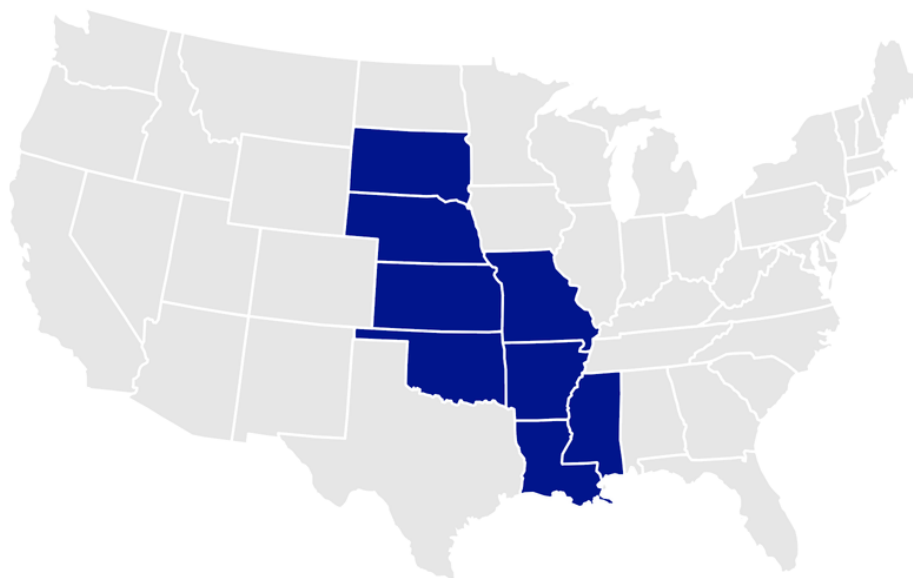


Powering Growth and
Affordability

The Role of Transmission in Economic and National Security

SPP + MISO SOUTH

From the Great Plains to the Gulf Coast, transmission expansion can improve reliability, support economic growth and industrial expansion, and strengthen energy security in one of America's most important regions for strategic defense.



Note: This map is an approximation of the region studied, and does not show the exact boundaries of the ISO.

Why Transmission Matters

Reliability and resilience. Winter Storms Uri and Elliott showed how vulnerable the region can be during severe weather. Expanding transmission allows utilities to share power across a larger area, improving reliability and reducing the risk of shortages during extreme events.

Congestion relief. The grid cannot always move power where it is needed most. The study identifies a long-term need for additional transmission within SPP that would reduce congestion, improve reliability, and lower costs for customers.

Interregional transfer. Connecting regions delivers major benefits. The study finds value in new transmission links connecting SPP and MISO, allowing regions to share resources, lower costs, and respond more effectively as electricity demand grows.

Cost-effective generation. Transmission gives the region access to a wider mix of power resources, improves flexibility across grid boundaries, and helps maintain reliability during costly extreme weather events.

Within-region need. Growing communities need additional grid capacity. The study identifies additional transmission needs within the region, including links between MISO's subregions and between Arkansas and Louisiana, to support future data-center, industrial, and manufacturing growth.

Region at a Glance

Grid Region: SPP + MISO South

Key Load Centers: Kansas City, Omaha, Louisiana

Demand Compound

Annual Growth Rate: 1.6% (SPP) / 1.4% (MISO)

Top Drivers of Transmission

Need: AI/manufacturing growth, defense manufacturing

Key finding: SPP + MISO South delivers one of the strongest returns on transmission investment in the study. Transmission expansion can generate up to \$1.9 billion in net value for customers while returning up to \$1.91 in benefits for every \$1.00 invested.

What's At Stake

Customer savings: Transmission reduces congestion and lowers the overall cost of meeting growing energy demand.

Reliability: No region studied benefits more from transmission-enabled power supply sharing and flexibility during extreme weather events.

Economic growth: Kansas City, Omaha, and Louisiana are emerging centers for data centers, advanced manufacturing, and industrial development that depend on a reliable supply of electricity.

National security: The region supports approximately 173,300 military personnel, strategic nuclear forces, US Strategic Command, and more than \$9 billion in annual defense spending.

Defense & National Security

The region includes strategic nuclear deterrence missions, US Strategic Command, major air bases, and an extensive defense manufacturing footprint. Reliable transmission helps ensure these missions, military families in surrounding communities, and defense industries have access to dependable electricity during both routine operations and extreme weather events to ensure mission readiness.

By the Numbers

\$1.9B

Maximum value delivered by transmission expansion in SPP + MISO South.

\$1.91

Returned. Benefits for \$1.00 invested under the study's high-demand case.

173,300

Military personnel supported by the region's defense footprint.

\$11B

Annual defense contract spending supported across the region.