

MISO Board of Directors Statement of Guiding Principles For MISO Transmission Expansion Planning

Upon the recommendation of the MISO Strategic Planning Committee, the Board of Directors of the MISO provides the following Guiding Principles to the MISO staff as they fulfill their RTO transmission system expansion planning responsibilities.

Guiding Principles for Transmission Expansion Planning

MISO's transmission expansion planning process must enable the satisfaction of all applicable reliability standards, consider transmission needs driven by state and federal energy policy standards, enable a competitive energy market to benefit all customers, and support interregional coordination and planning processes. The plan must identify and support development of transmission infrastructure that is sufficiently robust to meet local and regional reliability standards, and enable competition among wholesale energy suppliers. To that end, the MISO transmission expansion planning process shall:

1. Identify transmission enhancements which would make the benefits of an economically efficient energy market available to customers by providing access to electricity at the lowest total system cost;
2. Direct the development of a transmission infrastructure that satisfies all applicable reliability standards;
3. Identify transmission enhancements which will support the satisfaction of state and federal energy policy requirements, as defined by state and federal policy makers;
4. With a focus on the impacts to end-use consumers, provide an appropriate cost allocation mechanism that ensures that costs of transmission expansion projects are allocated roughly commensurate with the projected benefits of those projects taking into account cost causation principles;
5. Consistent with existing data practices and policies, provide stakeholders, including state and federal energy policy makers, access to the data and models used in the regional transmission planning process to provide context and inform the choices they face; and
6. Engage in interregional coordinated transmission planning.