



Transmission Planning and Infrastructure Development

Nevada Governor's Regional Transmission Task Force

Danielle Mills

Director, Infrastructure Policy Development

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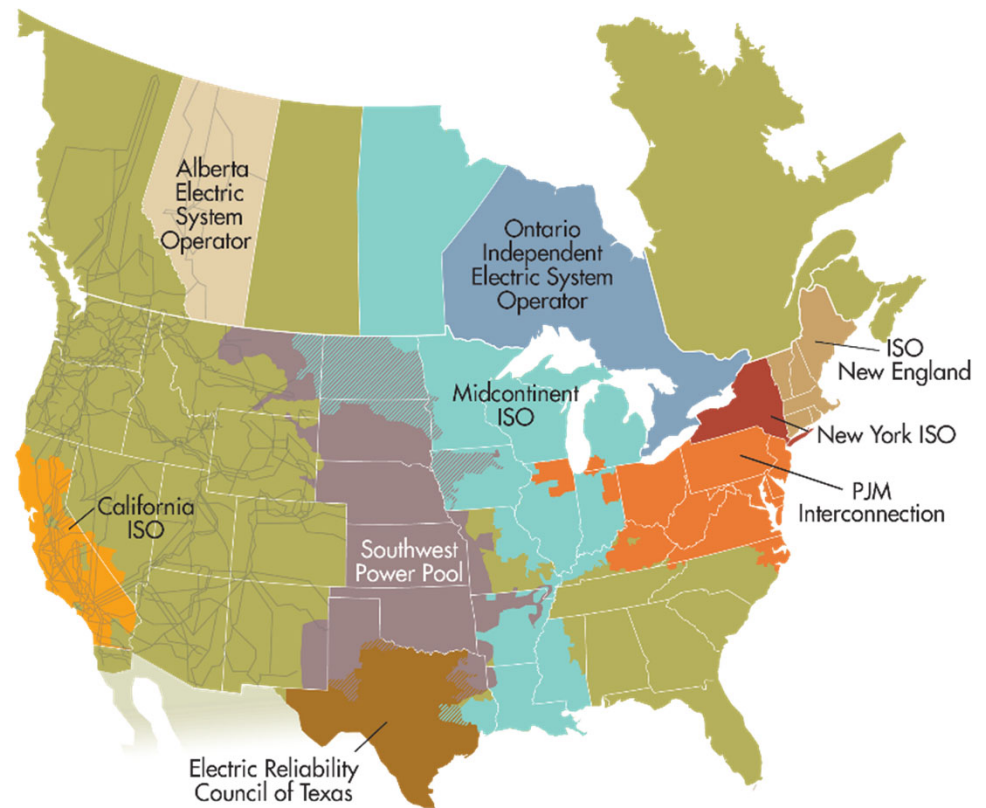
The CAISO's planning activities coordinate with the rest of the western interconnection – most of which is outside of an ISO/RTO structure

The western interconnection has three separate interregional planning areas pursuant to FERC Order 1000, that provides:

- Annual exchange of information
- Annual public interregional coordination meeting

As the existing interregional coordination framework approved by FERC has not been effective to date, the ISO has pursued other coordination opportunities as well

- State voluntary agreement framework
- Subscriber participating transmission owner (sPTO) model



The CAISO explores west-wide transmission planning on multiple tracks

Information-sharing to support west-wide study efforts

- FERC Order 1000 interregional coordination efforts
- FERC Order 1920 transmission planning
- DOE transmission planning and congestion studies
- WECC model development and system planning studies
- Western Transmission Expansion Coalition (WestTEC)
- Western States Transmission Initiative (CREPC)

Informal discussions with transmission planning peers

- Regional transmission planning discussions through a forum led by the ISO
- Energy Systems Integration Group (ESIG) transmission planning task force.

Creative bilateral efforts to advance projects

- Subscriber PTO approach
- Bilateral arrangements through FERC's voluntary framework agreement approach

Monitor and engage in process reform

- WEM education and engagement on transmission planning efforts
- FERC technical conferences
- Comments on FERC Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPRs)
- Department of Energy National Interest Electricity Transmission Corridor (NIETC) designations

Significant Transmission Projects in the Western Interconnection

— In-Service - - - - In-Development

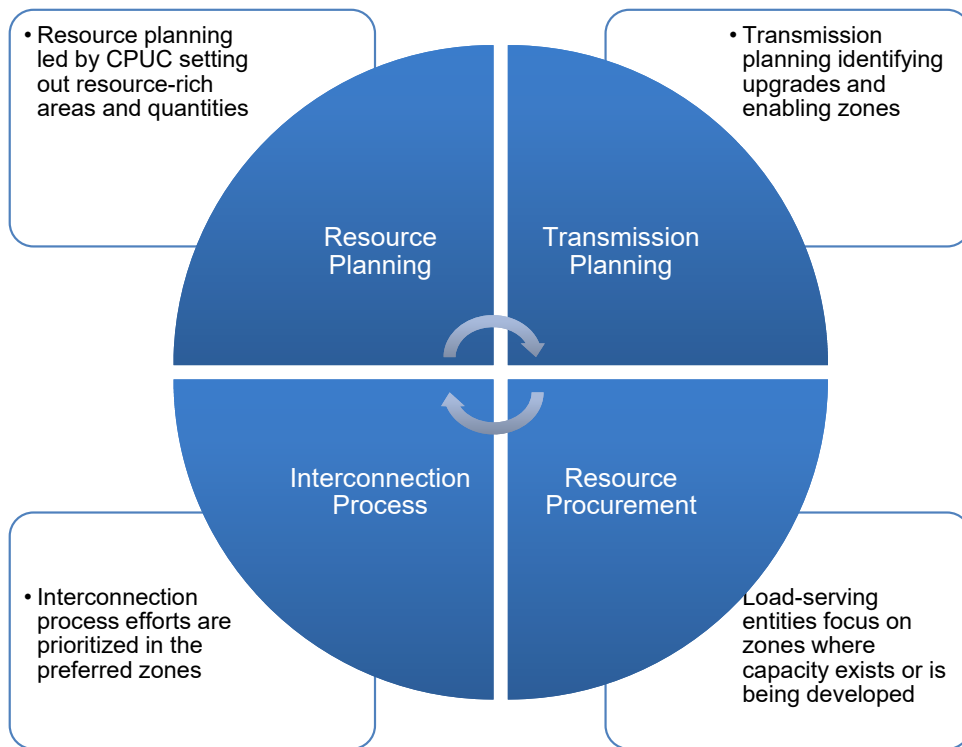
- 1 North Plains Connector
- 2 Boardman – Hemmingway
- 3 Blueprint North
- 4 Blueprint South
- 5 Gateway West
- 6 Gateway South
- 7 Gateway Central
- 8 SWIP North
- 9 Greenlink Nevada
- 10 ON Line
- 11 Cross-Tie
- 12 TransWest Express DC
- 13 Transwest Express AC
- 14 Colorado Power Pathway
- 15 DesertLink
- 16 Ten West Project
- 17 SunZia
- 18 BOLO
- 19 Imperial Valley – North Gila #2
- 20 Southline Transmission
- 21 Identified Need: Path 15/26 Corridor Upgrade



The CAISO will continue to engage on integrating resources from across the west

- The ISO looks for collaborative opportunities to work with interested stakeholders to advance beneficial transmission projects consistent with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) resource portfolios for integrating regional generation and storage resources
- The ISO will continue to engage transmission providers in the West in addition to interregional coordination efforts with NorthernGrid and WestConnect
- The ISO will continue to support interregional west-wide planning efforts including the Western Transmission Expansion Coalition (WestTEC) effort
 - Mutually beneficial interregional transmission solutions

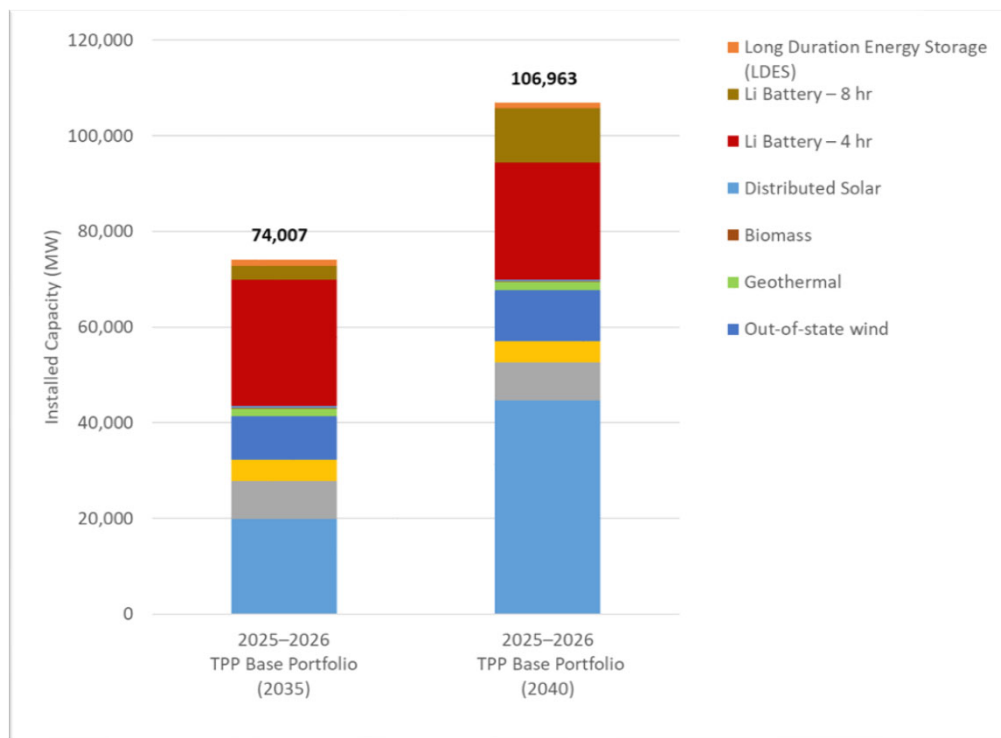
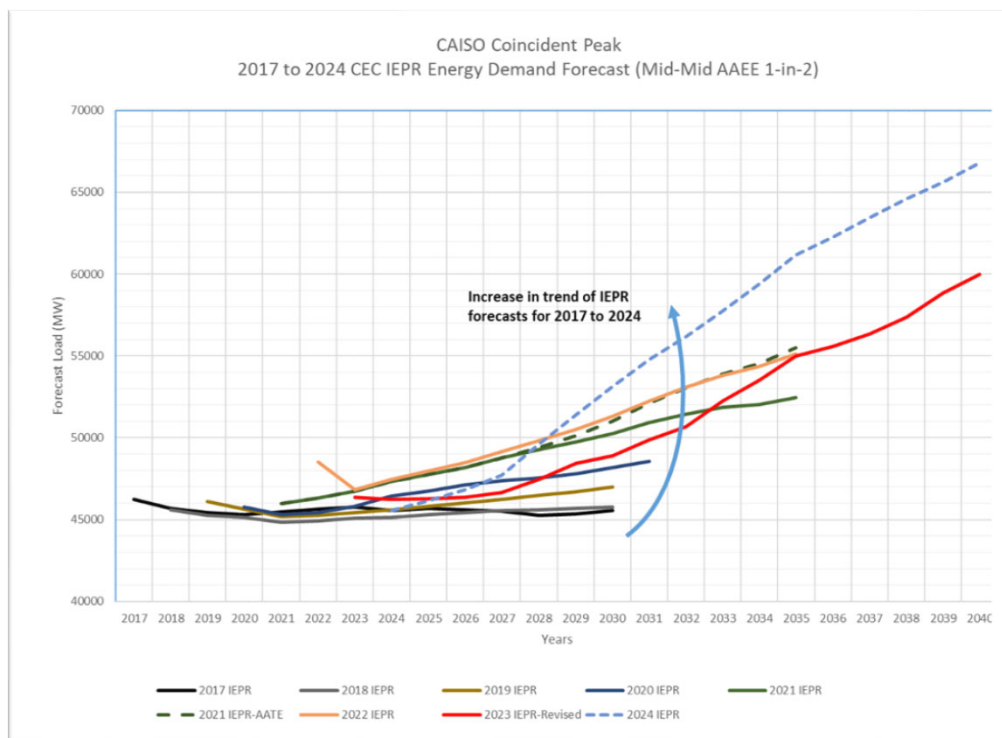
Transmission Planning and Interconnection are coordinated with key load and resource forecasting information



The 2022 Memorandum of Understanding between the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Energy Commission (CEC), and CAISO:

- Tightened the linkage between resource and transmission planning, procurement direction, and the ISO interconnection process.
- Reaffirmed the existing state agency roles and coordination on a single forecast set.
- The ISO also coordinates with other local regulatory authorities.

Load forecasts have been escalating, and driving increased resource and transmission requirements

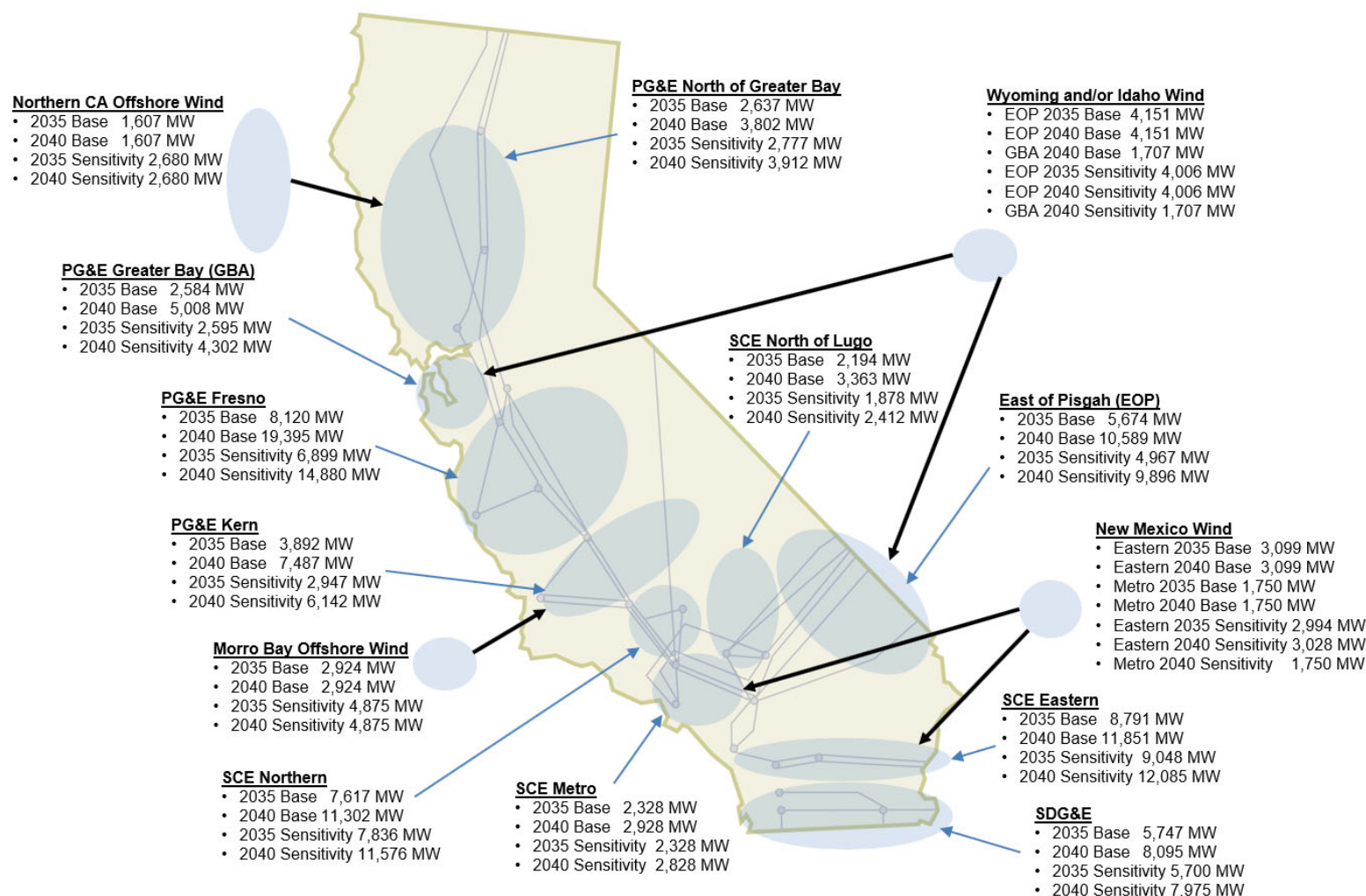


CAISO's Transmission Planning Process (TPP)

- Annual transmission plan (10-Year and 15-Year) is the formal approval document for expansion planning in our footprint
 - Responds to accelerating load growth and escalating clean energy needs
 - 2025-2026 Transmission Plan recommends approval of 38 projects, totaling \$6.7 billion
 - 2024-2025 Transmission Plan approved transmission for 31 projects, totaling \$4.8 billion; Projects were largely load-growth related
 - Previous three transmission plans approved an average of \$5.8 billion, largely policy-driven transmission supporting access to resource basins
 - Focus on the most efficient and effective long-term solutions, including grid-enhancing technologies
- 20 Year Outlook assesses longer term needs
 - First prepared in 2022, updated in 2024
 - Establishes a longer-term direction and strategy
 - Provides context for the near-term decision
- FERC Order No. 1920 will require changes and add new considerations to regional transmission planning

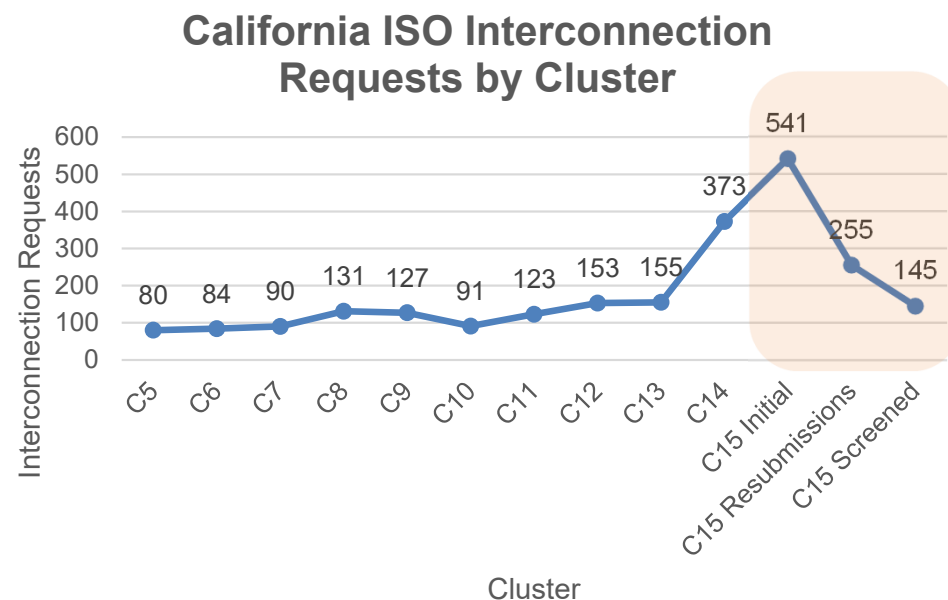


The 2025-2026 Transmission Plan continues to utilize the zonal approach for resource development

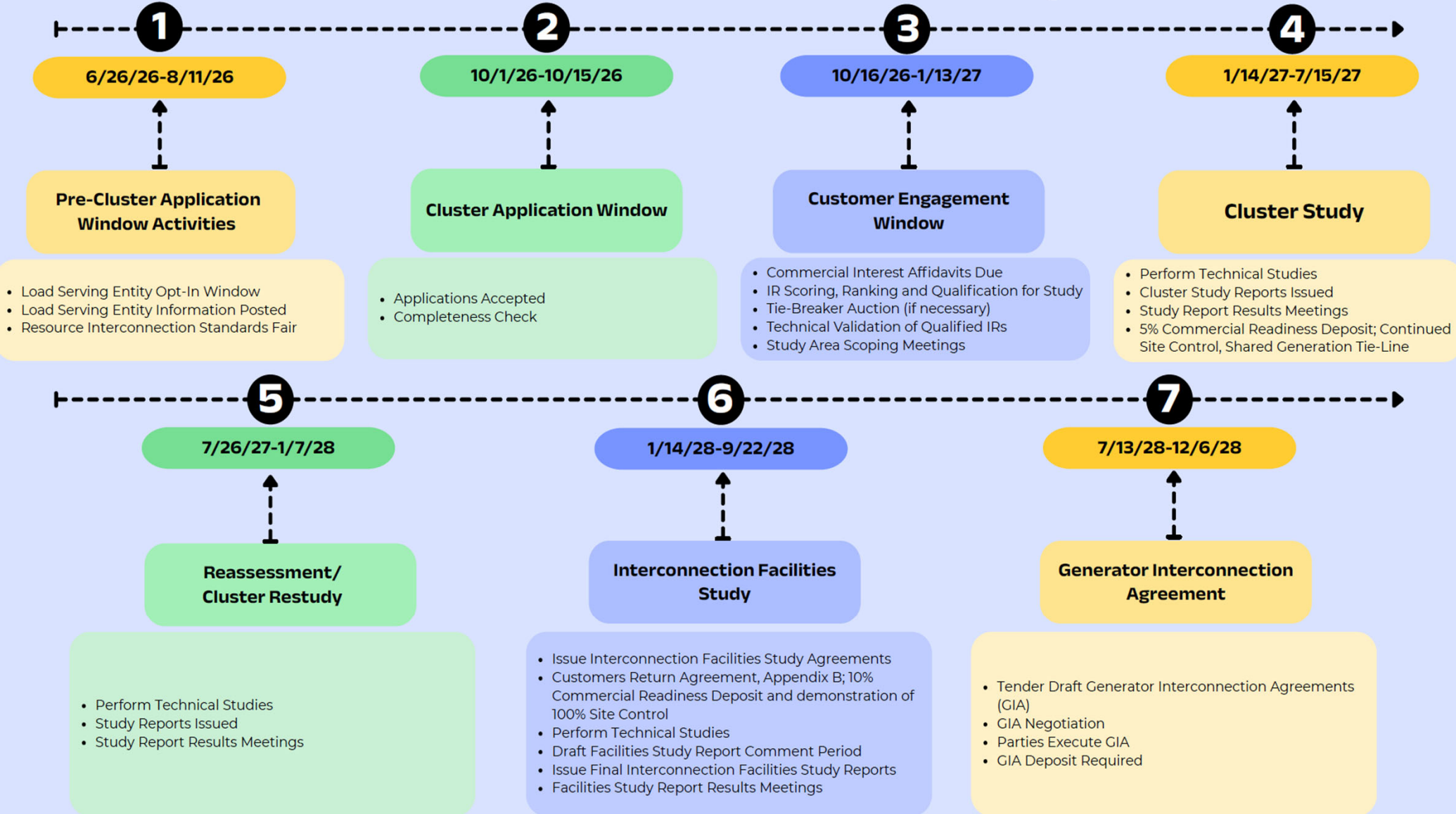


Transformational interconnection reforms enable the most viable generation to serve the CAISO's growing demand

- CPUC resource portfolios call for 5-7 GW of new nameplate capacity per year
- Interconnection requests skyrocketed in Queue Clusters 14 & 15 and returned to more manageable levels after reforms
- Resource and transmission planning now guide the procurement and interconnection processes
- Interconnection studies now focus on requests screened for commercial interest, system need, and project viability
- Cluster 16 will open in October 2026



CAISO Cluster 16 Interconnection Study Process



The reformed CAISO interconnection request intake process reduced cluster 15 to a more manageable level

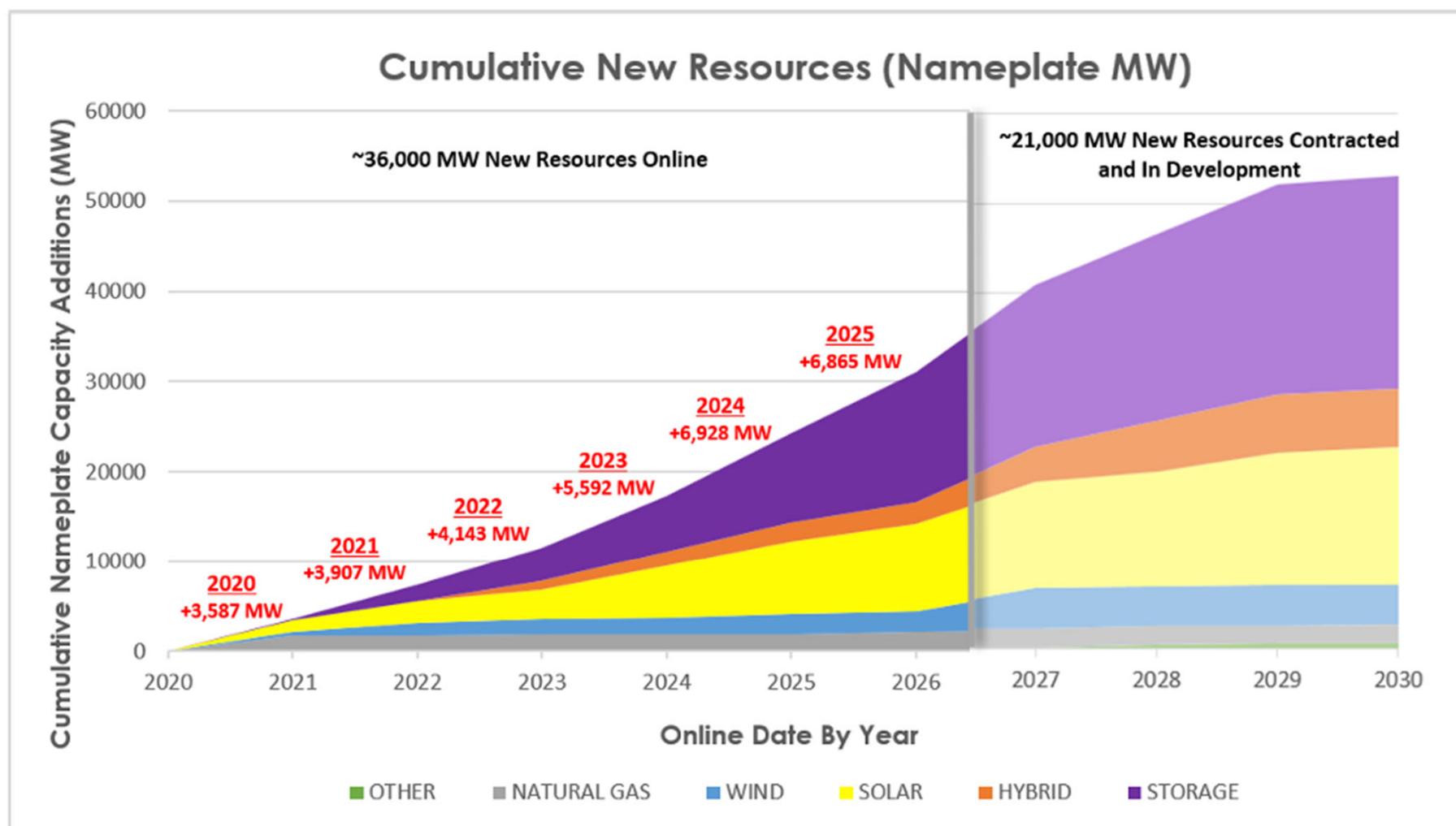
Cluster 15 Process	Number of requests	Total Plant Capability (GW)
Initial Interconnection Requests (2023 window)	541	347
Resubmissions (2024 window)	255	118
<i>Percent Reduction: Initial to Resubmissions</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>66%</i>
Projects proceeding to validation (following project scoring and ranking)	177	96
Projects proceeding to studies (includes project withdrawals prior to the start of studies)	145	68
<i>Percent Reduction: Resubmission to Study</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>42%</i>
Precent reduction OVERALL	73%	80%

- One-third of projects advancing in the queue are Energy Only.

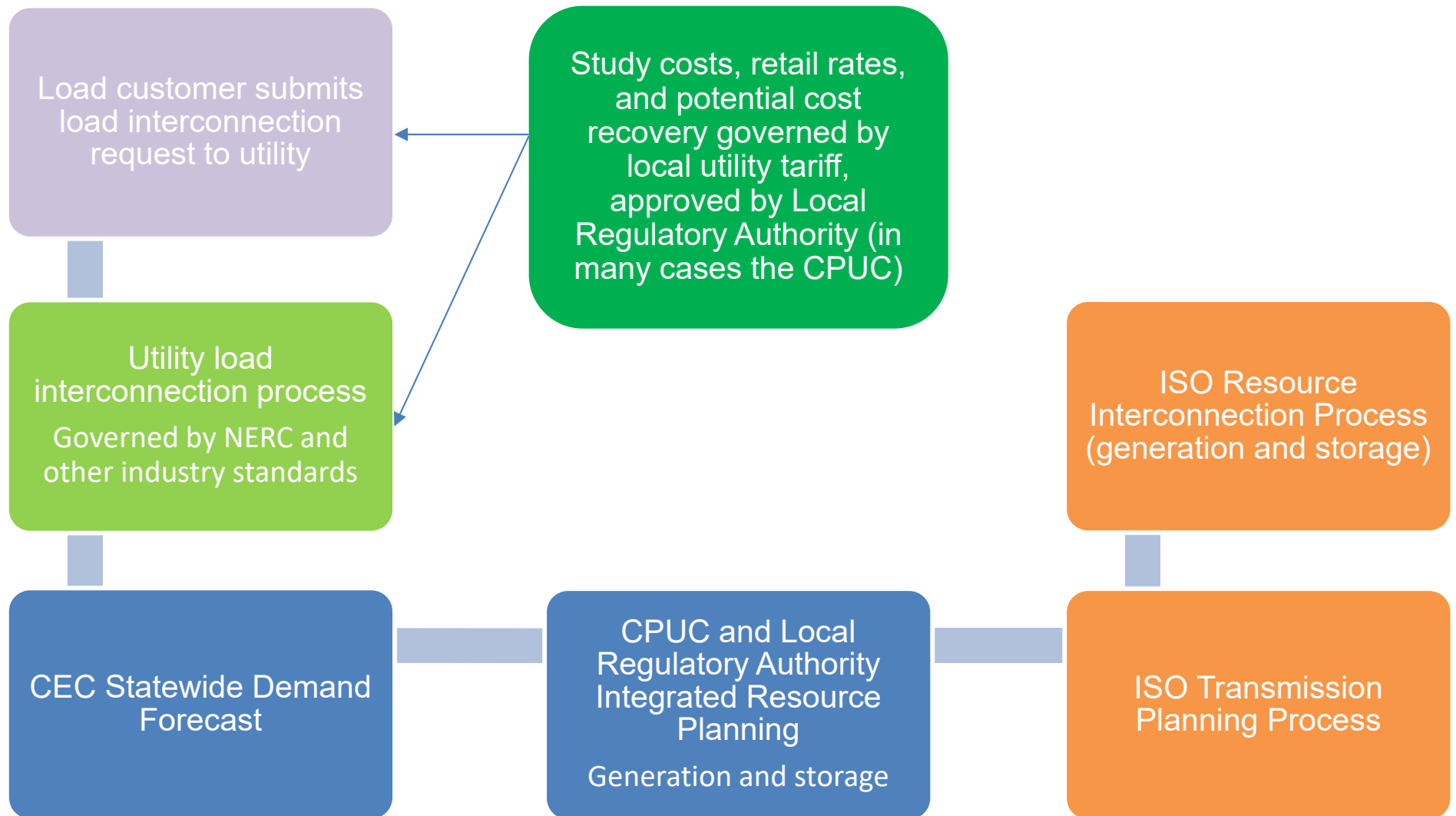
The capacity in the CAISO queue reflects anticipated load growth and competition to meet resource needs

- California has onboarded nearly 36 GW of new nameplate capacity to serve CAISO load since 2020
- Alignment between resource and transmission planning ensures sufficient capacity in the interconnection queue to meet reliability and policy needs.
 - Current CAISO queue holds over 185 GW as of April 2026
 - 96 GW (231 contracts) have executed generator interconnection agreements (GIAs)
 - The transmission needed to support approximately 60 GW of those resources is already underway

The ISO is meeting demand forecasts through accelerated resource interconnection and onboarding



Current large load planning and interconnection roles



The CAISO is exploring large loads in two stakeholder initiatives

- Large loads stakeholder initiative
 - Describes roles and responsibilities, planning and interconnection, transmission service, cost allocation, and technical and operational requirements
 - Responds to June 18, 2026 Order to Show Cause
- Demand and Distributed Energy Market Integration (DDEMI) stakeholder initiative
 - Explores market participation rules and design issues regarding large loads and related demand response programs.
 - Considers data collection needs (load growth, demand profiles, ramping characteristics, other) for large loads.

FERC Orders to Show Cause on Large Loads

- On June 18, 2026 FERC issued tailored show cause orders under section 206 of the Federal Power Act to each of the six regional grid operators under its jurisdiction, as well as Participating Transmission Owners (PTOs) within the ISO Transmission Control Area
- Directs the ISO to justify or reform the rules that govern how data centers, manufacturing facilities, and other large energy users connect to the transmission grid.
- The ISO submitted a [report](#) on resource sufficiency to serve new large loads on July 20, 2026.
- Each RTO/ISO will need to justify why current tariffs remain just and reasonable without provisions tailored to large loads, or to indicate the intent to file tariff revisions.
- Option to seek a 90-day extension beyond the compliance deadline (150 days from the Order) for a stakeholder process and 205 filing.

Each tailored order tees up five categories of reform for the grid operators to address:

- a) Develop efficient transmission service application and study processes, including consideration of alternative transmission technologies
- b) Prevent cost shifting among transmission customers and require transparency into transmission costs
- c) Accommodate co-location agreements and behind-the-meter generation
- d) Provide new transmission services for flexible large loads
- e) Develop a process to study generating facilities that serve electrically proximate large loads and co-located loads

ISO large load stakeholder initiative

Action	Tentative date
<i>Large loads considerations issue paper</i>	<i>January 30, 2026</i>
<i>Technical requirements straw proposal</i>	<i>June 15, 2026</i>
Post straw proposal	August 12, 2026
Stakeholder workshop	August 19, 2026
Comments due	September 2, 2026
Post draft final proposal	September 21, 2026
Comments due	September 28, 2026
Western Energy Market Governing Body (if necessary)	October 20, 2026
ISO Board of Governors	October 28, 2026
FERC Filing on Order to Show Cause November 16, 2026	November 16, 2026