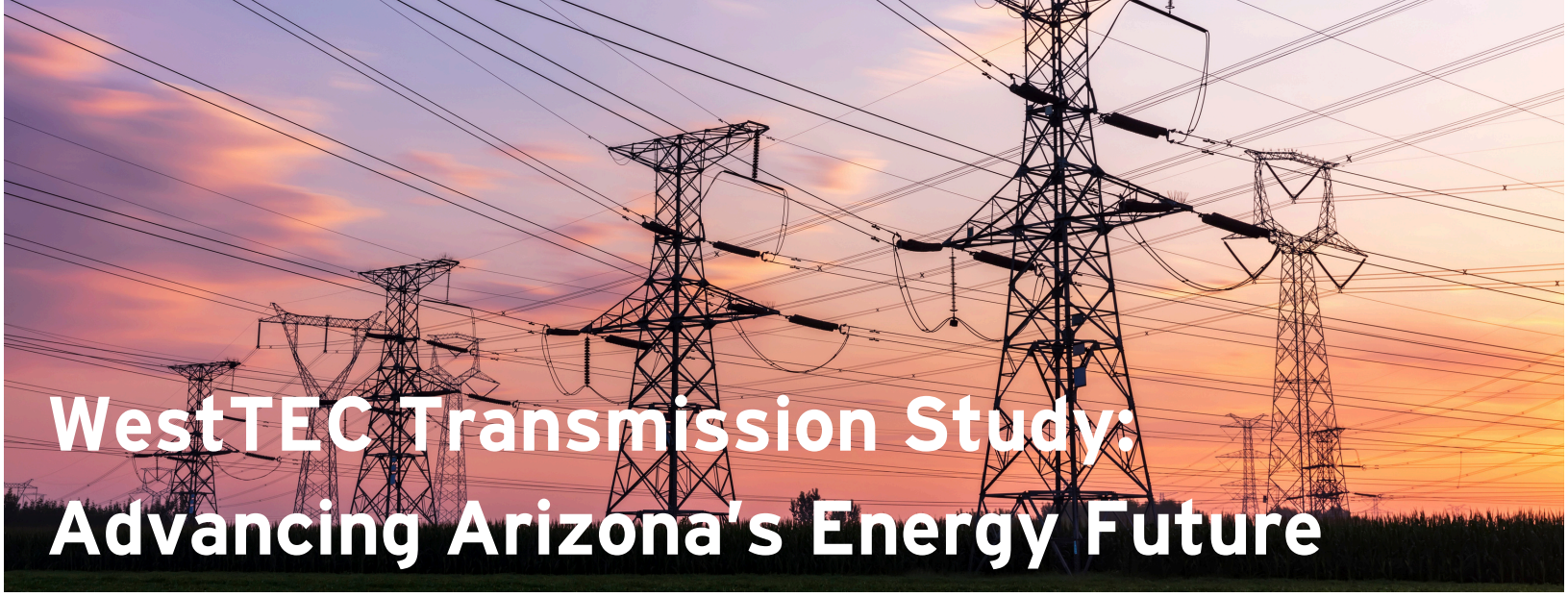

WestTEC Transmission Study: Advancing Arizona's Energy Future

WestTEC's 10-year West-Wide Transmission Study provides an actionable plan to advance critical transmission projects that strengthen reliability, integrate new resources, and enable economic growth in Arizona and across the West.

About the WestTEC study

Through an unprecedented effort paid for and driven by over 70 regional utilities and stakeholders, *WestTEC's West-Wide Transmission Study: 10-year Horizon Report* identifies transmission projects required for reliable and efficient grid operations through 2035. This infrastructure is needed to strengthen reliability, drive economic growth, increase access to a deeper market, expand power sharing across a wider footprint, and preserve affordability. While this summary focuses on projects located in Arizona, the broader portfolio also includes transmission investments in neighboring states that will provide significant reliability and economic benefits to Arizona.

Arizona 2035 outlook

33 % load growth

2,039 miles of transmission upgrades*

47 GW of new generating capacity

*Includes interstate transmission projects with mileage outside of Arizona.

WestTEC benefits for Arizona

WestTEC transmission projects would deliver significant benefits to Arizona, including:

- **More resilience.** Supports critical electricity transfers to keep the lights on during extreme events, such as winter storms and heat waves.
- **More economic development.** Enables 33% load growth by 2035, positioning Arizona to attract and grow new industries.
- **More generation.** Enables 47 GW of new capacity, representing a 203% increase from today.

Total Investment in Arizona

The WestTEC study identified a need for $7.6 billion of new or upgraded transmission in Arizona — roughly 60% of the investment in Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company's (TSMC) operating chip fabrication facility and just 4.5% of its planned buildout.

While this may seem daunting, more than 33% of the total mileage is already in service, and projects representing 41% of the total mileage have either been identified in previous utility studies or are currently under development.

Arizona has the expertise, resources, and institutions to deliver these projects. The following page reviews the full project portfolio and outlines what is next.

Proposed WestTEC transmission projects in Arizona

In Arizona, WestTEC confirmed the need for 13 projects already identified by incumbent and independent developers. It also identified 5 additional projects that are not yet formally planned and will require sponsors. All projects must be completed by 2035 to meet growing demand and maintain reliability in Arizona and across the West.

Tucson Electric Power, Salt River Project, Arizona Public Service, and Western Area Power Administration projects

The incumbent utilities have identified a need for nine WestTEC lines: three by TEP ($192 million), two by SRP ($315 million), one by APS ($146 million), and three by WAPA ($105 million). These lines are in various stages of development with many expected to be completed before 2032. Ensuring these projects are completed on schedule, without permitting or other delays, is critical.

Independent transmission projects

SunZia and Rio Sol are two large clean energy infrastructure projects that run parallel to each other. These projects are predominately located in New Mexico and will play a critical role in connecting New Mexico's wind resources to demand centers in Arizona and across the broader Western grid. Furthermore, Ironwood Transmission Line and Ten West Link are separate projects designed to expand capacity between southwest Arizona and southern California. Ten West Link became operational in 2024.

WestTEC transmission portfolio in Arizona by project developer

Source: Horizon Energy Systems, 2026, ourgridfuture.org

Newly proposed projects

The WestTEC plan identified three new transformers, one new line, and one reconductoring project, totaling approximately $1.7 billion to address both intrastate and regional needs. These projects have not advanced to development and still require sponsorship. Early coordinated action on these projects is essential to ensure reliability through 2035.

What happens next?

WestTEC's 10-Year Transmission Study provides an actionable roadmap for advancing transmission in Arizona. Given the long timeline for siting, permitting, and construction, it is critical to move these projects forward now. Incumbent and independent developers must complete their planned projects, while newly proposed projects will need to be advanced through new partnerships. Strong coordination across stakeholders will be essential to ensure these projects are successfully delivered.

Coming soon…

Expected later in 2026, WestTEC's 20-year horizon study will build on the 10-year horizon study by examining Western grid needs through 2045 under varied load growth, policy, and technology futures. Extending the planning horizon enables more proactive decision-making, helping ensure that near-term investments deliver the greatest long-term value at the lowest overall costs. Additionally, the 20-year study will quantify the cost savings delivered by the portfolio.