2025 Longer-Term Transmission Planning Request for Proposals (2025 LTTP RFP)

Longer-Term Proposals Summary

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Background

- This RFP was initiated by a December 13, 2024 communication from NESCOE to the ISO
- The RFP was issued on March 31, 2025 and Longer-Term Proposal submissions were due by 11:00PM EDT September 30, 2025
- Consistent with RFP Part 2 documentation, the identity of the QTPS Respondents will be kept confidential
- The information contained in this presentation is based on the public QTPS responses to certain questions in the RFP as submitted in the Longer-Term Proposals
  - Additional details including transfer limits and more granular descriptions of project elements cannot be provided due to confidential marking of the responses by the QTPSs

Corollary Upgrades

- The ISO is developing a preliminary list of all upgrades to a Participating Transmission Owner's ("PTO") existing transmission system (referred to as "corollary upgrades") for each Longer-Term Proposal where cost estimates are to be developed
  - A separate confidential communication will be sent to the PTOs; this is done to help the PTOs prepare staffing to complete the cost estimates
- After the ISO completes the initial review of proposals, an updated list of corollary upgrades will be provided to the PTOs to begin developing the cost estimates for use in the benefit to cost ratio calculations

Longer-Term Proposal Summary

- Total of 6 Longer-Term Proposals submitted
  - 4 are joint proposals
- Total of 4 different lead QTPSs (3 non-incumbents, 1 incumbent)
  - 4 additional QTPSs are participating as part of joint proposals (all are incumbents)
- Project Designs
  - 3 primarily AC transmission
  - 3 primarily HVDC transmission
  - All designs claim they support 1200 MW of northern ME wind
  - Claimed Surowiec-South Limits: 3200-3800 MW (3200 MW target)
  - Claimed Maine-New Hampshire Limits: 3000-3600 MW (3000 MW target)
- Project Installed Costs*
  - Low of $0.96B
  - High of $4.04B
- In-Service Dates: Q4 2032 to Q3 2035 (12/31/2035 target)

* Some proposals include cost estimates for corollary upgrades that may change with final PTO provided estimates

Longer-Term Proposal Summary, cont.

ID	Type	Short Desc	Cost*	ISD
A1	AC	ME/NH AC #1	$2.20B	Q4 2032
A2	AC	ME/NH AC #2	$2.14B	Q4 2032
B1	DC	Maine-Mass DC	$4.04B	Q2 2035
C1	AC	ME/NH AC #3	$0.96B	Q2 2035
D1	DC	Wiscasset-Wakefield DC	$2.60B	Q3 2035
D2	DC	Wiscasset-Everett DC	$2.55B	Q3 2035

- All Longer-Term Proposals interconnect northern ME wind at Pittsfield, ME location
- All proposals submitted $100K study deposit

* Some proposals include cost estimates for corollary upgrades that may change with final PTO provided estimates

Longer-Term Proposal: A1 - Details

- Joint Proposal: Yes
- Type: AC transmission in ME and NH
- Installed Cost: $2.20B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start: Q1 2029
- In-Service Date: Q4 2032
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME, NH, and MA
  - New/updated 345 & 115 kV AC lines in ME and NH

Longer-Term Proposal: A2 - Details

- Joint Proposal: Yes
- Type: AC transmission in ME and NH
- Installed Cost: $2.14B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start: Q1 2029
- In-Service Date: Q4 2032
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME, NH, and MA
  - New/updated 345 & 115 kV AC lines in ME and NH

Longer-Term Proposal: B1 - Details

- Joint Proposal: No
- Type: HVDC (Maine to Massachusetts)
- Installed Cost: $4.04B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start: Q2 2031
- In-Service Date: Q2 2035
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME, NH, and MA
  - New High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) line (Maine – Massachusetts)
  - Upgrades to 345, 115, & 69 kV lines in ME and NH

Longer-Term Proposal: C1 - Details

- Joint Proposal: No
- Type: AC transmission
- Installed Cost: $0.96B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start: Q2 2030
- In-Service Date: Q2 2035
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME and NH
  - New/updated 345 & 115 kV AC lines in ME and NH

Longer-Term Proposal: D1 - Details

- Joint Proposal: Yes
- Type: HVDC (Wiscasset, ME – Wakefield, MA)
- Installed Cost: $2.60B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start Q4 2031
- In-Service Date: Q3 2035
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME, NH, and MA
  - New HVDC line (Wiscasset, ME – Wakefield, MA)
  - New/updated 345 & 115 kV lines in ME, NH, and MA

Longer-Term Proposal: D2 - Details

- Joint Proposal: Yes
- Type: HVDC (Wiscasset, ME – Everett, MA)
- Installed Cost: $2.55B
- Cost Containment: Yes
- Construction Start: Q4 2031
- In-Service Date: Q3 2035
- Design Summary
  - Proposal includes work in ME, NH, and MA
  - New HVDC line (Wiscasset, ME – Everett, MA)
  - New/updated 345 & 115 kV lines in ME, NH, and MA

RFP Evaluation Process: ISO Work

- Initial Review
  - Does the Longer-Term Proposal meet the Tariff/RFP requirements?
  - Are there minor deficiencies or need for additional information from QTPS?
- RFP Objective Review
  - Does the Longer-Term Proposal meet the minimum requirements for the RFP (interface increases and wind accommodation)?
  - Does the Longer-Term Proposal increase any other interface limits (e.g., North-South or Boston Import)?
- No Adverse Impact Screening
  - Does the Longer-Term Proposal degrade any part of the existing system or cause any new criteria violations?
- Benefits Calculation
  - What are the total benefits gained from the Longer-Term Proposal (i.e., reduced production cost, avoided capacity, avoided planned transmission, reduced unserved load, change in system losses)?

RFP Evaluation Process: Consultant Work

- Financial Evaluation
  - Does the QTPS have the financial health to construct the Longer-Term Proposal?
  - How would various scenarios impact proposed cost containment mechanisms?
- Construction Evaluation
  - Is the Longer-Term Proposal feasible to construct?
  - Are the cost estimates provided by the QTPS reasonable?
- Corollary Upgrade Cost Estimation
  - PTOs to provide the cost estimates for Longer-Term Proposals' corollary upgrades

Early Observations

- There is a good diversity of solution designs (AC vs. DC) and QTPS representation (incumbent vs. non-incumbent)
- The ISO will work to complete this process by September 2026
  - This RFP involves utilizing numerous new processes, so the ISO is cautious about committing to an earlier date

Next Steps

- Complete the Initial Review
  - The ISO is in the process of following up with QTPSs to address minor deficiencies with and/or to provide additional information on the Longer-Term Proposals
  - PAC update expected late 2025 / early 2026
- Begin RFP Objective Review testing
  - Transfer limit analysis (thermal/voltage/stability)
  - Northern Maine wind energy/capacity analysis
- Begin external consultant work
  - Financial viability of QTPSs
  - Construction evaluation of proposals

Questions