



Large Load and Generation Study Alignment

Large Load Working Group (LLWG)

July 16, 2026

Purpose & Key Takeaway

Purpose

Propose a new process for concurrently studying large loads and associated generation

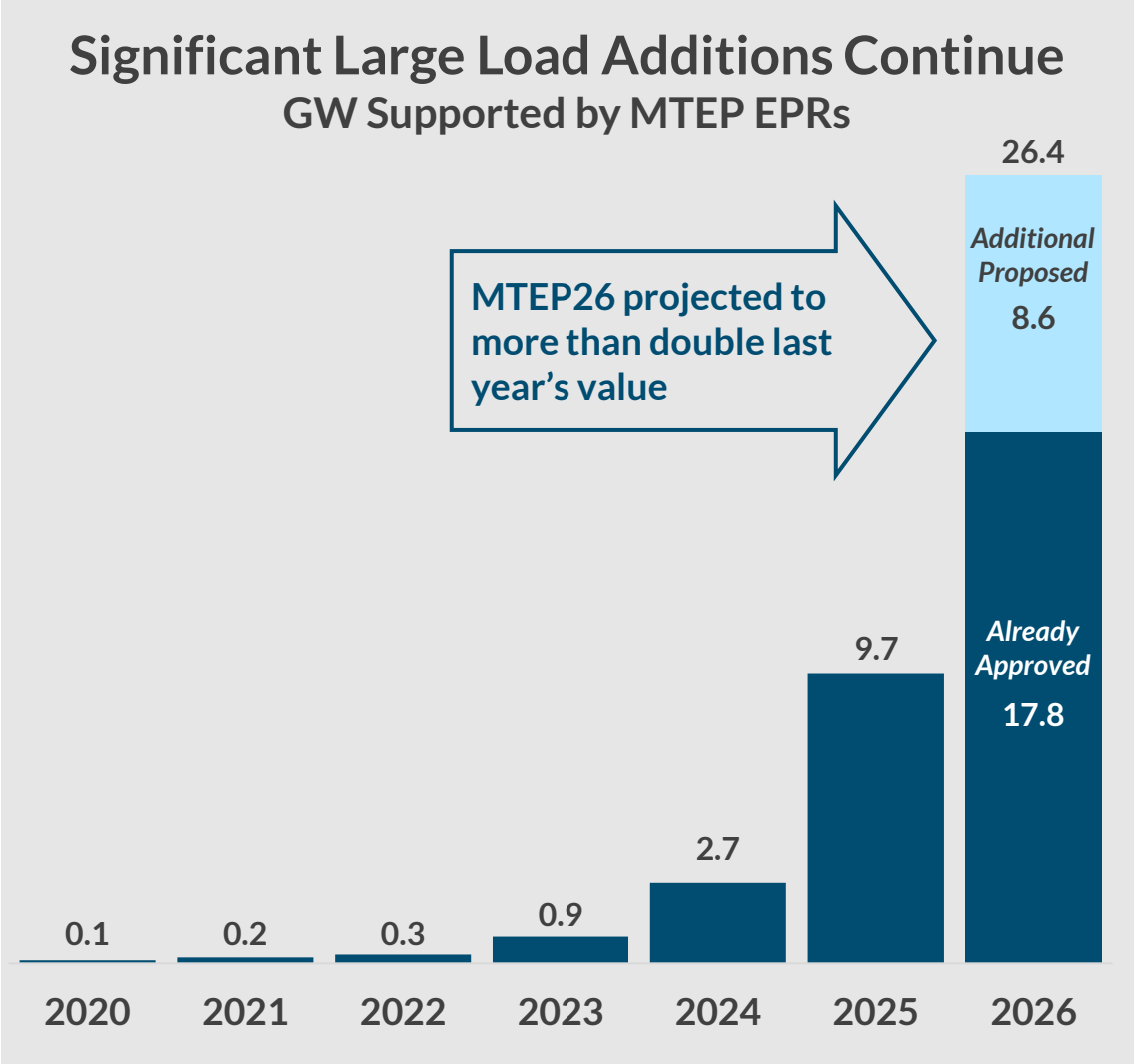
Key Takeaways

- Current load and generation study processes are dependent on each other, requiring one to be complete before the next can begin; this can lead to longer approval timelines and less efficient network upgrades
- Some large load customers are seeking a more integrated approach to studying large loads and associated generation, enabling greater speed and more optimized transmission upgrades
- The proposed new process for studying 250+ MW loads allows MISO to align studies for planned large loads and associated generation to increase speed to approval and optimize network upgrades within 120 days
- This solution harmonizes with the spirit of FERC's show-cause order for interconnection process arrangements to address the speed of adding generation to serve large load

MISO’s three-part framework will enable members to integrate large loads quickly and reliably while delivering lasting value for the region; the proposed new study process helps customers connect quickly – within 120 days

Objectives	1	Connect Quickly	2	Transition and scale with flexibility	3	Ensure Long-Term Reliability
		Get MISO approval within 120 days with all studies completed and GIAs signed		Transition and scale with flexible options consistent with timing of network upgrade buildouts		Sustain reliable operations with ability to withdraw or inject energy based on conditions and signals
	Needs	Certainty on transmission needs and associated costs: Generation only, load only, generation-load combination		Curtailment capability, resource adequacy coordination, efficient use of existing transmission capacity		Real-time telemetry and coordination, curtailment capability, ride-through, stability control, resilience, security
Solutions		- Co-located resources (ZGIA) - Fast load studies (EPR) - New study process / solution (under development)		- Co-located resources (ZGIA) - Non-firm service option - Firm service step-up option		- Clear requirements - Operations system enhancements - Market pricing signals - Demand response and new reserve market products

While load growth continues, the Expedited Project Review (EPR) process has numerous project studies extending beyond our 90-day average



Recent EPR Cycles Take ~100 Days

Cycle	Complete	Under Study	Average timing
Feb 2026	2,500 MW (9 projects)	100 MW (1 project)	98 days
April 2026	1,795 MW (5 projects)	3,662 + MW (12 projects)	104 days

- MTEP26 EPR models have included 34 GW of newly-signed GIA generation, demonstrating that load and generation are arriving together
- However, the load study process (EPR) is recently slower due to solution identification of generation or transmission
- This reinforces that load and generation would benefit from aligned study treatment

Paragraphs 114 through 118 of FERC's show-cause order refer to potential changes required to support efficient and necessary infrastructure build to support large loads

Why Change Is Needed

- Current processes may drive inefficient and unnecessary infrastructure build, resulting in higher network upgrade costs and potentially unjust and unreasonable rates.

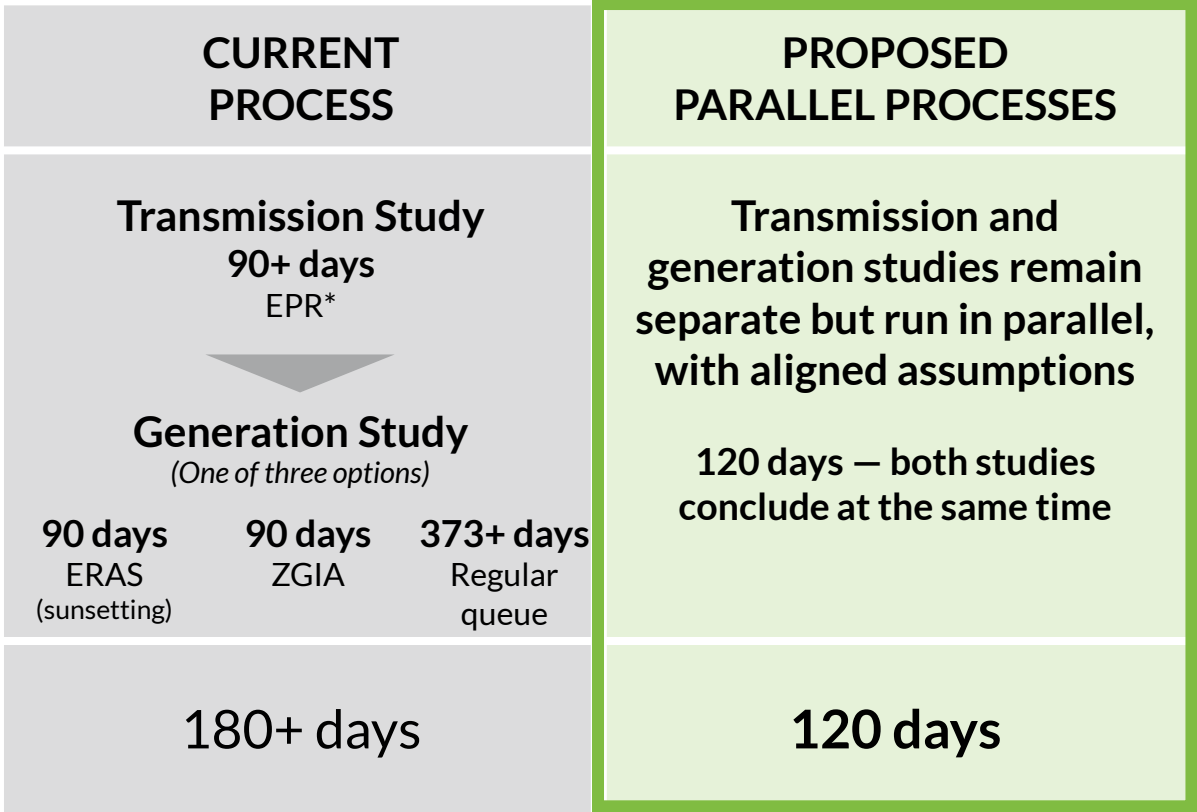
What's Missing Today

- Existing generator interconnection procedures assume full output injection, not generation serving a proximate large load with limited or no injection.
- Lack of tailored study processes and interconnection services for electrically proximate or co-located large loads.

The proposed alignment of large load and generation studies offers customers certainty for their generation and transmission needs within 120 days

Proposed Process

- The LSE initiates a submission for the proposed load and associated generation
- MISO studies the generation and load in parallel using the same study assumptions and the same rigorous studies applied in the DPP and MTEP processes.
- The generation and load studies conclude at approximately the same time—within 120 days
- **Outcomes:** Allocation of generation injection rights, transmission service for reliable load withdrawal, and a more optimized set of network upgrades



Proposed Requirements

- Cycle size: 10 load-generation pairs
- Load size: 250+ MW
- \$250,000 nonrefundable application fee (D1)
- Generation is verified as critical to support the large load with firm offtake agreement between generation and load
- Generation is geographically aligned to the need (same local resource zone/LRZ)
- Generation nameplate is max 150% of identified load need
- Full site control through POI and all other associated land requirements with transmission owner sign-off of valid point of interconnection/POI at submission
- At submission, electromagnetic transient modeling requirements are met for load and for generation (if inverter-based resource/IBR)

OUTCOMES

- MTEP-approved transmission for reliable load withdrawal
- Allocation of generation injection rights (GIA)
- Optimized set of network upgrades

Submission Guidelines

Load

- Enhanced submission forms requiring information similar to information required today
- Similar to today, the Transmission Owner initial set of transmission solutions identified and submitted to MTEP
- MISO process will focus on accounting for cumulative impacts of new loads and coordinated with affected systems

Generation

- All generator application information must be complete
- Must be able to reach commercial operation within 3 years, plus the 3-year grace period from the pro forma GIA
- \$250,000 nonrefundable application fee (D1)
- 15% increase in Study Deposit (D2) for each of the levels on the sliding scale
- M2: \$30,000/MW payment
- Generation must move through normal interconnection queue to secure injection rights if load goes away

Study Process – 120 days

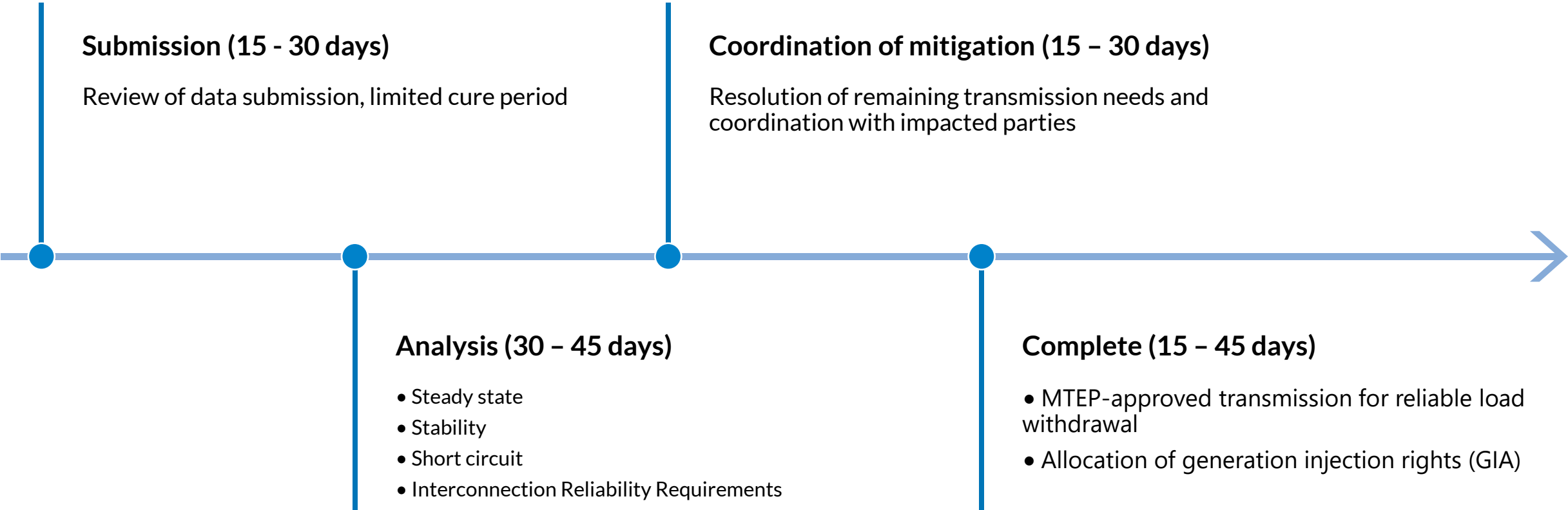
- Aligns with current EPR process (steady state and stability) with the inclusion of new interconnection reliability requirements
- Aligns with generator interconnection steady state, stability, short circuit

MTEP Project Type

- *Baseline Reliability Project or Other*, cost shared to the Transmission Pricing Zone
- *Generator Interconnection Project*

The process is designed to take 120 days; the complexity of the study area and the responsiveness of impacted parties will influence the timeline

General Timeline



Stakeholder Feedback Request

- MISO requests feedback on the **Large Load and Generation Alignment** by Thursday, July 30, 2026
 - Is ≥ 250 MW the right minimum? If not, what threshold better captures high-impact loads without diluting intent? Please explain any reliability or study-volume implications.
 - What readiness or securitization rules best guard against speculative submissions while preserving genuine projects' speed?
 - Are there any items in this process needing improvement? If so, please include your recommended solution or suggested approach.
- Stakeholders are encouraged to download and use the document located in the [Meeting Materials page](#). Please email feedback to StakeholderRelations@misoenergy.org. The “Submit Feedback” button will not be available for this request

Next Steps



Provide feedback

**Due: July 30, 2026
(LLWG)**



Review of Tariff
Language

**August 27, 2026
(LLWG)**



File Tariff

September 2026

Contact

largeloadprogram@misoenergy.org

Appendix

The transmission needed to reliably serve large loads is mostly studied through MISO’s Expedited Project Review (EPR) – an expedited process for member-submitted projects enabling approval in ~3 months, compared to the 18-month MTEP cycle

MTEP Expedited Project Reviews (EPR)

TIMELINE	SCOPE
• ~3 months from submission to approval: ✓ Average of 80 days to study • 30 days for transmission-only studies • 60+ days for large load studies* ✓ About 1 week to approve • Study cycles kick off every other month, and stakeholder meetings occur every month	• Aligns with scope and models for traditional MTEP projects, including stability analysis • Cumulative study process • Updated models with newly signed GIAs • As required coordination with neighbors • Approved projects are rolled into the annual MTEP plan

*Large load study timelines are impacted by the transmission needs, whether coordination is required with our neighbors, and other load requests in the area