join the Zoom meeting **tomorrow at 10:40 AM**.
- We will share Zoom info at that time (available through livestream)
- Written comments are always welcome via email: [transmissioncorridors@rossstrategic.com](mailto:transmissioncorridors@rossstrategic.com)

If you need technical assistance, please send a Zoom chat to **Micaela Unda or munda@rossstrategic.com**
Welcome and agenda review
Rob Willis, TCWG Facilitator, Ross Strategic
Kathleen Drew, EFSEC
## Today's agenda – Day 1 (June 8)

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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Opening (agenda review, remarks, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 AM</td>
<td>Potential New Principle: 20 Year Transmission Outlook Study</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Potential New Principle: State Coordination to improve competitiveness and focus for Federal Funding</td>
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<td>9:50 AM</td>
<td>Discussion of Potential Additions to Report</td>
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<td>Preview Draft Report and Discussion Process</td>
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<td>Day 1 Wrap-Up</td>
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## Tomorrow’s agenda – Day 2 (June 9)

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Potential New Principle:
20 Year Transmission Outlook Study
Transmission Planning Overview

Washington Transmission Corridors Working Group

June 8, 2022
Who is E3?
Thought Leadership, Fact Based, Trusted.

90+ full-time consultants

30 years of deep expertise

San Francisco
New York
Boston
Calgary

300+ projects per year across our diverse client base

E3 Clients

Recent Examples of E3 Projects

Analyzed economics of long-distance transmission together with offshore wind deployment along the coast of California.

Identify new opportunities to enhance deliverability of clean energy in New York State and collaborated with the developer to assess a 70x30 scenario and potential congestion pockets.

Provided expert witness testimony of the benefits of transmission.

Reviewed planning processes and cost recovery mechanisms for transmission built to facilitate renewable energy development and delivery.

Determined cost-effectiveness of several transmission projects that would increase the capability of delivering wind from Wyoming to major load centers in the West, including to California.
New electricity transmission is a key component of economy-wide decarbonization pathways

Four transmission “use cases” emerge from deep decarbonization literature:

1. **Connection of Remote Renewables**
   - E.g., Great Plains wind to Eastern load centers
   - Hydro from QB to Maritimes, NY, New England
   - Wind from Rockies to West Coast

2. **Load & Resource Diversity**
   - Saskatchewan – Manitoba connects a hydro rich region to a region with good wind and solar potential

3. **Reliability & Grid Strengthening**
   - Transmission between ERCOT and neighboring planning areas help provide reliability
   - Second tie line improves reliability in Maritimes

4. **Electrification**
   - Help serve new electrification loads in constrained load pockets like Puget Sound Basin, Lower Mainland

**Key barriers to inter-regional transmission development are:** (1) need determination, and (2) cost allocation.
Overview of transmission planning in the Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) era

+ Transmission access is governed by FERC tariffs for interconnection and transmission network upgrade requirements
  - Rules are generally designed to protect existing transmission rights holders from encroachment by new uses
  - Transmission interconnection “queue” based on first in time
  - Transmission service request is what triggers new transmission development

+ Regional Transmission Organizations/Independent System Operators (RTOs/ISOs) have the authority to allocate cost of regional transmission to member systems
  - Transmission planning can consider forward-looking needs including for achievement of state policy goals
  - However, “building ahead of need” is difficult and controversial, especially if need is caused by policy in a subset of states

+ Outside of RTOs, utilities recover costs from retail loads subject to state jurisdiction

Current transmission planning process is almost entirely reactive and piecemeal; projects are triggered by service requests rather than forward-looking plans.
Transmission access and planning in many regions is governed by RTOs/ISOs
  • RTOs/ISOs are responsible for planning transmission for their regions
  • Costs are allocated to transmission users according to ISO tariff

Outside of RTOs, transmission planning is mostly state jurisdictional
  • States issue “need determination” certificates and regulate inclusion of transmission into retail rates
  • Federal government, through FERC, only regulates the rates, terms and conditions of wholesale transmission service

Even in RTO regions, transmission siting is and permitting are governed by states
  • States in effect have veto power over regional transmission projects

In the Pacific Northwest, BPA owns most high-voltage transmission
  • BPA is not regulated by FERC but generally follows FERC practice
Established in the early 2000s under FERC Order 890, took on additional regional authorities under Order 1000

US entities are:

- Northern Grid (formerly Columbia Grid and Northern Tier Transmission Group)
- California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
- WestConnect
- WECC develops transmission path ratings and regional scenarios but does not have a formal transmission planning role

Regional entities conduct studies of regional impacts of transmission lines proposed by members

Regional entities do not do independent, proactive, forward-looking transmission planning and do not have authority to allocate costs of new transmission projects to unwilling recipients.
Most of the high voltage transmission in the Northwest is owned and operated by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

- BPA is a Federal Power Marketing Authority under the United States Department of Energy
- BPA serves some of the same functions as a regional transmission entity but cannot serve the needs of all IOUs (PSE, PGE, Avista, PacifiCorp) and POUs (Seattle, Tacoma, Chelan, Douglas, Grant) own some transmission mostly in and near their load areas

Each utility carries out its own transmission planning process based on the needs of its own customers

- Most are also dependent on BPA for some of their transmission needs

BPA plans most high-voltage transmission projects in the region but has limited authority to plan and build ahead of need.
As a single-state ISO, CAISO has a clearer line of sight to plan transmission for state policy needs.

Policy needs are based primarily on renewable build-outs from CPUC IRP process.

**Reliability Assessment**
- Steady state contingency analysis
  - Test system robustness against contingencies
- Stability analysis
  - Test impact of disturbances on the system
- Develop mitigation plans
- Base portfolio studied
- All resources (EO and FCDS) studied

**Policy-Driven Assessment**
- Peak Deliverability Assessment
  - Examine transmission capability for the deliverability of FCDS resources that can count towards resource adequacy
- Base and sensitivity portfolios studied
- Only FCDS resources studied

- Off-Peak Deliverability Assessment
  - Identifies transmission limitations that cause excessive renewable curtailment
  - Base portfolio studied
  - All resources (EO and FCDS) studied

**Economic Assessment**
- Production Cost Simulation
  - Identify renewable curtailment and transmission congestion
- Develop mitigation plans
  - Quantify their economic benefits
  - Determine high priority projects to be studied
- Base and sensitivity portfolios studied
- All resources (EO and FCDS) studied

*Identify constraints that need to be modeled in production cost simulations

*Sourced from CAISO’s 2022/2023 Final Study Plan. See pp. 9-66
CAISO introduced its first ever 20-year transmission outlook assessment in 2021 and released the draft in March 2022.

- “Dry run” aimed at early identification of long-term transmission needs

Resource buildout based on CEC’s SB 100 resource portfolio with 10 GW of offshore and 12 GW of out of state wind

- The study also increased gas power plant retirements to 15 GW vs the final study plan’s 1GW
- Study assumptions already somewhat outdated

Total price tag for transmission development identified is estimated at $30.5 B

- Process for projects to come up for formal approval unclear

CAISO 20-year plan is an interesting early look at long-term needs, but process for moving real projects is unclear.
1. Multi-state transmission planning requires cooperation from multiple states

2. There is currently no entity in the Northwest that can effectively do long term, forward-looking, regional transmission planning

3. A multi-state RTO can help but even RTOs struggle with long-term planning and transmission cost sharing will be a controversial aspect of RTO formation

4. Informal coordination among states, utilities, BPA, and other stakeholders might be the best avenue for advancing promising transmission projects in the near term
Thank you!

Arne Olson, Senior Partner (arne@ethree.com)
State Coordination for Federal Transmission Funding
Leveraging IIJA and Federal Funding for State Clean Energy Priorities

Sarah Vorpahl
MANAGER, FEDERAL ENERGY POLICY AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

06/08/2022
We strengthen communities
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- AKA, “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law”, IIJA, BIL
- Passed November 6th, 2021
- Historic investment in nation’s core infrastructure priorities—including roads and bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, the electric grid, water systems, and broadband
- Includes rural infrastructure development and dedicated new funds for major projects
$550 billion in new investments

Of the $973 billion total over five years, $550 billion is for new investments:

- **Transportation**: $284 billion
- **Water**: $55 billion
- **Broadband**: $65 billion
- **Energy & Power**: $73 billion
- **Environmental remediation**: $21 billion
- **Resiliency**: $46 billion
- **Western water infrastructure**: $8.3 billion
Coordination Process
Strategy for Federal Funding

Identify Federal Funding Opportunity

Internal Agency Analysis
- Identify agency priorities
  - Existing strategic plans and targets
  - Alignment with state programs

Equity Analysis
- Support community priorities and environmental justice
  - HEAL act requirements
  - Justice 40

Tribal Outreach
- Ensure Tribal entities are included in program design and outcome analysis

Put together the teams!
- Support RFIs/application (planning)
  - Identify eligible entities
  - Define agency roles
- Align with...
An Overview of Current Opportunities

**Funding Opportunity Award (FOA)**
- *new* 5/31: I2X launch (Interconnection and Innovation Exchange)
- Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and Second-Life Applications Program
- Battery Material Processing Grants
- Battery Manufacturing and Recycling Grants
- Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience (RACER) funding opportunity

**Projects:** Response Due Date: June 16, 2022

**Requests for Information (RFI)**
- Energy Storage Demonstration and Pilot Grants and Long-Duration Energy Storage Demonstration Initiative and Joint Program: Response Due Date: June 16, 2022
- Transmission Facilitation Program: Response Due Date: June 13, 2022

**Notices of Intent (NOI)**
- Transmission Facilitation Program: Response Due Date: June 13, 2022
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Regional Direct Air Capture (DAC) Hubs (Section 40308)
- Carbon Storage Validation and Testing (CarbonSAFE)
- Battery Material Processing Grants
- Battery Manufacturing and Recycling Grants
- Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and Second-Life Applications
- Building a Better Grid Initiative To Upgrade and Expand the Nation's Electric Transmission Grid To Support Resilience, Reliability, and Decarbonization
Federal Transmission Program
Building a Better Grid

Engagement and collaboration
- States
- Tribal nations
- Stakeholders

Enhanced transmission planning
- Transmission Needs Study
- National Transmission Planning Study
- Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study

Federal financing tools ($20+B)
- Transmission Facilitation Program ($2.5B)
- Smart Grid Investment Grant Program ($3B)
- Grid resilience grants for states, Tribes, and utilities ($10+B)
- Loan guarantee programs
  - WAPA Transmission Infrastructure Program ($3+B)
  - Loan Programs Office

Transmission permitting process
- Streamline of permitting with federal agencies
- Public private partnerships
- Designation of corridors

Transmission-related R&D
- “Next generation” electricity delivery technologies
- Supporting activities
Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP): Overview

- Section 40106 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), codified at 42 U.S.C. §18713

- TFP is funded through a $2.5B revolving fund to facilitate the construction of electric power transmission lines and related facilities

- Legislation allows DOE to engage with **eligible entities** through:
  - **Capacity Contracts** to buy up to 50% of planned eligible project *commercial* capacity for up to 40 years
  - **Public Private Partnerships**, where DOE participates in designing, owning, developing, maintaining or owning an eligible project
  - **Loans** to carry out eligible projects
TFP: How

**Three Tools Available to DOE**

1. **Capacity Contracts**: DOE can serve as “anchor tenant” on new and upgraded transmission lines, by buying up to 50% of the planned commercial capacity of lines for a term of up to 40 years.

2. **Loans**: DOE can make loans at fixed rate, considering current market conditions.

3. **Public-Private Partnerships**: DOE can participate with an eligible entity in designing, developing, constructing, operating, maintaining, or owning an eligible project, as long as that project is either:
   - Within a national interest electric transmission corridor
   - Necessary to accommodate an increase in electricity demand across more than one State or transmission planning region
Capacity Contract Framework

- DOE can serve as "anchor tenant" on new and upgraded transmission lines:
  - Buy up to 50% of the total proposed transmission capacity for terms up to 40 years
  - Contract with 3rd party to market the capacity, seeking to maximize return to Federal Government
  - Sell the capacity contract to recover remaining costs incurred once the project’s long-term financial viability is secured

- TFP Capacity Contract:
  - Represents the contractual right to schedule and use transmission service for the term of the agreement
  - Contract form should ensure marketability of DOE's interest to enable DOE to rapidly recycle funding for additional projects
  - Payment for service will begin once transmission line is in commercial operation
TFP: Who

- **Eligible entity:** *an entity seeking to carry out an eligible project*

- Entities eligible to apply for support from the TFP include:
  - Investor-owned utilities
  - Community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities
  - Independent transmission project developers
  - States, Tribes, or other governmental entities
Eligible projects must include either:

- **Construction** of a new or replacement transmission line of **at least 1,000 megawatts**;
- **Upgrade** of an existing transmission line or construction of a new transmission line in an existing transmission, transportation, or telecommunication infrastructure corridor of **at least 500 megawatts**; or
- **Connection** of an isolated microgrid to an existing transmission, transportation, or telecommunications infrastructure corridor located in Alaska, Hawaii, or a U.S. territory.
When considering TFP applications, DOE must prioritize projects that:

- Use **technology** that enhances the capacity, efficiency, resilience, or reliability of an electric power transmission system, including the use of advanced technology;
- Improve the **resilience and reliability** of an electric power transmission system;
- Facilitate **interregional transfer capacity** that supports strong and equitable economic growth; and
- Contribute to national or subnational goals to **lower electricity sector greenhouse gas emissions**.
Equity and Labor requirements

- Community engagement: Projects will include Equity, Environmental and Energy Justice principles and priorities.
  - consideration of existing barriers underserved and underrepresented individuals and communities face when accessing Federal resources
- Environmental and energy justice principles include procedural justice, distributive justice, recognition justice, and restorative justice (including Justice40)
- Support creation of good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union, the incorporation of strong labor standards, and high-road workforce development, especially registered apprenticeship and quality pre-apprenticeship
TFP: When

- DOE is planning a phased approach for TFP solicitations, starting in 2022 and expanding in 2023
- The first solicitation would be limited to requests for Capacity Contracts for projects that can be completed by December 31, 2027

Phase 1: Capacity Contracts

Phase 2: Capacity Contracts, Loans and Public-Private Partnerships
Stakeholder Feedback Requested

Requests for Information (RFI) seek input on several topics, including:

- The sequencing of the TFP solicitations, i.e., focusing first solicitation on Capacity Contracts
- The ongoing process for receiving and reviewing TFP applications
- The information that will be required of TFP applicants and the due diligence process applicants will participate in with DOE
- How DOE will measure the benefits of proposed projects (especially the priorities of using new technology, improving resilience and reliability, facilitating increased interregional power transfer, and contributing to greenhouse gas reduction)
- The form of capacity contracts and agreements to remarket DOE’s interest in projects facilitated by TFP.

RFI Responses due on June 13, 2022
TFP: Next Steps

- May 26: Public webinar (recording + FAQs to be posted at Transmission Facilitation Program | Department of Energy)

- June 13, 2022: RFI comments due

- August 2022: Technical Conference on Capacity Contracts

- September 2022 (tentative date): Release Phase 1 solicitation (Capacity Contracts only)
Questions I have!

• Who is planning to submit an RFI response?
• Who is considering a project for the first phase of this program?
• Who is the point person/entity in the state for coordination?
• What is the opportunity for Washington with the TFP?
• What planning needs to happen in advance of future applications?
• How does the state ensure Tribal entities are involved early and consulted often?
• How do we ensure an equitable and transparent process?
Future Work for Washington

- Appoint a transmission planning lead for the state
- Develop a Transmission Planning road map
  - PJM Regional Transmission Expansion Plan (RTEP):
    - Transmission build-out scenario studies, targeted reliability studies interconnection process reform, generator deliverability methodology enhancement, the development of Effective Load Carrying Capability methodology and the implementation of probabilistic planning techniques
  - CAISO 20 year Transmission Outlook
    - a “starting point”: forecasted 2040 peak load minus forecasted BTM resources and then factored in a projected reduction of 15,000 MW of natural gas-fired generation to create geographically located resource targets
- Follow recent FERC NOPR on Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation
Thank you!

Sarah Vorpahl, Ph.D.
MANAGER, FEDERAL ENERGY POLICY AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
Sarah.Vorpahl@commerce.wa.gov
360-688-6000
Potential Additions to the Draft Report
Facilitation Team
Existing Principles that are related

Expand regional planning coordination. Strengthen regional interstate and international utility coordination to ensure effective and coordinated transmission planning.

Continue to explore creation of a regional transmission organization (RTO) that would allow efficient dispatch of least-cost resources given transmission constraints. Coordinating operations of the transmission system would create system efficiencies, and help identify grid-critical transmission investments/projects.
Preview Draft Report and Discussion Process
Facilitation Team
Break

TCWG: Drop areas of clarification/focus for discussion into the chat during the break.

Please return at 11:10 AM
Draft Report Discussion
Day 1 Wrap Up
Day 2 Preview
Closing remarks
Adjourn
Thank you – see you 9:00 AM tomorrow!
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Kathleen Drew, EFSEC
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Opening Remarks
Kathleen Drew, EFSEC, TCWG Chair
Final Changes and Next Steps
Geographic Needs and Considerations

- North-South, along the I-5 corridor (bringing in wind and solar from Eastern Washington, abundant wind power from Montana and Wyoming, solar from California and the Southwest, plus possible hydro resources from Canada)
- Off-shore to I-5 corridor (for projected off-shore wind development as noted in the Washington State Energy Strategy).
Overarching Principles

Original
Properly fund Tribes, DAHP, and other state and local agencies providing essential project review. The increased and accelerated workload required to expedite transmission system improvements must be properly funded and staffed to ensure expectations and requirements for regulatory, environmental, and cultural reviews are met during all phases of transmission system development.

Proposed
Properly fund or provide authorization to receive funding to tribes and federal, state and local agencies providing essential project review (e.g., EFSEC, DAHP). The increased and accelerated workload required to expedite transmission system improvements must be properly funded and/or authorized by the WA State Legislature and the US Congress and staffed to ensure expectations and requirements for regulatory, environmental, and cultural reviews are met during all phases of transmission system development.
Interregional transmission capacity is key in enabliing Washington, as well as other states, to build a diverse portfolio of clean and reliable electricity resources. A robust, interregional bulk power transmission network is necessary for achieving Washington’s climate, energy, and economic objectives. Enhanced transmission capacity and diversity across the West, including Canadian provinces, will allow Washington’s utilities to provide more clean and reliable electricity at a lower cost (diversity of resources enables selection of lower cost resources in real-time.)
Original

Site new generation near load where feasible. Siting new generation near the load, where feasible, will help to minimize the need for transmission build-out. However, when new generation is not feasible to site close to load centers due to lack of resources, land use, tree cover, or other significant obstacles, new or upgraded transmission will be critical to bring generation to where it is needed.

Proposed

Pursue practicable and cost-effective opportunities to site new generation near load and existing transmission. Siting new generation near the load, where practicable and cost-effective, will help to minimize the need for transmission build-out. Such siting considerations must also recognize that these opportunities are limited by location-specific differences in performance of renewable generating facilities (such as wind in the Rocky Mountains and offshore or solar in the inland West) and the health, environmental and cultural impacts of operating power plants located near population centers or sensitive habitat are potentially greater and the costs are likely higher.
Original

Expand regional planning coordination. Strengthen regional interstate and international utility coordination to ensure effective and coordinated transmission planning.

Proposed

Establish transmission planning practices that include proactive, long-term, interregional assessments on a regular basis. Washington, as well as other states, needs a better assessment of the transmission requirements to support its clean energy transformation. A 20-year transmission plan should reflect the quantity and location of new clean energy resource requirements and the expanded demand for electricity in transportation, industry, and buildings. A multi-state approach using existing planning organizations is preferred.
Continue to explore creation of a regional transmission organization (RTO) that would allow efficient dispatch of least-cost resources given transmission constraints. Coordinating operations of the transmission system would create system efficiencies and help identify grid-critical transmission investments/projects.

Proposed
Continue to explore creation of a regional transmission organization (RTO) and expanded participation in regional markets that would allow efficient dispatch of least-cost resources given transmission and other constraints. Coordinating operations of the transmission system would create system efficiencies and help identify grid-critical transmission investments. Exploration should focus on documenting the regionally-specific costs and benefits of an RTO, challenges and opportunities, and the intersection points with Washington and Oregon clean energy policies and goals.
Explore opportunities to use transportation rights-of-way. Transportation rights-of-way may present opportunities for co-locating new transmission lines. It is important to consider the interplay of uses and transportation sustainability goals when co-locating transmission lines in transportation rights-of-way.

Proposed

Explore opportunities to use transportation rights-of-way for co-locating new transmission lines. It is important to consider the interplay of uses, transportation sustainability goals, and construction policies like “dig once”* when co-locating transmission lines in transportation rights-of-way.

*Dig once is a recommended implementation policy from the December 2021 Washington State Joint Transportation Committee Broadband Access to State Highway Right-of-Way study.
New Principles in Section E

Designate a lead within Washington State government responsible for coordinating participation in transmission development activities and long-term transmission planning. This will help meet 2019 CETA requirements and to leverage federal funding by playing a role in regional transmission planning.

Leverage opportunities to access federal funding for transmission development and grid enhancement. Several Federal programs, include many led by DOE related to BIL exist to encourage transmission development and help to build the electricity grid of the future. Developers of large-scale transmission projects (including BPA and the regulated utilities) should work together with the state of Washington, local, and Tribal governments to participate in these programs if possible.
Original

1. Align and coordinate analysis methodologies within and across NEPA and SEPA during project planning. Coordinate in advance on methodologies for analysis when NEPA and SEPA are involved in transmission projects to avoid duplicative and unnecessary time-consuming work.

Proposed

1. Align and coordinate process, timing, and analysis methodologies within and across NEPA (and other federal laws), and SEPA during project planning. Achieve efficiencies by combining NEPA and SEPA processes, where feasible. Coordinate in advance on methodologies for analysis when NEPA and SEPA are involved in transmission projects to avoid duplicative and unnecessary time-consuming work.
Round Robin

For those wishing to provide public comment at 10:40 AM:

- Log into the Zoom meeting at 10:40 AM by typing this address into your browser: [https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604103551](https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604103551)
- You can also join by phone:
  Phone number: (669) 254 5252
  Meeting ID: 160 410 3551
Break

Please return at 10:42 AM

For those wishing to provide public comment at 10:42 AM:

• Log into the Zoom meeting at 10:41 AM by typing this address into your browser: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604103551
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Public Comment Opportunity
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What comes next?
Looking Forward and Wrap Up
Closing remarks
Thank you!

Please direct group member questions and public comments to:
transmissioncorridors@rossstrategic.com