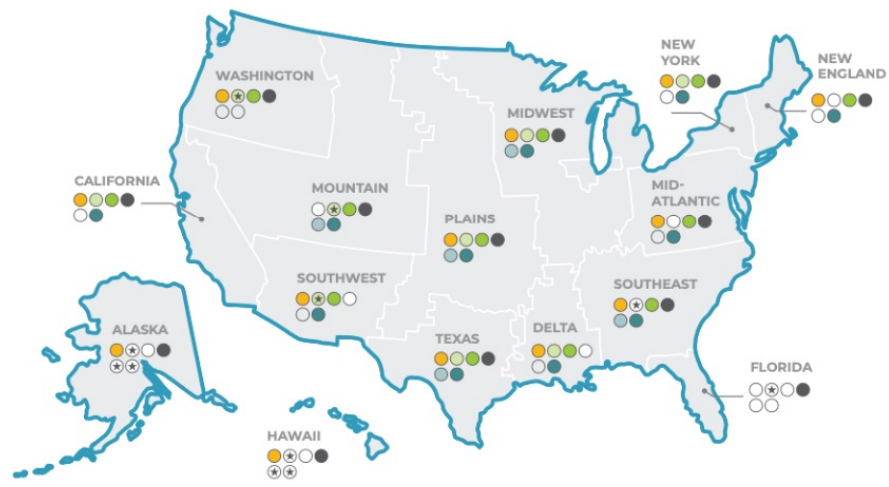


# THE PACE OF TRUST: A FRAMEWORK BY COMMUNITY VOICES FOR ADVANCING TRANSMISSION

Expanding the transmission grid quickly to meet growing demand requires not just technical expertise, but also strategic community engagement. Without broad community support, a transmission project can face long and expensive delays, sometimes to the point where a project is no longer feasible.

Americans for a Clean Energy Grid, in partnership with DNV developed principles through conversations with transmission developers as well as agricultural, nature and environment, environmental justice, Indigenous, and labor advocates. These principles aim to enable the timely expansion and upgrading of the U.S. electric grid through building trust and collaborating with a wide range of community groups.

Current and anticipated transmission needs as identified by DOE's National Transmission Needs Study

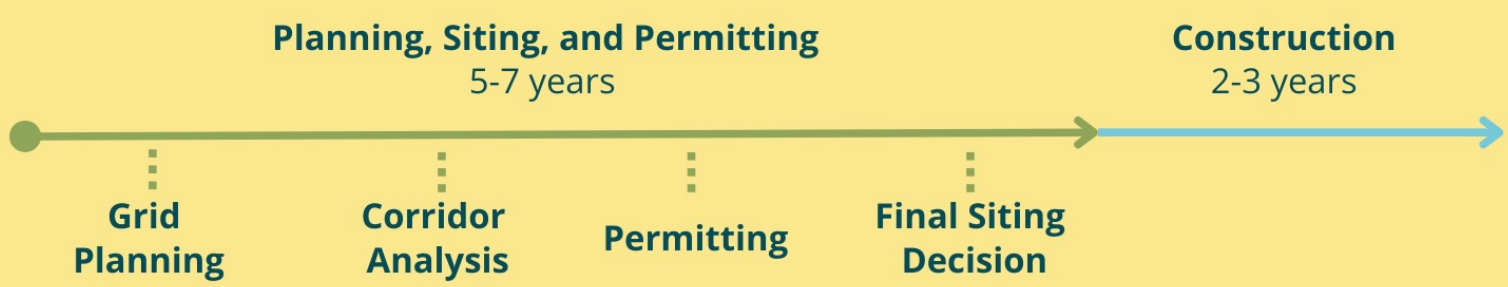


\* Wholesale market price data is limited for non-RTO/ISO regions and capacity expansion modeling data is limited for Alaska and Hawaii. Absence of data does not necessarily indicate that there is no need for new transmission.

|                             | REGION   |           |          |           |       |        |         |       |           |         |              |          |             |        |        |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|--------|---------|-------|-----------|---------|--------------|----------|-------------|--------|--------|
|                             | CALIFORNIA   | NORTHWEST | MOUNTAIN | SOUTHWEST | TEXAS | PLAINS | MIDWEST | DELTA | SOUTHEAST | FLORIDA | MID-ATLANTIC | NEW YORK | NEW ENGLAND | ALASKA | HAWAII |
| CURRENT OR ANTICIPATED NEED | Improve Reliability & Resilience                                     | ●●        | ●●       | ●●        | ●●    | ●●     | ●●      | ●●    | ●●        | ●●      | ●●           | ●●       | ●●          | ●●     | ●●     |
|                             | Alleviate Congestion & Unscheduled Flows                             | ●●        | ●●       | ●●        | ●●    | ●●     | ●●      | ●●    | ●●        | ●●      | ●●           | ●●       | ●●          | ●●     | ●●     |
|                             | Alleviate Transfer Capacity Limits Between Neighbors                 | ●●        | ●●       | ●●        | ●●    | ●●     | ●●      | ●●    | ●●        | ●●      | ●●           | ●●       | ●●          | ●●     | ●●     |
| ANTICIPATED NEED            | Deliver Cost-Effective Generation to Meet Demand                     | ●●        | ●●       | ●●        | ●●    | ●●     | ●●      | ●●    | ●●        | ●●      | ●●           | ●●       | ●●          | ●●     | ●●     |
|                             | Meet Future Generation & Demand with within-Region Transmission      |           | ●        | ●         | ●     | ●      | ●       | ●     | ●         | ●       | ●            | ●        | ●           | ●      | ●      |
|                             | Meet Future Generation & Demand with Interregional Transfer Capacity | ●         | ●        | ●         | ●     | ●      | ●       | ●     | ●         | ●       | ●            | ●        | ●           | ●      | ●      |

Source: Department of Energy, National Transmission Needs Study

**The end goal:** Better community engagement can shorten the time it takes to approve and build transmission projects, making them more likely to succeed and offering significant value to businesses, families, and communities. Under the current timeline, it often 10 years or more for a transmission line to be developed.



The *PACE* framework outlined in this report serves as a guide to developers, policymakers, and communities as they work together to advance transmission projects across the country.



1. Community-led Partnership & Community-based Collaboration
2. Early, Equitable & Inclusive Engagement
3. Tribal Inclusion & Engagement



4. Community Benefit Advisory Boards (CBABs)
5. Ombudsman Offices at Regional Transmission Planning Organizations
6. Frameworks for Impact Assessments



7. Resource Hubs
8. Two-way Learning
9. Multi-channel Communication



10. Community Benefit Plans and Community Benefit Agreements
11. Equitable & Responsive Financial/Resource Support
12. Local Workforce Development

## Key Recommendations

1. **Establish** a national forum or roundtable to discuss specific challenges in hiring locally and building a skilled workforce for transmission projects.
2. **Pre-identify** environmental best practices that can be used when building transmission lines.
3. **Develop** a methodology for assessing and valuing the impact of transmission lines on agricultural land, which can also apply more broadly to other types of land.
4. **Identify** funding mechanisms and accommodations to enable community-based organizations to participate meaningfully and provide informed feedback in the transmission development process.
5. **Provide** clear, accessible, and timely public notice to communities when planning large transmission development projects.
6. **Consider** how to fund local workforce development programs when planning a portfolio of transmission lines.
7. **Consider** requiring utilities to include community benefits agreements in large, rate-based projects that involve significant public or ratepayer funds or affect many residents, particularly in disadvantaged areas.