



Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative Project

March 2010

The Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC), a coalition of 24 transmission planning authorities in the Eastern U.S. and Canada, has engaged The Keystone Center to make recommendations for and implement the stakeholder process that will support a multi-year study of the EI energy resources and transmission system. The EIPC has been awarded a \$16 million Department of Energy (DOE) grant to integrate existing sub-regional plans and evaluate longer-term resource and policy scenarios that will shape the transmission system of the future. Stakeholders, including transmission and generation owners, consumer and environmental advocates, renewable energy generators, end users, public power and state regulators, and Canadian provinces in the EI, will provide strategic guidance on the future scenarios. They will help identify federal and state policy drivers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and new technologies that may dramatically impact the grid. They will advise the EIPC on scenario assumptions such as the amount and location of new renewable resources and other low-carbon generation, the impact of new smart grid technologies, the penetration of demand-side resources, and the impact of new electricity load such as plug-in hybrid vehicles.

The Keystone Center will facilitate all the stakeholder activities, including the steering committee, stakeholder work groups, and public outreach efforts from 2010 through mid-2012. The EIPC will issue its report to DOE, with the stakeholder-specified future scenarios and related transmission analyses in June 2012. This effort will provide not only forward-looking information about the transmission needs of a carbon-constrained future, but will also result in new EI planning processes and tools. To learn more about the EIPC and join the stakeholder listserv for future updates, go to <http://eipconline.com>.