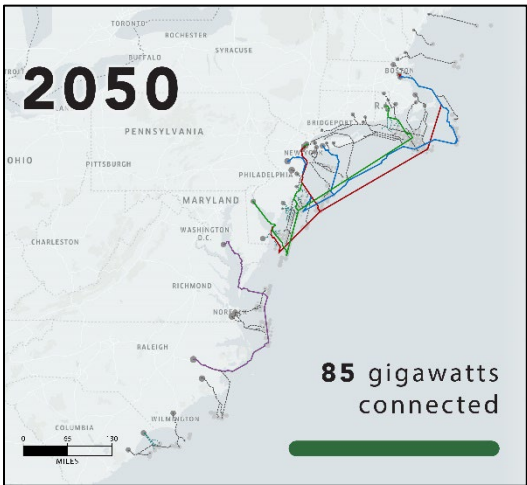


Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Action Plan

In September 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)’s Grid Deployment Office (GDO) and U.S. Department of the Interior’s (DOI) Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) released an interim publication of An Action Plan for Offshore Wind Transmission Development in the U.S. Atlantic Region (Action Plan) that identifies immediate actions needed to connect the first generation of Atlantic offshore wind projects to the electric grid, as well as longer-term efforts to increase transmission over the next several decades as offshore wind expands.



Potential offshore wind transmission development by 2050.

The Action Plan details how clean, reliable power from wind resources could efficiently be captured off the Atlantic Coast of the United States and delivered to communities. It also provides recommendations to federal, state, and local governments, as well as industry, to address offshore wind transmission development challenges to help meet the Biden-Harris Administration’s goal to deploy 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030.

Preliminary analysis from the DOE’s [Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study](#) identified that proactive and coordinated interregional transmission planning is urgently needed to connect to the grid large volumes of offshore wind along the Atlantic Coast over the next several decades. There is a unique opportunity to use interregional transmission links to reduce electricity production costs and bolster reliability and resilience onshore.

Summary of Recommended Actions

The recommendations are organized within five categories that each address a specific transmission development need: partnerships and collaborations; planning and operations; technologies and standardization; economics and support initiatives; and siting and permitting.



Partnerships & Collaborations



Planning & Operations



Technologies & Standardization



Economics & Support Initiatives



Siting & Permitting

Recommended Action Timeline

- **Before 2025:** Establish collaborative bodies that span the Atlantic Coast region; clarify some of the building blocks of transmission planning, including updating reliability standards and identifying where offshore transmission may interconnect with the onshore grid; and address costs through voluntary cost assignments.
- **From 2025 to 2030:** Simultaneously convene and coordinate with states to plan for an offshore transmission network; with industry to standardize requirements for HVDC technology; and with federal agencies, tribal nations, state agencies, and stakeholders to identify and prioritize transmission paths on the outer continental shelf.
- **From 2030 to 2040:** Establish a national HVDC testing and certification center to ensure compatibility when interconnecting multiple HVDC substations to form an offshore grid network and codify updates to transmission planning through regulated interregional joint planning, transfer capacity minimums, and market monitoring.
- **Sustaining actions:** Improve environmental review and permitting frameworks, support strong state leadership, empower permitting agencies, develop thoughtful cost allocation practices, and consider the utilization of national corridors actions.

The Action Plan was informed by the forthcoming Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study, as well as a series of convening workshops with subject matter experts and decision makers, including tribal nations, state governments, and regional transmission operators held from April 2022 to March 2023.

Views expressed and recommendations made may be revised and republished in 2024, following the completion of the Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study.

Learn more about DOE's offshore wind activities and contact OSWtransmission@hq.doe.gov for more information about the Action Plan.

*****UPDATED AS OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023. SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****