

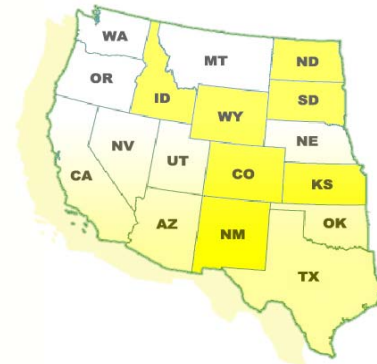
State Transmission Infrastructure Authorities: The Story So Far

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Location:

Seven states have created state authorities that are focused on promoting and facilitating transmission infrastructure planning and development.

- ▶ Wyoming Infrastructure Authority (WIA, 2004)
- ▶ Idaho Energy Resources Authority (IERA, 2005)
- ▶ Kansas Electric Transmission Authority (KETA, 2005)
- ▶ North Dakota Transmission Authority (NDTA, 2005)
- ▶ South Dakota Energy Infrastructure Authority (SDEIA, 2005)
- ▶ Colorado Clean Energy Development Authority (CEDA, 2007)
- ▶ New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (RETA, 2007)



As a rule, these states are rich in potential generation resources and have a desire to develop these resources for export to other states.

Characteristics:

The state infrastructure authorities have various different requirements and capabilities based on the design characteristics incorporated into their respective legislations.

	Issues Revenue Bonds	Cap on Bonding Amount	Can Own Facilities	Can Operate Facilities	Required to Divest facilities	Required to Give Public Notice	Power of Eminent Domain within Their States
CEDA	√						√
IERA	√		√	√	√ #		√
KETA	√ *		√			√	√
RETA	√		√ *			√	√
NDTA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
SDEIA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
WIA	√	√ ^	√ &	√ &		√	√

* Contracts with Kansas Development Finance Authority for the bonds.

IERA must partner with a utility or IPP and they can request that IERA divest a facility.

^ Cap only applies to bond issuances for private sector projects, not for WIA's own projects.

+ Must be leased to another entity.

& Policy preference is not to own and operate facilities.

Progress to Date:

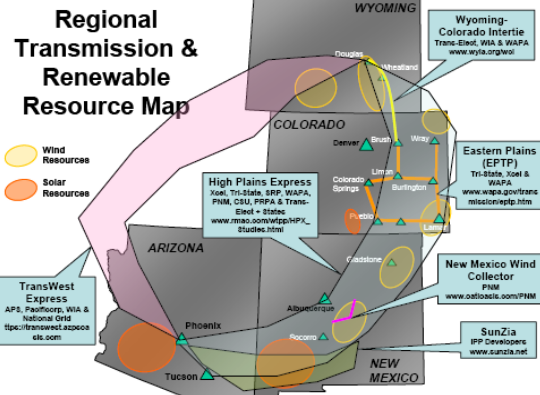
One bonding issuance: WIA => \$34.5 million for the Hughes Transmission Project, a 130-mile 230 kV line by Basin Electric Power Cooperative of Bismarck, North Dakota.

Several major regional transmission line projects are in various stages of planning and development. WIA, CEDA, and RETA are participating (or contemplating participating) in the High Plains Express Project. KETA has been exploring options for connecting to the Eastern Plains Transmission Project through the X-Plan transmission project. ITC Great Plains is moving forward with two portions of the X-Plan, a Spearville (KS) to Axtell (NB) line, and a Spearville to Wichita line.

Wind Potential:

All seven state transmission authorities are located in states with high quality wind resources. Any success these authorities have in funding and/or supporting new transmission could lead to increased market opportunities for wind power.

	Wind Resource Quality National Rank
ND	1 st
KS	3 rd
SD	4 th
WY	7 th
CO	11 th
NM	12 th
ID	13 th



Source: Presentation by Jerry Vaninetti at the CEDA Board Meeting in Denver, CO on December 18, 2007. Accessed February 12, 2008. www.wia.org

Project	Likely Fuel Types on Line	Total Transfer Capability (MW)	Expected MW of Wind
Wyoming-Colorado Intertie	Wind	800-900	800 – 900*
TranWest Express/Gateway South	Wind, Coal, Natural Gas	4,500 – 7,500	Unknown
High Plain Express	Wind, Solar, Coal, Natural Gas	3,000	1,000 – 2,000
Eastern Plains	Coal, Natural Gas	1,200 – 1,800	0
X-Plan	Coal, Wind	2,600	Unknown
SunZia	Natural Gas, Wind, Solar, Geothermal	3,000	Unknown

* Actual amount will depend on the results of an open season held in summer 2008.

Conclusions & Recommendations:

For other states that may be contemplating creating transmission infrastructure authorities we recommend the following:

Independence – requiring legislative approval for bond issuance may introduce uncertainty and slow the process.

Funding – adequate funding for operating costs and for contingencies allows for support of regional planning and large-scale projects.

Start Small but Think Big – starting with a small project provides experience and an initial revenue stream.

Collaboration and Partnerships – public meetings, outreach and partnerships with other entities help facilitate regional transmission planning and helps leverage additional resources.