

To: Planning Advisory Committee and Qualified Transmission Project Sponsors

From: Brent Oberlin, Executive Director, Transmission Planning

Date: March 31, 2025

Subject: Issuance of the 2025 Longer-Term Transmission Planning Request for Proposal

ISO New England is pleased to announce the 2025 Longer-Term Transmission Planning (“LTTP”) Request for Proposal (the “2025 LTTP RFP”). The 2025 LTTP RFP is being issued pursuant to Section 16.4(b) of Attachment K to Section II of the Transmission, Markets, and Services (“Tariff”) to address longer-term needs that the New England States Committee on Electricity (“NESCOE”) identified in the December 13, 2024 request for ISO New England to issue a longer-term transmission RFP.¹ The NESCOE-identified longer-term needs are in connection with the 2050 Transmission Study, the first Longer-Term Transmission Study performed under the process set out in Section 16 of Attachment K.

The 2025 LTTP RFP has been posted in three locations on the ISO New England website:

- Longer-Term Transmission Planning: <https://www.iso-ne.com/system-planning/transmission-planning/longer-term-transmission-studies/>
- Competitive Transmission: <https://www.iso-ne.com/system-planning/transmission-planning/competitive-transmission>
- Planning Advisory Committee: <https://www.iso-ne.com/committees/planning/planning-advisory>

The deadline for Qualified Transmission Project Sponsors (“QTPS”) to submit a Longer-Term Proposal, including a \$100,000 study deposit, in response to this 2025 LTTP RFP is **11 pm EDT on September 30, 2025**. All QTPSs must submit their Longer-Term Proposal through Responsive, the platform used by the ISO for administration of requests for proposals (“RFP”). An invitation to participate in the 2025 LTTP RFP, with instructions on how to access Responsive, will be sent to all QTPSs today.

¹ https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/100018/a05_2024_12_18_pac_transmission_needs_for_a_longer-term_transmission_planning_rfp_final.pdf

Along with the 2025 LTTP RFP, the ISO has released a number of modeling files and supporting documents. These include:

- An Installed Cost Workbook and a Life Cycle Cost Workbook, to be filled out with proposal details
- An Attestation and Affidavit form, required for every RFP submission
- Transmission system models, economic models, and supporting files (issued in a separate file, under CEII protection)
- Four documents (one for transmission models and three for economic models) describing the models provided and containing instructions for their use (included as part of the posting of transmission system models and economic models)

In addition to issuing the 2025 LTTP RFP, through this announcement, the ISO is updating two statements made at previous meetings of the Planning Advisory Committee (“PAC”).

- At the December 2024 PAC meeting, the ISO presented results of transfer limit analysis for interfaces in Maine, to be effective after the interconnection of the New England Clean Energy Connect project and its associated upgrades.² At that time and at subsequent PAC meetings, the ISO stated that a report with details of this analysis would be released before the issuance of the 2025 LTTP RFP. That report has been delayed in order to complete the ISO’s reviews. In its place, the Transmission Model Reference Document, issued along with this 2025 LTTP RFP, contains information on limiting conditions and contingencies for Maine interface transfer limits that is relevant to this RFP.
- At the February 2025 PAC meeting, in response to a stakeholder question, a verbal statement was made that transmission project capital costs would be used in calculation of the benefit-to-cost ratio (“BCR”), rather than carrying costs. After that meeting, a stakeholder pointed out that this statement did not match applicable language in Section 16.4(h) of Attachment K, which requires the use of project costs over the first twenty years of a project’s life – in other words, twenty years of project carrying costs. In accordance with Attachment K, the ISO will be using carrying costs, as calculated in the Life Cycle Cost workbook, in calculation of the BCR.

All questions from QTPSs regarding the 2025 LTTP RFP should be submitted through Responsive, using the “Message” feature. Please include the QTPS name and relevant section/question number of the RFP, and use separate messages for separate topics rather than combining multiple topics into a single message.

² https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/100018/a07_2024_12_18_post_necec_maine_transfer_limits.pdf