



WestTEC Transmission Study: Advancing Wyoming'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 Wyoming 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 Wyoming, the broader portfolio also includes transmission investments in neighboring states that will provide significant reliability and economic benefits to Wyoming.

WestTEC Benefits for Wyoming

WestTEC transmission projects would deliver significant benefits to Wyoming, 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 22% load growth by 2035, positioning Wyoming to attract and grow new industries.
- **More generation.** Enables 4 GW of new capacity, representing a 101% increase from today.

Wyoming 2035 outlook



22% load growth



1,819 miles of transmission upgrades*



4 GW of new generating capacity

*Includes interstate transmission projects with mileage outside of Wyoming.

Total Investment in Wyoming

The WestTEC study identified a need for \$5.75 billion of new or upgraded transmission in Wyoming — an investment roughly equivalent to 70% of the TerraPower Natrium Project in Kemmerer, Wyoming.

While this may seem daunting, 14% of the total mileage is already in service, and projects representing 77% of the total mileage have either been identified in previous utility studies or are currently under development.

Wyoming 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 Wyoming

In Wyoming, WestTEC confirmed the need for three projects already identified by incumbent and independent developers. It also identified two 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 Wyoming and across the West.

Black Hills Energy and PacifiCorp projects

Black Hills Energy completed Ready Wyoming, a 260-mile transmission project, in 2025. In addition, PacifiCorp is developing approximately 675 miles of transmission in Wyoming as part of its broader Energy Gateway portfolio. The full portfolio spans more than 2,300 miles across Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, and Colorado and is designed to strengthen regional grid reliability and transmission capacity. These projects enhance system resiliency and expands access to regional power markets.

Independent transmission projects

The TransWest project is a 732-mile 500kV line crossing Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada. It will help advance regional grid reliability, resource diversification, and interregional coordination. Construction began in 2023 and is expected to be complete by 2027.

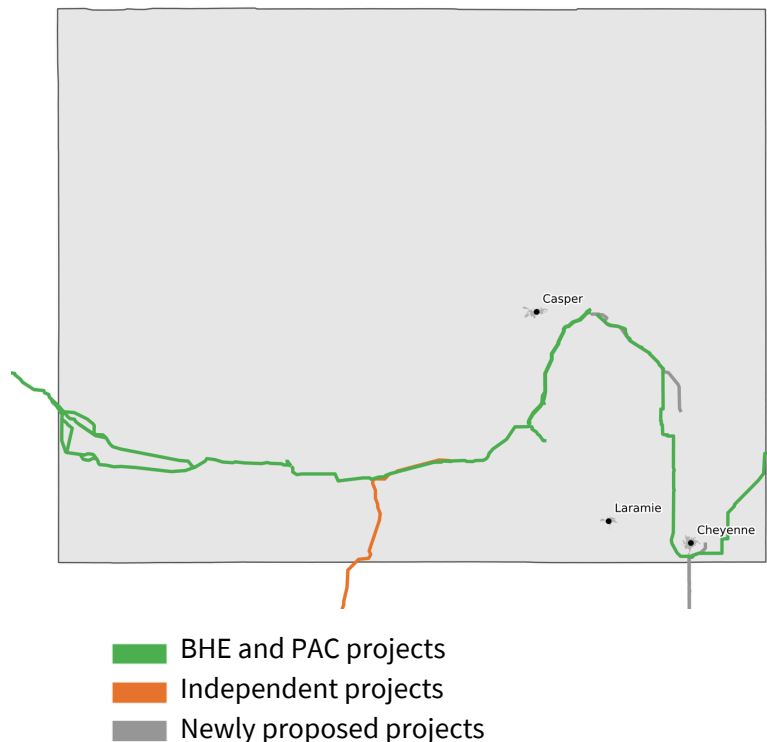
What happens next?

WestTEC's 10-Year Transmission Study provides an actionable roadmap for advancing transmission in Wyoming. Given the long timeline for siting, permitting, and construction, it is critical to move these projects forward now. Incumbent and independent transmission 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.

WestTEC transmission portfolio in Wyoming by project developer



Source: Horizon Energy Systems, 2026, ourgridfuture.org

Newly proposed projects

The WestTEC plan identified two reconductors and one new transformer, totaling \$99 million to address both intrastate and regional needs. While some are being considered by developers, they have not advanced to development and still require sponsorship. Early coordinated action on these projects is essential to ensure reliability through 2035.