

RETI Stakeholder Steering Committee Meeting

# Transmission Corridor Zone Designation Process

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# What is it?

- A 12-month process to designate transmission corridor zones for future use as proposed by an investor-owned or municipal utility, a merchant, or by the Energy Commission on its own motion.
- Designated transmission corridor zones are to be reviewed and revised, as necessary, by the Energy Commission at least every 10 years.

# What are the purposes of the designation process?

- Designate and preserve corridor zones to meet long-term high-voltage transmission infrastructure needs.
- Facilitate development of renewable generation.
- Improve reliability of transmission system.
- Streamline permitting and increase the certainty of permitting outcomes.
- Provide a link between long-term transmission planning and permitting.
- Involve local, state and federal governments, generators, other stakeholders, and the public in planning for transmission corridor zones.
- Promote consistency of land use changes with future transmission line development.

# What are the components of the designation process?

- Determination of consistency of proposed transmission corridor with latest Strategic Transmission Investment Plan (Strategic Plan) adopted by the Energy Commission.
- Preparation of Environmental Impact Report to serve as the basis for designation of the transmission corridor zone.
  - Evaluates alternative corridors and “non-wires” alternatives.
  - Evaluates constraints and impacts, mitigation measures, and avoidance opportunities.
  - Tiered environmental review for streamlined transmission line permitting.