



# Coordinated Interagency Transmission Authorizations and Permits (CITAP)

## Final Rule Webinar

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Grid Deployment Office

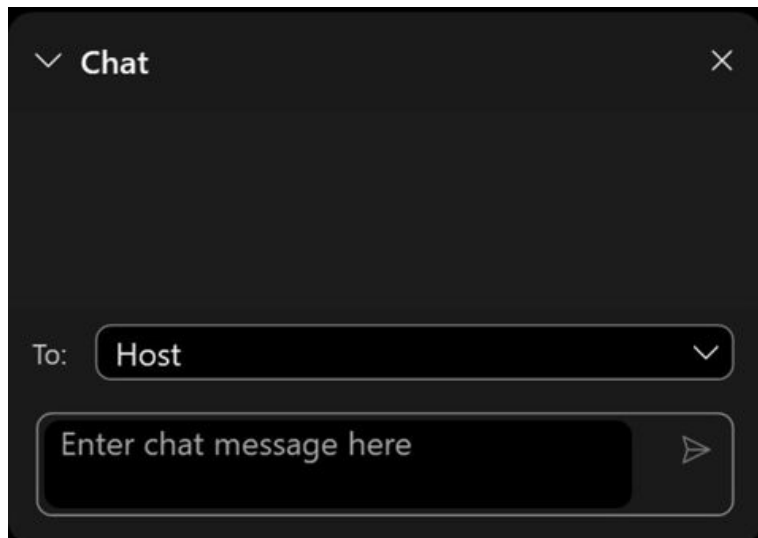
May 15, 2024



# Housekeeping

## Questions?

If you have technical questions, input them in the chat box and send to host.

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Chat

To: Host

Enter chat message here





# Webinar Agenda

- ▶ **Grid Deployment Office Overview**
- ▶ **What is the CITAP Program?**
- ▶ **Why do we need CITAP?**
- ▶ **Key Aspects of the CITAP Program**
- ▶ **What are the benefits of DOE's new approach?**



# MARIA ROBINSON



Director  
Grid Deployment Office  
U.S. Department of Energy



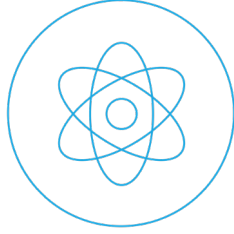
# Grid Deployment Office Mission

## Invest in electric infrastructure by...

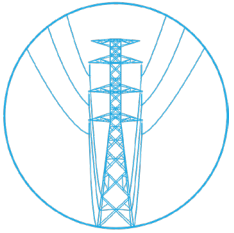
- ▶ Maintaining and investing in critical generation facilities.
- ▶ Improving and expanding transmission and distribution system.
- ▶ Developing high-capacity electric transmission lines nationwide.
- ▶ Providing access to technical assistance and national laboratory expertise, modeling, and analytical capabilities.
- ▶ Acting as a partner to states, Tribes, territories, industry, communities, and other stakeholders to deploy solutions that lower energy costs and improve grid reliability and resilience.



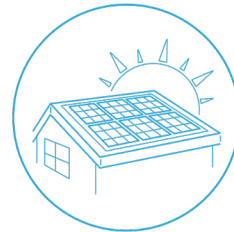
# DOE's Grid Deployment Office



The **Environmental Reviews, Permitting, and Resource Adequacy Division** works to ensure resource adequacy, expand and enhance electricity markets, and implement DOE's permitting authorities.



The **Transmission Division** fully utilizes DOE's unique tools and authorities for coordination, planning, and financing to drive transmission investment.



The **Grid Modernization Division** oversees activities that prevent outages and enhance the resilience of the electric grid.

# SAM WALSH



General Counsel  
U.S. Department of Energy





# What is the CITAP Program?

- ▶ Coordinated Interagency Transmission Authorizations and Permits Program
- ▶ Implements FPA Section 216(h) authority granted to DOE by Congress in EPLRA 2005 to set binding schedules for Federal environmental reviews and approvals
- ▶ Rulemaking undertaken to satisfy agreement in 2023 MOU:
  - ▶ DOE and 8 other Federal entities
  - ▶ Strongest agreement in 2 decades among agencies
- ▶ Initiates a new way of doing business by coordinating developers and government agencies to expedite transmission development

2023 MOU signatory agencies: Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, and Interior; Environmental Protection Agency; Permitting Council; Council on Environmental Quality; and the Office of Management and Budget



# SARAH GREENBERGER



Associate Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# JEFF DENNIS



Deputy Director, Transmission Division  
Grid Deployment Office  
U.S. Department of Energy

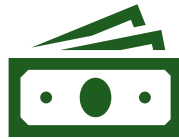


# Why is CITAP Important?

By enabling the U.S. to expand transmission capacity at a faster rate, CITAP will help...



**Increase grid  
resilience and  
reliability**



**Lower the cost  
of electricity for  
homes  
and businesses**

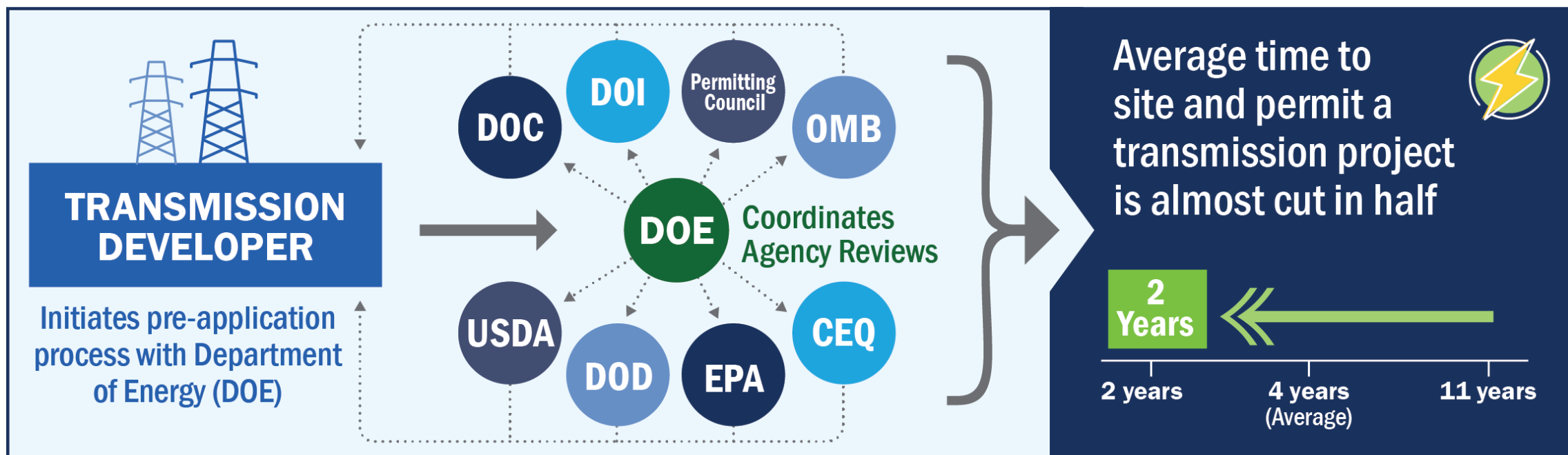


**Modernize  
aging electric  
infrastructure**



**Spur economic  
growth**

# CITAP in a Nutshell



\*U.S. Departments of Commerce, Interior, Agriculture, Defense, and Energy; Environmental Protection Agency; Permitting Council; Council on Environmental Quality; and the Office of Management and Budget

\*\*Source: [Contextualizing electric transmission permitting, data from 2010 to 2020](#), Niskanen Center, 2024



# Key Aspects of the CITAP Program

Single point of Federal  
entry for the most  
complicated transmission  
projects



Pre-application process  
via online portal



Environmental review will  
follow two-year schedule



**Note:** The CITAP program does not change any federal decision-making authority or NEPA regulations; DOE will lead NEPA according to its NEPA regulations and coordinate authorization and permit schedules, but decision-making authority remains at the agency responsible for the permit or authorization.

# What are the Benefits of DOE's Approach?



**Invites state and local permitting entities** to rely on DOE coordination and environmental review document to support their own decision making



Requires development of a **comprehensive public participation plan**



**Project proponent in driver's seat** of the pre-application timeline

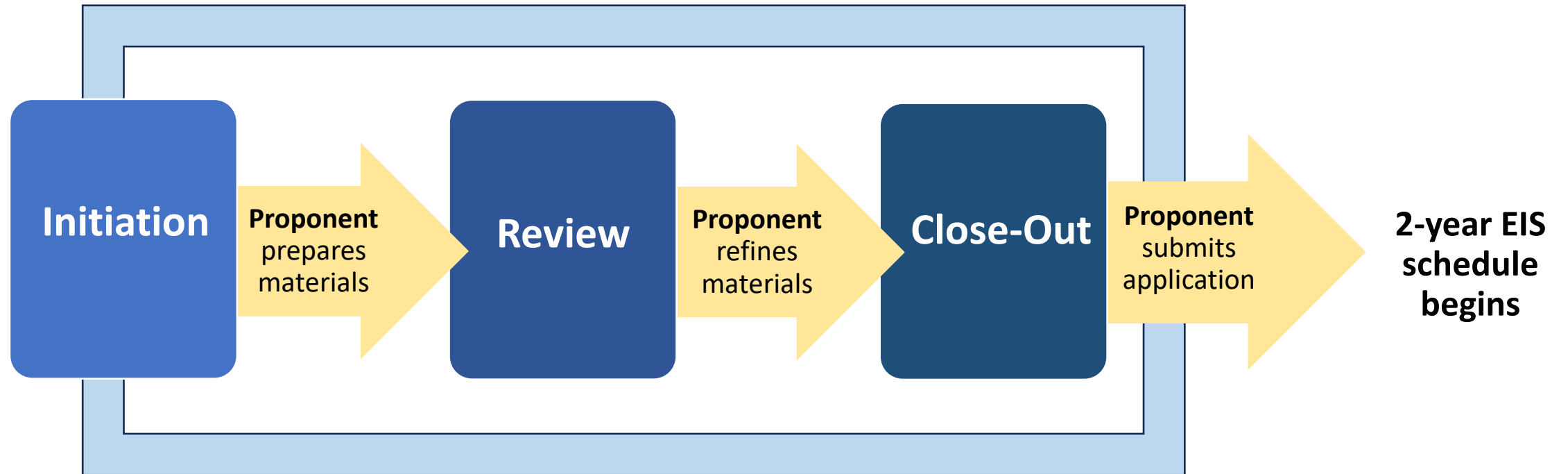
# MARINA FENNEL



Senior Technical Advisor  
Grid Deployment Office  
U.S. Department of Energy



# Proponent-Driven Pre-Application Timeline

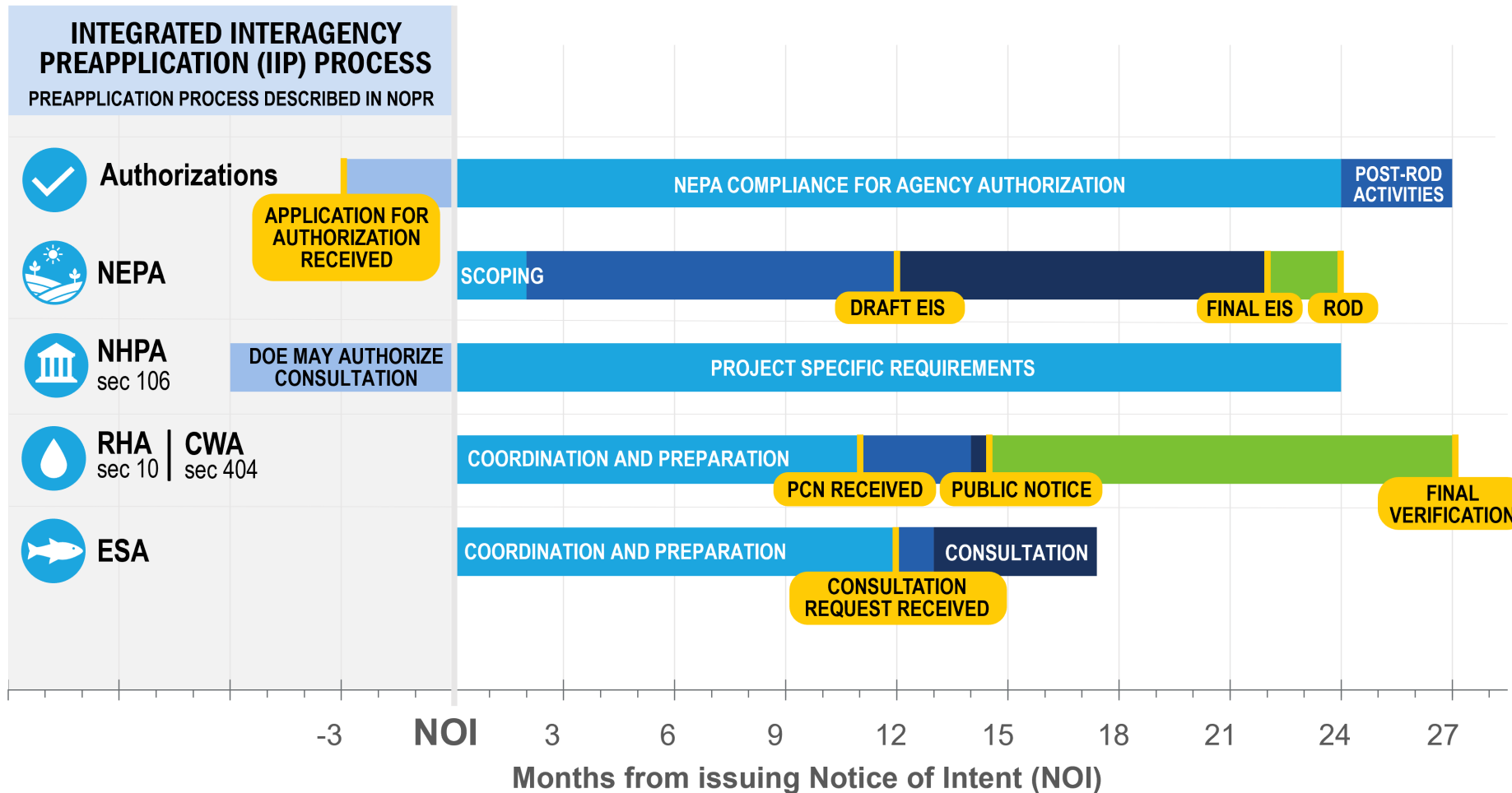


**Integrated Interagency  
Pre-Application (IIP) Process**



# Standard EIS Schedule

## Standard Schedule Template





**CITAP Portal will Open for  
Project Initiation Requests on  
May 31!**



# Q&A



# Thank You!



[www.energy.gov/gdo/coordinated-interagency-transmission-authorizations-and-permits-program](http://www.energy.gov/gdo/coordinated-interagency-transmission-authorizations-and-permits-program)



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