



Macro Grid Initiative

An ACORE Program

Upgrading and Expanding High-Voltage Transmission Creates Well-Paid Jobs, Drives Economic Growth

Investments in upgrading and expanding the high-voltage transmission infrastructure needed for a modern electric grid will create jobs, promote expansion of the renewable energy industry, and boost local economies.

“As investment in renewable energy continues to grow, it’s important that transmission infrastructure improvements keep pace, allowing for the benefits of new clean energy development to be shared by more rural communities.”

- CENTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS

Proposed transmission lines would create thousands of jobs in communities across the country

- Building the 22 high-voltage transmission projects that are ready for near-term construction would create 600,000 jobs, according to a recent Americans for a Clean Energy Grid report.¹
- The resulting wind and solar development enabled by the new transmission capacity would create an additional 640,000 jobs.²

Transmission is a Job Creator³

There are currently 7,923 miles of high-voltage projects under construction

Jobs per \$1M expenditure

DC LINES	AC LINES
11.3 direct/indirect/induced	27 direct/indirect/induced



22 proposed transmission lines could create 1.2 million new jobs

Most transmission jobs are union jobs that pay prevailing wages

Of nearly two dozen, shovel-ready transmission projects that have announced construction contracts, all will be built by union workers:

- **Empire State Connector** breaking ground in 2021 (NY)
- **Champlain Hudson** breaking ground in 2021 (NY)
- **TransWest Express** breaking ground in 2022 (WY, CO, UT, NV)
- **NV Energy's Greenlink** breaking ground in 2024 (NV)

Investing in transmission supports high-quality, domestic manufacturing jobs

Not only are all transmission projects investments that generate American jobs, project components are often domestically produced too. The Brattle Group estimates that 65 percent of transmission wires and towers are sourced domestically, while 35 percent of transformers and circuit breakers are domestic.⁴

Investment in transmission boosts GDP and local economies

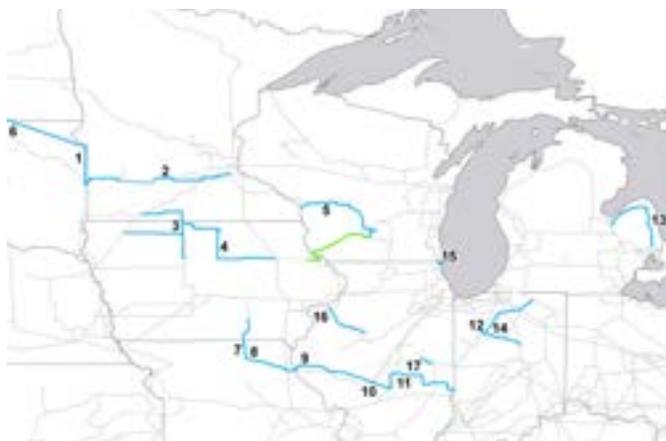
- A recent study identified \$83 billion in planned transmission projects around the country that have been ISO/RTO Board-approved and/or recommended to regulators. The construction phase of this infrastructure investment would add \$42 billion to GDP, create approximately 442,000 well-paying jobs, and boost direct local spending by nearly \$39 billion cumulatively.⁵
- In Texas, the development of the Clean Renewable Energy Zone transmission lines led to \$5 billion in incremental economic development.⁶

CASE STUDY

Economic impact of MISO Multi-Value transmission projects between 2002 and 2015

Investment in transmission creates jobs and provides significant economic benefits. In the Midwest, the grid operator evaluated the impact of the \$9.4 billion transmission Multi-Value Project (MVP) investment on job creation, income, and tax revenue from 2002 to 2015,⁷ finding that the MVP lines:

- Created more than 114,000 job-years with a peak of 16,700 to 25,800 total jobs in 2014.
- Provided \$5 to \$8 billion of labor income.
- Delivered \$457 to \$765 million of state and local tax revenue, and \$935 million to \$1.5 billion of federal tax revenue.
- Spurred economic activity totaling \$6.7 to 11.3 billion over the period.



MISO Multi-Value Projects provided \$5 to \$8 billion of labor income in the region

ENDNOTES

- 1 [Transmission Projects Ready to Go: Plugging Into America's Untapped Renewable Resources](#)
- 2 [Ibid.](#)
- 3 [Ibid.](#)
- 4 [Employment and Economic Benefits of Transmission Infrastructure Investment in the U.S. and Canada](#)
- 5 [Repowering America: Transmission Investment for Economic Stimulus and Climate Change](#)
- 6 [Texas as a National Model for Bringing Clean Energy to the Grid](#)
- 7 [Economic Impact of MTEP In-service Projects from 2002-2015](#)