



Midwestern Governors Association

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Midwestern Governors Association Applauds the Midwest ISO for the Release of the Regional Generator Outlet Study

Washington, D.C. - The Midwestern Governors Association (MGA) applauds the Midwest Independent System Operator (ISO) for the recent release of its Regional Generator Outlet Study (RGOS), which shows what upgrades and expansions of the region's transmission system are necessary for Midwestern states to meet state standards of 25,000 megawatts of renewable energy capacity. The projects outlined in the RGOS will also assist the MGA in meeting its regional goal of producing 30 percent electricity from renewable resources by 2030, which governors agreed to in 2007 through their *Energy Security and Climate Stewardship Platform for the Midwest*.

The RGOS drew upon the Midwest ISO's initial phases of the study that designated high-capacity Renewable Energy Zones in Midwestern states. Identifying these zones and the corresponding transmission needs provide a greater understanding of where to focus projects and initiatives in order to meet the renewable energy goals.

"The Midwest has tremendous renewable energy resources and has emerged as a leader in the new energy economy," said Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, current MGA chair. "Expanding the region's transmission infrastructure is an important part of our plan to ensure the Midwest's continued growth and that domestic and renewable energy sources will be brought to the marketplace. Midwest ISO's study identifies both the best places to cultivate these resources and the right projects to develop."

The study presents three scenarios that would expand the transmission grid to meet the infrastructural needs associated with the region's increased generation of wind power. This expansion would allow the region's energy prices to remain competitive and ensure regional economic growth.

The RGOS also proposes initial "multi-value transmission projects" that have been proposed by the Midwest ISO for its members to consider as the best options for the first phase of regional transmission development.

Jesse Heier with the MGA stated, "The MGA looks forward to working with the Midwest ISO on their next steps to develop projects and initiatives that meet our region's long-term transmission needs and create jobs in the new energy economy."

In 2009, Midwestern governors affirmed their commitment to the development of a robust energy infrastructure through their *Midwestern Energy Infrastructure Accord*, which called for the expansion of electric transmission capacity in support of renewable energy development and distributed generation. At that time, governors expressed their appreciation to the Midwest ISO for their ongoing collaboration with the MGA and the Southwest Power Pool on analyses of regional transmission.

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