

# 6 FERC ORDER NO. 2023 CHANGES



## 1) Cluster Study Process

Transition from a "first-come, first-served" serial study process to a "first-ready, first-served" cluster study process. This major shift means that projects will now be studied in batches, increasing efficiency and potentially reducing wait times for interconnection.

## 2) Financial Readiness and Site Control

To reduce speculation and ensure that only serious projects enter the queue, the new rule imposes higher financial readiness requirements, including increased deposit amounts and demonstration of site control. This aims to streamline the queue by focusing on projects that are more likely to be developed.

## 3) Public Information Access

The introduction of a requirement for transmission providers to maintain a publicly available heatmap of available transmission capacity. This tool is designed to help prospective interconnection customers make more informed decisions about where to connect, potentially reducing congestion and inefficiencies in the queue.

## 4) Penalty Reform

New withdrawal penalties for interconnection customers whose queue withdrawal significantly impacts others, aiming to deter non-viable projects from entering the queue. Additionally, a transition process for existing queue requests offers various options to adapt to the new rules, including a choice between a transitional serial or cluster study.

## 5) Speeding Up the Queue

The rule imposes strict deadlines for completing interconnection studies and introduces penalties for transmission providers that fail to meet these deadlines. This change is expected to reduce delays and improve the overall pace of processing interconnection requests.

## 6) Technology Integration

The rule facilitates the interconnection of new technologies by allowing more flexible arrangements, such as multiple resources sharing a single point of interconnection. It also requires consideration of alternative advanced technologies that could provide more efficient solutions.

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