



TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

Advancing a New Era of Energy Delivery in the West

Western Area Power Administration’s (WAPA’s) Transmission Infrastructure Program (TIP) is a unique federal financing program that leverages WAPA’s statutory borrowing authority, along with its depth of transmission project development experience and expertise, to advance projects aimed at expanding and modernizing the electric grid.

TIP was established to manage WAPA’s \$3.25 billion revolving loan program that has as its core a congressional mandate supporting the development of projects that facilitate and optimize the delivery of reliable, affordable power generated by clean energy resources. In addition, TIP provides development and analytical support to eligible project partners who require technical assistance prior to submitting a loan application.

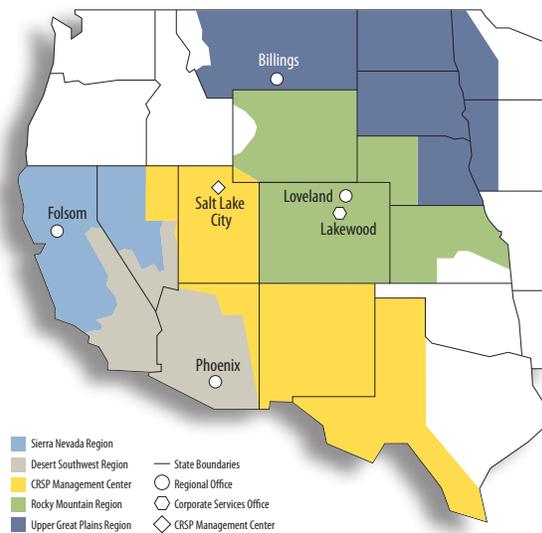
The Changing Energy Landscape

Launched when the country was in the throes of a recession, TIP was established to address market constraints hindering infrastructure investment and provide the debt capital needed to drive energy infrastructure development. Fast-forward to the present, and infrastructure investment opportunities continue to keep pace with the growth of the economy.

The West, in particular, is undergoing a major energy transformation. Tapping into their abundant clean energy resources, western states have been proactive in deploying clean electricity. Of the 13 states in WAPA’s service territory with a current or recent renewable portfolio standard or clean energy goal, almost all have either met or are on track to meet those targets. Additionally, the cost for new installed generation continues to drop, which is driving interest in and the need for transmission and related infrastructure to integrate and reliably deliver clean energy to evolving markets.

These changes in the energy landscape underscore the ongoing need and role for public-private partnerships focused on addressing current market gaps to help accelerate energy infrastructure development and investment in the West.

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION Customer Service Territories



“The Transmission Infrastructure Program’s core mission is to provide debt solutions to support the next generation of electric transmission and related infrastructure development. We are seeing and continue to welcome projects that enhance electricity reliability, support the integration of clean energy, and strengthen our nation’s critical infrastructure.”

— Tracey A. LeBeau | Senior Vice President & Manager
Western Area Power Administration
Transmission Infrastructure Program



Cultivating Economic Opportunities in the West

New investments in transmission infrastructure and utility-scale storage solutions provide opportunities for economic development in the region—and TIP is uniquely positioned to support those opportunities.

Supporting Development to Help Make Projects More “Bankable”

TIP works closely with successful applicants to address a wide variety of project development hurdles and advance work ranging from siting and permitting to engineering and financial analysis—all of which are essential to securing both equity and debt financing. Once a project partner has successfully completed the development phase, they submit their loan application to TIP. TIP has established a strategic partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy Loan Programs Office to provide financial underwriting and loan monitoring services as TIP manages the entirety of the loan portfolio.

For details about this process, from development assistance to loan application, please contact TIP@wapa.gov.

Harnessing Innovation to Modernize the Grid

Leveraging WAPA's significant transmission expertise and access to federal financing at competitive rates, TIP represents a unique opportunity to harness energy innovation and build a modern transmission system. By partnering with qualified developers to move viable projects forward, TIP is advancing a new era of energy delivery in the West.



Construction crews secure the next section of the Saguaro line structure that is part of the ED5 substation upgrade. *Photo from Ralph McCracken, Western Area Power Administration*

Representative TIP Projects

- **Montana Alberta Tie Ltd (MATL)** — Energized in 2013, the MATL transmission project was developed to deliver wind energy from Montana to serve interconnected markets. The 230-kV transmission project received a \$162 million construction loan from TIP, which was repaid in full.
- **Electrical District No. 5 - Palo Verde Hub (ED5-PVH)** — Placed into service in 2015, this 109-mile transmission project added up to 410 MW of bidirectional capacity to the grid in solar-rich Arizona and includes 254 MW connecting to the vital Palo Verde market hub that serves consumers in Arizona, Southern California, and Nevada. The project is in active repayment status.
- **Southline** — This proposed project would build a new 240-mile, 345-kV double-circuit transmission line between the existing substations in New Mexico and Arizona, and upgrade about 120 miles of WAPA's existing transmission lines from 115 kV to 230 kV, adding about 1,000 MW of capacity. This project is in the development phase.
- **TransWest Express** — Consisting of an overhead transmission line extending approximately 725 miles from south-central Wyoming crossing Colorado and Utah, this proposed project would transmit about 3,000 MW of electricity annually, generated primarily from wind resources at planned facilities in Wyoming. This project is in the development phase.

TIP Statutory Eligibility Criteria

To qualify for financing or development assistance from TIP, a project must :

- Deliver or facilitate the delivery of renewable energy resources
- Have at least one terminus within WAPA's 15-state footprint
- Demonstrate and establish a reasonable expectation of its ability to generate enough transmission service revenue to cover all of its operating costs (including overhead) and repay the loan principal and interest by the end of its service life
- Not adversely impact system operations or reliability
- Serve the public interest.

Contact Us

To learn more about TIP, visit: wapa.gov/transmission/TIP/Pages/tip.aspx.

For questions about the application process, contact us:

Phone: 720-962-7710

Email: TIP@wapa.gov



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