

BPA's Pause of Select Planning Processes Q&A

1. Why is BPA conducting this pause?

Currently, BPA's transmission service queue is 65 GW of unstudied service requests – exceeding the projected total regional load for 2034 in the Pacific Northwest. At this time, it is clear that BPA's planning processes require modification to best serve our customers and meet their resource and load service needs. A pause allows BPA to re-evaluate these processes and explore new solutions with customers to ensure we meet their needs in the most cost-efficient and effective manner.

2. Will BPA hold a 2025 TSEP Cluster Study?

No, BPA has paused its 2025 TSEP Cluster Study. However, transmission service requests submitted within the 2025 TSEP Cluster Study submission window, which closed 12:00 PM PDT on August 15, 2024, will still be processed and eligible for the next planned TSEP Cluster Study.

3. Will all transmission service requests (TSRs) be impacted?

No, only a subset of TSRs will be impacted. Others will continue to be processed.

Not Impacted

- TSRs that require service on the Southern or Montana Interties are not impacted and will continue to be processed and awarded service or study agreements as applicable.
- Point to Point (PTP) Deferral TSRs and Renewal TSRs will not be impacted. PTP Renewal and Deferral TSR Competition will not be impacted.
- TSRs that fall into BPA's Short Term Automated Market will not be impacted.

Impacted

- TSRs and associated data exhibits submitted by 12:00 PM PDT on August 15, 2024, will continue to be processed; however, if BPA determines additional capacity is required to enable offering service – including TSRs with *de minimis* impacts – transmission service will not be offered at this time.
- TSRs and associated data exhibits submitted after 12:00 PM PDT on August 15, 2024, will not be processed at this time.
- TSR Study Agreements will not be offered at this time and, therefore, new transmission infrastructure projects to satisfy TSRs will not be identified until the next TSEP Cluster Study.

4. What about long-term redirect request TSRs?

Redirects that have no incremental impact (even *de minimis* impacts) may be granted on a case-by-case basis. If a redirect creates an incremental impact on the network, the redirect will not be offered at this time.

5. Which Load and Resource Forecasts and Closeout (LaRCs) processes are impacted by this pause?

Load and Resource Forecasts submitted before 12:00 PM PDT on August 15, 2024, will be processed. LaRCs submitted after 12:00 PM PDT August 15, 2024, will not be processed.

Customers will still be required to submit their Load and Resource Forecast in 2025 to inform BPA's other planning processes (e.g., annual reliability system assessment, conducted to ensure NERC compliance).

6. Will this pause affect TSRs that have already been approved?

No, all TSRs previously approved will continue to proceed as planned.

7. Will the pause impact the 23 transmission infrastructure projects as identified in EGP 1.0 and 2.0, totaling an estimated \$5 billion, that BPA has proposed to move forward with?

No. BPA will continue moving those projects through our existing processes. We will continue to provide updates about those projects online via the [Evolving Grid web site](#) and in public customer workshops.