



PJM Critical Issue Fast Path Large Load Additions Solution Options

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Delivering generation in three fast-growing markets



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Utility

Customers are all solving for a combination of **cost, reliability, sustainability, and speed to power.**

Proposed Solution Option Topics for Today

1. Supply Side - Expedited Interconnection
2. Demand Side - Voluntary NCBL

Supply Side Issues

1. PJM new cluster process in 2026 should start to cut time in queue from 4+ years to 1-2 years and be the path for most new gens
2. However, Expedited Interconnection Track may offer additional value during capacity crunch
3. Recommended EIT focus: What can be built quickly, not just how big. Larger generation projects often face larger challenges (i.e., financing, supply chain, permitting, network upgrades)
 - a. ≥50 MW greenfield, repower, uprates and hybridization offer sub 3-year solutions
 - b. ≥50 MW is 80-90% of the data center market based on BNEF data → aligns with individual large load additions
4. Range of state regulatory regimes in PJM → “state sponsorship” may run into implementation and other challenges that pose barriers to expedite generation
 - a. Large loads may wish to sponsor generation and new gen should be eligible without sponsorship

Supply Side Solution Options

1. Expedited Interconnection Track - Eligibility
 - a. MW Requirements - Requests must be for generation ≥ 50 MW (not ≥ 500 MW).
 - b. All Gen (greenfield, repower, uprates, hybridization) eligible
2. Expedited Interconnection Track - Sponsorship
 - a. Government or relevant state commission sponsorship is voluntary
3. Expedited Interconnection Track - Eligibility - POI
 - a. POI can be transmission system or distribution system

Demand Side Issues

1. Firm electrical and gas service can be difficult to obtain in some regions of PJM experiencing fast load growth. Currency for lg loads is primarily speed, not \$\$
2. Utilities in some regions of US are offering “flexible”, “conditional” or “non-firm” service to get large loads connected faster (retail process)
3. Demand response and PRD are useful PJM capacity-based products but do not enable faster interconnection for load —> NCBL also has a key role

Demand Side Solution Options and State Activity

1. Solution Options - Large Load Interconnections
 - a. Support offering Non-Capacity Backed Load (NCBL) as voluntary
2. Related State/EDC Alignment
 - a. PJM's states/EDCs/Lg Loads can develop “flexible”, “conditional” or “non-firm” electric service for faster access to grid, contingent on grid curtailment during specified conditions
 - b. Major additional benefit: Retail flexible service could be designed to qualify for PJM voluntary NCBL

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