



## **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Updates Affecting Industry**

The REC recently filed an intervention letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the SOO Green HVDC Link Project complaint. The SOO Green HDVC Link has filed a complaint and request for relief with FERC. Essentially the complaint addresses how PJMs tariff and operating agreements are unjust and unreasonable for merchant transmission facilities to complete the generation interconnection process to be studied and integrated into the grid. The SOO Green HVDC Link project will install an HVDC transmission cable underground along existing railroad corridors. This would entitle the REC to participate in the proceeding, arguably on the basis that our participation as a party is in the public interest. Leveraging existing railroad rights-of-way to co-locate new electric infrastructure is core to the RECs mission. The REC had previously provided comments to FERC arguing for incentives for transmission projects that utilize "brownfields" such as Railroad Rights-of-Way to co-locate transmission facilities. Please see the [Council's website](#) for a copy of the [Intervention](#) and a copy of the [incentive comments](#).

In other news, FERC also issued a major Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on July 27, 2021, beginning a two or three-year discussion about how the electric grid must adapt to the challenges created by the rapid increase in reliance on location-constrained renewable resources, principally wind and solar generation, and the demands of state and Federal public policies increasingly focused on addressing climate change, infrastructure resilience, changing consumer preferences, and technological innovation.



This rulemaking is likely to impact how transmission is planned and sited and its costs allocated. The comment periods for this large proceeding will run well into 2022. REC will be canvassing its members about how it should participate (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-07-27/html/2021-15512.htm>)