

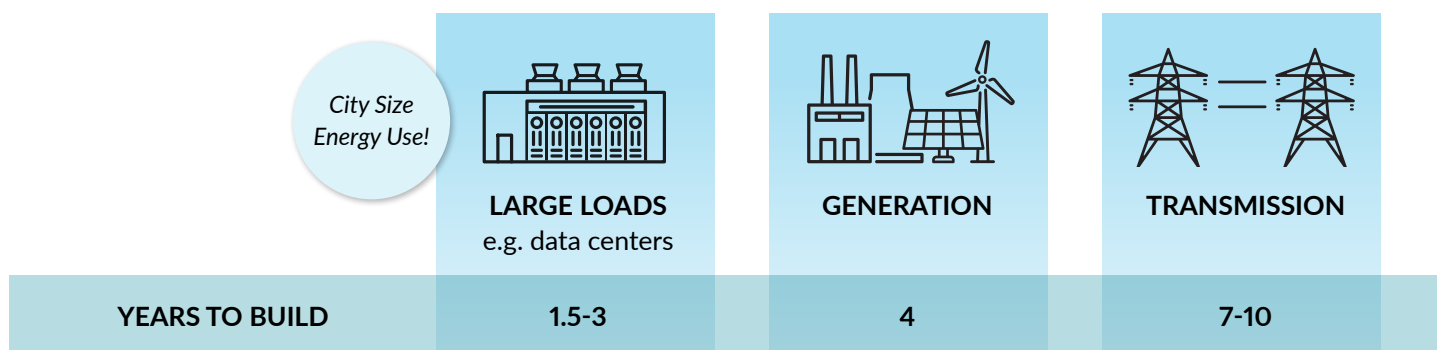
# Connecting Large Energy Users to the Grid Without Compromising Reliability



## CONNECTING LARGE ENERGY USERS TO THE GRID

Connecting a large energy user—like a data center—to the grid isn't as simple as plugging in. These users can consume large amounts of electricity, which can strain existing power lines. Before a large energy user connects, MISO has to check if the grid can handle that extra demand. If not, new infrastructure—like additional power lines or equipment—may need to be built, and MISO works with utilities and developers to make those changes.

Because these facilities consume so much energy, the grid also needs more generation to supply their significant needs without risking reliability for everyone else.



## BALANCING SPEED AND RELIABILITY AS LARGE ENERGY USERS CONNECT

Today, MISO is experiencing an unprecedented surge in requests to connect large energy users—primarily from data centers. These users seek to connect within 1.5-3 years, while generation and transmission timelines typically span 4-10 years. This mismatch creates unique reliability and planning challenges that MISO is taking steps to manage. It's a balancing act—moving quickly to support economic growth while keeping power reliable and affordable for everyone.

MISO is taking the following steps:

- **Leveraging existing processes for speed**  
Expediting critically needed generation (through Expedited Resource Addition Study) and transmission projects (through Expedited Project Review)
- **Pursuing further enhancements**  
Formalizing processes for self-supply, accelerating speed-to-partial power, and designing a non-firm option
- **Establishing rules for reliability**  
Developing reliability requirements for large energy users and enhancements to operations and market processes

Over 20 GW  
of pending large  
energy users  
in MISO

