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March 12, 2026

Ms. Eepsita Priye, Chair  
WECC Studies Subcommittee  
Western Energy Board

Mr. Doug Tucker  
Senior Staff Engineer  
Western Electricity Coordinating Council

## **2026 Annual Progress Report Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association**

In accordance with WECC reporting requirements, the following Annual Progress Report is submitted by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association. This report includes updates to previously reported projects, initial progress reports for new projects, and descriptions of projects for which Tri-State requests waivers of Significant Project Status.

### **San Luis Valley-Poncha 230 kV Line Project (previously San Luis Valley-Carson 230kV Line Project and San Luis Valley-Calumet-Comanche Transmission Project) (2013 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 230 kV transmission line from the existing San Luis Valley Substation to the existing Poncha Substation. This project is under re-evaluation through sub-regional planning groups and the projected in-service date for this project is TBD.

### **Burlington – Lamar 230 kV Line (2022 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 230 kV transmission line from the existing Burlington Substation to the existing Lamar (Tri-State) Substation. This project was coordinated in the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group via the Responsible Energy Plan Task Force. This project is needed for local reliability and renewable energy development purposes. This project went into service March 2025.

### **Boone – Huckleberry 230 kV Line (2022 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 230 kV transmission line from the existing Boone Substation to a new Huckleberry Substation, which will sectionalize the existing Comanche – Walsenburg 230 kV line near Comanche Substation. This project was coordinated in the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group via the Responsible Energy Plan Task Force. This project is needed for local reliability and renewable energy development purposes. The projected in-service date is April 2026, final stages of the substation construction process have begun.

### **Badger Creek – Big Sandy 230 kV Line (2022 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 230 kV transmission line from the existing Big Sandy Substation to a new Badger Creek Substation, which will sectionalize the existing Henry Lake – Story 230 kV line. This project was coordinated in the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group via the Responsible Energy Plan Task Force. This project is needed for local reliability and renewable energy development purposes. The projected in-service date is 2028.

### **Big Sandy – Burlington 230 kV Line Uprate (2022 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of structure replacements and/or modifications along the existing Big Sandy – Windtalker – Landsman Creek – Burlington 230 kV line to improve the line rating. This project was



coordinated in the Colorado Coordinated Planning Group via the Responsible Energy Plan Task Force. This project is needed for local reliability and renewable energy development purposes. The projected in-service date is 2028.

**Crosspoint 230 kV Substation (2023 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 230 kV Crosspoint Substation, which will sectionalize the existing Lincoln – Midway 230 kV line. This project is needed to improve load-serving capability and create a new delivery point, and is not expected to have significant impact to the reliability of the WECC interconnected system. The projected in-service date is June 2027.

**Milk Creek 345 kV Substation (2024 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of a new 345 kV Milk Substation, which will sectionalize the existing Craig – Meeker 345 kV line. This project is needed to interconnect a 145 MW generator, and is not expected to have significant impact to the reliability of the WECC interconnected system. This substation went into service August 2025, and the associated generation achieved commercial operations October 2025.

**Boone – Lamar 230 kV Reconductor (2025 Waiver Granted)**

This project consists of replacing the Boone – Lamar 230 kV transmission line SD conductor with equivalently sized ACSR conductor. This project will have minimal impact on ratings and power flows, and is not expected to have significant impact to the reliability of the WECC interconnected system. The projected in-service date is 2028.

**Initial Progress Reports and Request for Waiver**

The following projects are being submitted in accordance with WECC reporting requirements for new projects. Tri-State requests a waiver of Significant Project Status for the following projects:

- PEGS – Ambrosia 230 kV Line Upgrade

Appendix A of this report contains the project descriptions, planned operating dates, project schedules, and other requested information. The project does not increase capacity or significantly alter flows, it is not expected to have any significant impact to the reliability of the WECC interconnected system.

**Generation Progress Reports**

The following Generation resources (200 MW or greater) in Table 1 went into service in 2025 or are planned to be in-service between 2026 and 2028.

Project Name	Point of Interconnection	Owner	Net MW	Type	ISD
None					

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Curt Feinberg, P.E.  
Planning Engineer  
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association



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**2026 Annual Progress Report  
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association**

**Appendix A: Initial Progress Reports and Request for Waiver**

**Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association  
2026-2036 Transmission Plan  
Pegs – Ambrosia 230 kV Line Upgrade**

<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
<b>Additional Project Participants:</b>	None
<b>Project Description:</b>	Perform two structure replacements on the PEGS (Escalante) – Ambrosia 230 kV Line to improve its Maximum Operating Temperature from 50°C to 100°C. The line is constructed with 1590 kcmil ACSR “Falcon” conductor.
Voltage Class:	230 kV
Facility Rating:	446 MVA (terminal limited)
Location:	Western New Mexico, McKinley county
Type of Project:	Transmission Upgrade
Development Status:	Planned
<b>Purpose of Project:</b>	The existing 50°C line may limit the 200 MW solar generator at this location during outages of the 230/115 kV transformer. This project permits more consistent operation and general operational flexibility for relatively low effort.
Project Driver (Primary):	Transmission Reliability
<b>Estimated Cost (in 2025 Dollars):</b>	\$106,000
<i>Schedule:</i>	
Construction Date:	
Planned In-Service Date:	2027
Regulatory Info:	
Regulatory Date:	
Permitting Info:	
Permitting Date:	
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