

Cooperation Among States in the Eastern Interconnection on Electric Resource Planning and Priorities

The awardee must complete the following at a minimum:

1. Identify Eastern Energy Zones of particular interest for low- or no-carbon electricity generation (e.g., renewable-rich areas with suitable topographic and other characteristics for either variable or baseload generation, including non-terrestrial areas particularly suited to offshore wind and ocean power technologies, areas with geology or other characteristics particularly suited to carbon capture and sequestration (CCS), or areas otherwise particularly suited to other forms of low- or no-carbon electricity generation). The awardee is expected to allow for regional diversity and determine how the identification of Eastern Energy Zones could best serve the collective interests of the affected states.
2. Propose studies on key issues related to reliable integration of variable renewables into the Eastern Interconnection, studies on availability of baseload renewables and other low-carbon resources, as well as any other studies needed to better enable member state participation in regional and interconnection-wide analyses and planning.
3. Develop other inputs as needed to go into the interconnection-level analyses prepared under Topic A.
4. Provide insight into the economic and environmental implications of the alternative electricity supply futures and their associated transmission requirements developed for the Eastern Interconnection under Topic A.
5. Demonstrate (and develop if necessary), a process for reaching decisions and consensus appropriate for an interconnection-wide entity representing all of the States and Provinces in the Eastern Interconnection so as to participate in the development and updating of the long-term interconnection-level plan under Topic A. This process shall be open to all relevant technologies and afford ample opportunity for participation by state governors, provincial ministers, their designees, and state or provincial utility regulatory officials.