In New York, transmission needs driven by public policy requirements are identified by the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC). The NYISO then evaluates and selects the more efficient or cost-effective solutions to address those needs through a competitive, multi-step process, called the “Public Policy Transmission Planning Process.”

Step 1 The NYISO solicits proposals for transmission needs driven by public policy requirements and may offer its own suggestions. These proposed needs are provided to the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) for consideration through an open public process.

Step 2 The PSC identifies specific public policy transmission needs and following a technical conference the NYISO requests proposed transmission designs from developers.

Step 3 The NYISO evaluates the proposals based on a wide range of defined criteria to identify the more efficient or cost-effective solution.

Step 4 Based on NYISO evaluations and stakeholder input, the NYISO Board of Directors may select a project based on which is the more efficient or cost-effective to meet the need identified by the PSC.

As public policies continue to shape the grid of the future, the need to invest in the transmission system has never been greater. The good news is that a historic level of investment is underway, with projects recently completed or under construction that will deliver more clean energy to consumers while enhancing grid reliability.

Recent Public Policy Transmission Successes

» The Empire State Line
This 20-mile, 345 kV transmission line, which entered service in 2022, supports New York State’s climate goals by ensuring the full output of hydroelectric generating facilities in Western New York.

» The AC Transmission Projects
Two projects are under construction in the Mohawk and Hudson Valley regions and, upon completion, will deliver more than 1,000 MW of additional power from upstate generators to downstate consumers. The NYISO selected two teams of developers to build out the 150 miles of projects that are expected to be in service by December 2023.
Driven by the goals of the CLCPA, the PSC declared the Long Island Offshore Wind Export Public Policy Transmission Need in March 2021. The need sought to increase the export capability from Long Island to the rest of the state to ensure access to a minimum of 3,000 MW of offshore wind.

On June 13, 2023, the NYISO Board of Directors selected one project identified as the more efficient or cost-effective solution.

Long Island Public Policy Transmission Need
Selected Project: Propel NY Alternate Solution 5

Developer: New York Power Authority and New York Transco LLC (collectively, Propel NY)

Project Overview: Three new underground 345 kV cables connecting Long Island with the rest of the state and a 345 kV transmission backbone across western/central Long Island, plus additional infrastructure reinforcements.

Project Benefits: Access to at least 3,000 MW of future offshore wind. The project also provides operating flexibility under a variety of conditions. Additionally, the project has relatively low procurement, permitting, and construction risks compared to other proposed projects.

Capital Cost Estimate: $3.26 billion with Propel NY having agreed to contain certain costs.

Required In-Service Date: May 2030

What’s Next? Propel NY will begin the permitting process with the appropriate governmental agencies and authorities, and the NYISO will enter into development agreements for the project.

To learn more about the selected LI PPTN project, visit www.nyiso.com