MID-GRID 2035 Vision Statement

An effective regional transmission grid offers the Midwestern states tremendous benefits by*:*

- enabling each state and their load-serving entities to access "greatest value" resources that reflect their individual requirements and objectives such as reliability, economic considerations, and state policy interests;
- spurring economic development through local investment and job growth, and attracting new customers with competitive energy rates and access to clean generation;
- creating market opportunities for balancing and other enhanced reliability services from resources across the region; and
- supporting state energy policies, while hedging against uncertainty of future federal policies.

Optimizing the region's transmission grid will ensure grid infrastructure investments are made as efficiently as possible, providing more value for every dollar spent relative to a piece-meal planning approach. It will also maximize consumer value, assuring reliability and meeting state economic and policy objectives.

What is Needed

A broader, comprehensive long-range transmission plan is needed to help define and shape the shared future we want. A long-range plan will be used to evaluate assumptions and identify the most important sensitivities to differentiate plans or solutions that are likely to succeed from those more likely to fail. In this effort, proactive leadership and dynamic, data-driven transmission studies focused on long-term goals are needed to reshape the Midwestern states' energy generation and delivery systems to meet the needs of the future while fostering economic growth, development and prosperity.

Vision Statement

Accordingly, the MGA MID-GRID 2035 process supports the development of a regional, coordinated long-range transmission plan that is consistent with Organization of MISO States' Long-Range Planning Principles.[1] The development of the long-range plan should be conducted by the Regional Transmission Operators serving the participating states with the collaborative input from states and interested stakeholders that meet the following objectives:

- ensure reliability requirements continue to be met while delivering the lowest-cost electricity;
- identify and enable efficient ways to achieve each state's individual and shared economic development and policy goals;
- utilize, to the maximum extent reasonable, current transmission infrastructure and right-of-way corridors within the context of each state's long-term planning needs to support meaningful public engagement and minimize siting challenges;
- explore a variety of options including transmission expansion and other emerging grid technology solutions to maximize grid flexibility and meet other system needs;
- identify the benefits and costs of the identified needs and opportunities and
- develop recommendations through a transparent stakeholder process.

[1] https://www.misostates.org/images/20190613_Long-Range_Transmission_Planning_Principles_-_Approved__Combined.pdf