



Adopted Policy Resolution 01.2026

Supporting Grid Modernization Through the Evaluation and Deployment of Innovative Transmission Technologies

Sponsor

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian, Maryland

WHEREAS, the electric transmission system is critical to maintaining reliable, affordable, secure, and resilient electric service throughout the Southern States Energy Board region; and

WHEREAS, continued growth in advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence, data centers, and other emerging industries is driving unprecedented demand for reliable electricity, underscoring the need to meet that demand without shifting new costs onto ratepayers and to make the most efficient use of existing transmission assets; and

WHEREAS, maintaining a modern, resilient electric grid is essential to supporting economic competitiveness, energy security, national security, and continued prosperity of the Southern region; and

WHEREAS, state policymakers, public utility commissions, utilities, regional transmission organizations, system operators, research institutions, national laboratories, and other stakeholders each play an important role in ensuring that electric transmission infrastructure continues to meet the evolving needs of consumers and the economy; and

WHEREAS, Alternative Transmission Technologies (ATTs), including grid enhancing technologies¹ and advanced conductors, have demonstrated the potential to improve the capacity, flexibility, reliability, resilience, and operational efficiency of existing transmission facilities; and

WHEREAS, consideration of ATTs alongside traditional transmission solutions may help maximize the performance of existing infrastructure, improve value for ratepayers, and meet growing electricity demand through more efficient use of existing transmission assets; and

WHEREAS, ATTs are intended to complement, rather than replace, investments in new transmission infrastructure where additional capacity is necessary to maintain long-term electric reliability and support continued economic growth; and

¹ Examples of grid enhancing technologies include dynamic line ratings, advanced power flow control devices, topology optimization software, and transmission switching.

WHEREAS, the appropriate evaluation and deployment of ATTs can improve situational awareness for system operators, strengthen electric system resilience against extreme weather, physical attacks, and cyberattacks, optimize the use of existing transmission infrastructure, reduce congestion where appropriate, and complement future transmission investments when supported by sound engineering and economic analysis; and

WHEREAS, continued innovation in electric transmission technologies can strengthen the nation's electric infrastructure while preserving reliability, affordability, cybersecurity, and operational integrity, and supporting global economic competitiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southern States Energy Board encourages the continued evaluation and deployment of ATTs and other innovative technologies where they can improve electric system reliability, resilience, operational efficiency, and cost-effectiveness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports continued research, demonstration projects, technical validation, and information sharing among states, utilities, regional transmission organizations, system operators, industry, national laboratories, universities, and federal partners to advance the understanding and appropriate application of ATTs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board encourages policies that foster innovation, facilitate prudent investment in electric transmission infrastructure, promote consideration of innovative transmission technologies as part of comprehensive transmission planning, and preserve reliability, affordability, cybersecurity, and state authority over energy policy and resource planning decisions, in a manner that avoids unnecessary costs to ratepayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, appropriate federal agencies, the leadership of the United States Congress, the Governors and state energy offices of the Southern States Energy Board member states and territories, state public utility commissions, regional transmission organizations, and other interested parties.