



# Monthly Energy Update

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## Non-CAISO West gets an 'F' on Transmission Planning in New Report

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) got high marks in a recent report evaluating transmission planning and spending across the United States.

The same report—"Transmission Planning and Development Regional Report Card," from the nonprofit Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG)—gave near-failing grades to the rest of the West, citing a lack of centralized, regional transmission planning.

Planning and development processes have to evolve if the country is going to have a transmission grid able to support growing demand from electrification and increasing renewable energy amounts, ACEG's report says.

The sentiment is widely shared by many in the industry.

Robin Arnold, director for markets and transmission for Renewable Northwest, said in a statement that the report highlights how traditional regional transmission planning is focused on short-term reliability, but struggles to meet the long-term needs of the evolving grid.

"Particularly in [non-regional transmission organization] regions such as the Northwest, regional planning has failed to proactively identify large-scale transmission lines that would ease the interconnection queue backlog and help to reduce the overall energy costs in the region by accessing geographic diversity