



Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Update
 Senate Committee on Local Government and Energy




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44 Member-Systems are Tri-State

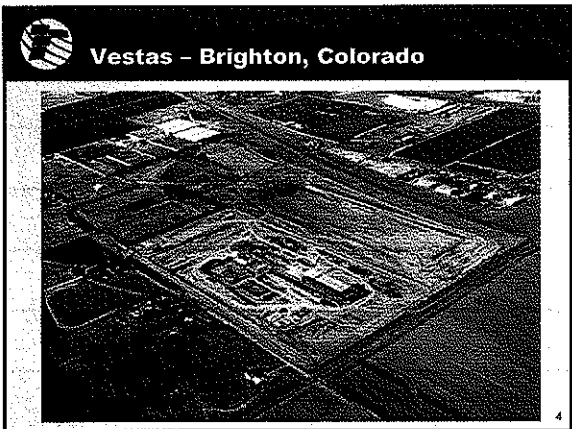
- Consumer-owned, not-for-profit wholesale power supplier owned by 44 electric cooperatives and public power districts
- Through its members, Tri-State serves a population of approximately 1.4 million people across 250,000 square miles over 500 miles of transmission



Transmission infrastructure and economic development

- To capture economic development benefits from energy, we must continue to invest in Colorado's transmission infrastructure
- Economic development benefits
 - Increased reliability
 - Support for growing loads, and associated investment and jobs
 - Access to energy markets
 - Opportunities for generator interconnections, including renewables
 - Renewable energy integration
 - Jobs from construction of transmission, interconnected generation
 - Increased tax base





Vestas – Brighton, Colorado

**Transmission and economic development
Supporting new job creation**

- New Western/Tri-State transmission line
- Henry Lake substation additions and double circuit line
 - Improves deliverability for Tri-State at Henry Lake and improves reliability for proposed Sipres point of delivery (Vestas)
- Sipres Substation
 - New point of delivery for United Power to Vestas
- Erie Substation
 - Improved deliverability for Tri-State at Erie, improves reliability for existing and proposed points of delivery, including Vestas

**Transmission and economic development
Siting, environmental and permitting**

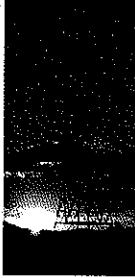
Goal is to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public input, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements.

1. Siting Process
 - corridor and route identification
2. Public Involvement
 - hold a series of scoping workshops
3. Environmental Process
 - identify potential environmental effects
4. Permitting
 - acquire land-use permits from local county and municipal authorities



Transmission infrastructure

- The transmission system is constrained
- Utilities and transmission providers are working together to meet long-term needs
 - Colorado Coordinated Planning Group
 - Colorado Long Range Transmission Planning Group
 - SB 100 study
- Tri-State continues planning for new or upgraded transmission across Colorado
 - \$1.5 billion 10-year capital construction plan
- Major projects are actively being developed
 - MOU with Xcel Energy
- Participation in regional projects
 - High Plains Express



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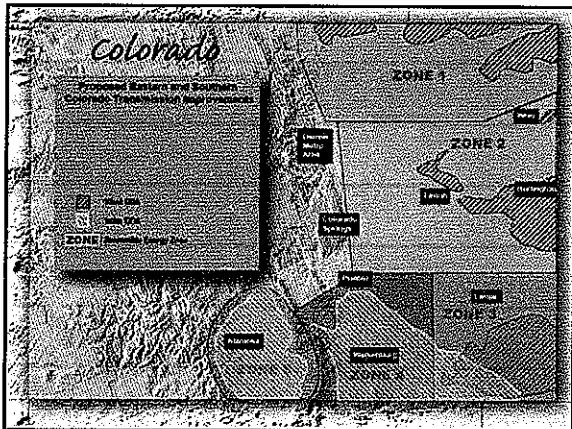
Tri-State transmission projects

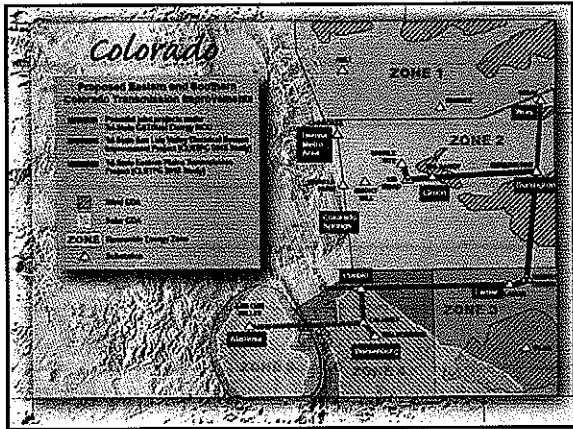
- Eastern Plains Transmission Project
 - "Backbone" system across eastern/southern Colo. supports reliability, load growth and new interconnections, including renewable energy
 - 21 public meetings with over 1,200 participants, counties and coalitions passed support resolutions
 - Routing, engineering and right-of-way work begun in 2006
- San Luis Valley Electrical System Improvement Project
 - New system to serve San Luis Valley and south central Colo., support reliability and renewables development
 - Environmental studies underway
 - Public meetings began earlier this year
- Many other projects across Colorado and region

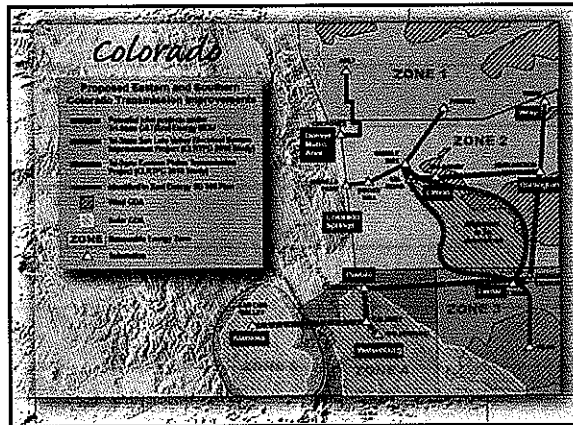
Local governments formally supporting EPTP include Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Kit Carson, Kiowa, Morgan, Prowers, Washington and Yuma. Regional coalitions supporting EPTP include Action 22 and Progressive 15

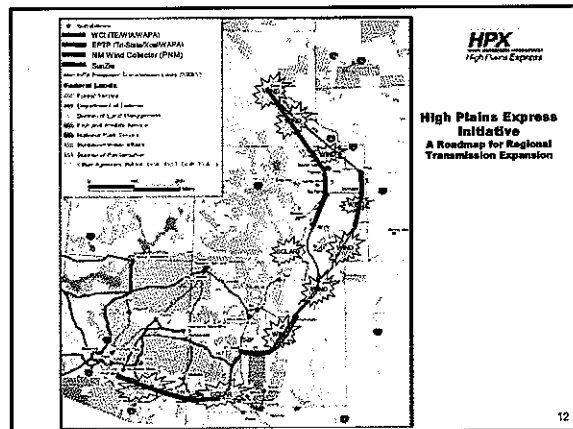


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Energy investment, environment and economic development

- To capture environmental and economic development benefits from energy, Tri-State continues to invest in infrastructure, efficiency, renewables and advanced technology

● Benefits

- Provides options for resource planning
- Increased electric system reliability and support for growing loads, with corresponding jobs and investment
- Reduced emissions and increased efficiency
- Increased opportunities renewable energy interconnections and integration
- Jobs and investment from construction and operation of transmission and interconnected generation
- Increased tax base in rural communities



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