



Coordinated Interagency Transmission Authorizations and Permits Program

The Coordinated Interagency Transmission Authorizations and Permits (CITAP) Program implements **Section 216(h) of the Federal Power Act** and **2023 Memorandum of Understanding**, which establishes DOE as the lead agency for federal environmental reviews of qualified interstate electric transmission projects. Administered by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Electricity (OE) and maintained by the National Laboratory of the Rockies, CITAP establishes DOE as the lead agency to coordinate and accelerate federal environmental reviews and permitting processes for qualifying electric transmission facilities, which makes these processes more efficient and effective without sacrificing review quality.

Standard Schedule Overview

The standard schedule is a template that aligns Federal environmental reviews and authorizations into a two-year timeline that begins with a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Each CITAP project schedule includes binding milestones and requirements tailored to its scope and location. This process also involves a robust analysis of project impacts and early, meaningful consultation with potentially affected Tribal Nations, communities, and other stakeholders.

Integrated Interagency Preapplication (IIP) Process Overview

A key mechanism to facilitate the two-year standard schedule timeline is the **IIP** process, which project proponents lead, DOE coordinates, and includes all relevant Federal and non-Federal entities reviewing and potentially authorizing the qualifying project.

Proponents initiate it by first, **submitting an Initiation Request to DOE**, which then disseminates that request to relevant Federal agencies and **decides within 20 days** whether the project meets the requirements to proceed. If admitted to the CITAP Program, proponents will proceed with the IIP Process, which follows an important three-meeting structure: an **Initiation Meeting**, a **Review Meeting**, and a **Close-Out Meeting**.

During the IIP phase, proponents work iteratively with DOE and other Federal agencies to gather the information necessary to comply with Federal permitting reviews (e.g., Endangered Species Act [ESA] Section 7 and/or Marine Mammal Protection Act, National Historic Preservation Act [NHPA] Section 106,) and necessary authorizations (e.g., 10 Rivers and Harbors Act [RHA] and/or Section 404 Clean Water Act [CWA]). At the close-out of each IIP Process, DOE coordinates with the proponent and other Federal agencies to determine a project-specific schedule

Key Aspects of the CITAP Program



Single point of Federal entry for the most complicated transmission projects.



Pre-Application process via online portal.



Requires submission of 13 Resource Reports prior to NEPA.



Environmental review will follow two-year schedule.

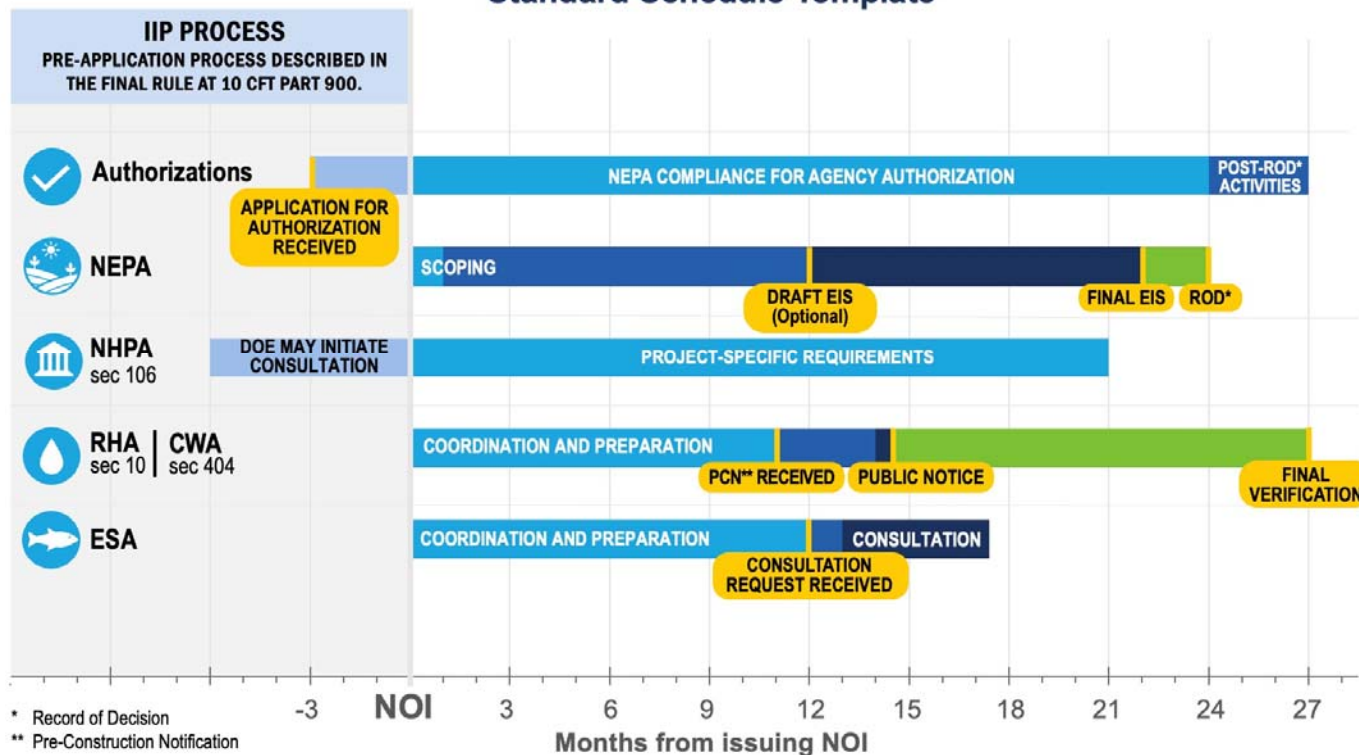
that draws from the standard schedule template, proponent data, and information gathered through the IIP process. The proponent largely controls the IIP timeline, and thus, the timeline will vary based on the proponent's preparation, responsiveness to feedback from the relevant agencies, and the overall project readiness.

After the IIP Process has concluded, **within 90 days**, DOE will issue an NOI and formally begin the environmental review process.

Benefits of CITAP and DOE's Approach

- DOE as single lead authority for high-voltage, interstate transmission projects.
- Mandatory, legally binding two-year timeline.
- DOE-run Integrated Interagency Pre-Application coordination.
- One National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document for all agencies.
- DOE-operated federal permitting portal.
- No cost recovery for DOE for processing CITAP projects.
- A presidential appeal mechanism if another agency fails to adhere to the timeline.

Standard Schedule Template



About the Office of Electricity

The Office of Electricity (OE) leads DOE efforts to stabilize, optimize, and grow the electricity system, ensuring every American home and business has reliable access to affordable and secure energy. Working closely with industry and other stakeholders, the office drives technological and operational advancements to power the U.S. on a pathway of prosperity, national security, and energy dominance. Through cutting-edge research, system-level analyses, and strong partnerships, OE is strengthening and transforming the nation's electricity delivery system to reliably serve homes, businesses, and communities today and to meet tomorrow's challenges.