



THE ROLE OF STATE TRANSMISSION AUTHORITIES

Lessons from CETA and WestTEC

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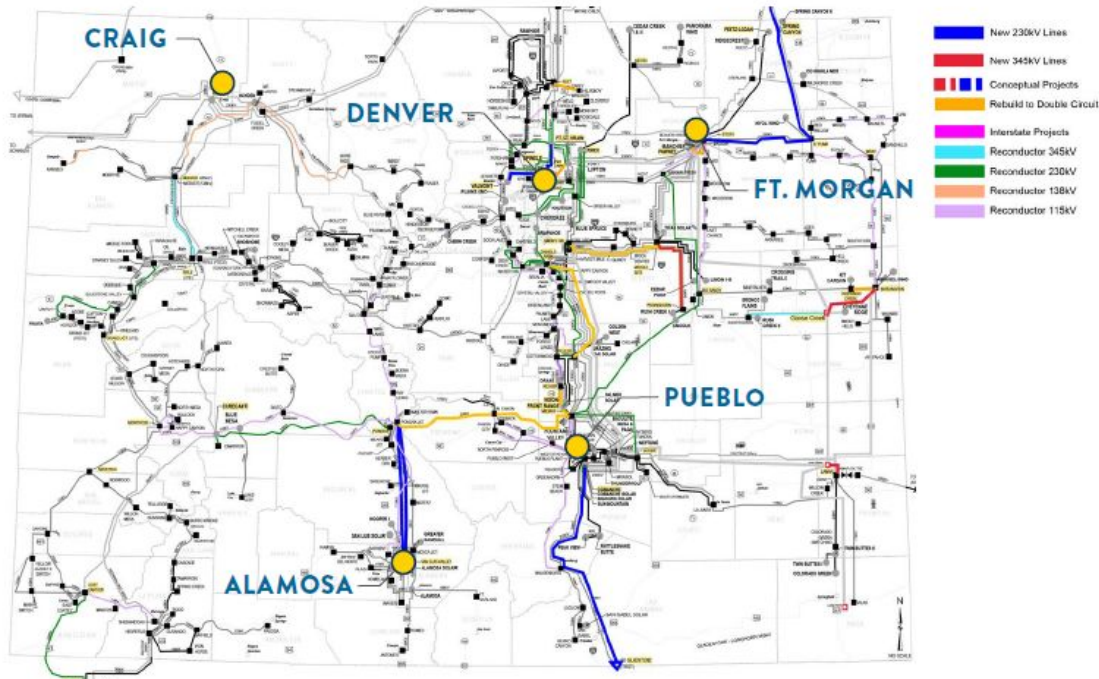
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CETA: STATEWIDE STUDY TO PRIORITIZED PROJECTS

A statewide assessment in 2024 established transmission needs with a subsequent prioritization process used to source specific opportunities for CETA to advance.

CETA's 2045 Reference Portfolio: \$4.5 billion



3,700 line-miles, including 548 miles of new lines. Another \$4.8B of conceptual upgrades were identified, along with an interstate transmission portfolio.

1 2024 Transmission Capacity Expansion Study

Resource expansion, grid testing and alternatives
40+ project concepts across study portfolios

2 Screen projects for CETA fit

Consider statutory alignment, feasibility, geography and strategic fit

3 Scored and ranked 36 project concepts

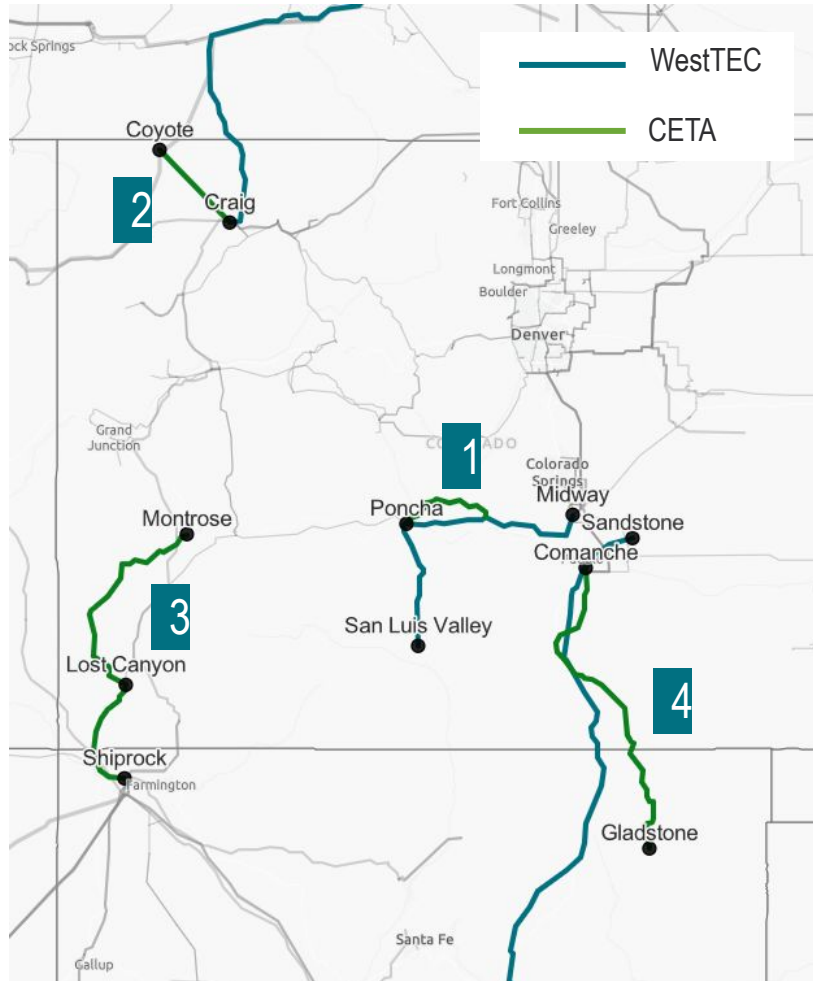
Ten criteria covering benefits, cost and implementation considerations

4 Board selects shortlist

Scorecard, stakeholder input and Board judgment inform partner outreach and further due diligence

WESTTEC REVISITS COLORADO'S INTERREGIONAL NEEDS

The studies reiterate the same areas of system need despite featuring different time horizons, assumptions, with guidance provided by different stakeholder groups.



1 Poncha–Midway / San Luis Valley

Similar drivers in both WestTEC and CETA studies: resource access and local reliability.

2 WY-CO Connectivity from Craig

CETA identified Craig–Coyote; WestTEC identified Aeolus–Craig. Different alternatives serving a similar need.

3 Western Slope Expansion

WestTEC identified voltage and reliability issues, while CETA identified reinforcement of Western slope with Montrose–Shiprock.

4 New Mexico–Colorado

CETA explored Comanche/Huckleberry–Gladstone; WestTEC draft 2045 Reference Case has identified Clines Corner–Tundra.

Interpretation: Enhances thesis for these or similar upgrades.

STATE TRANSMISSION AUTHORITIES



A useful role when existing planning, development, and financing processes leave gaps or introduce inefficiencies

Transmission authorities should be additive

Focus on needs without a clear sponsor, projects that face unique barriers, and help existing utilities and developers advance projects.

Provide a clear state-driven signal to project sponsors.

Independent analysis with consideration of state priorities can give utilities and developers greater confidence to pursue projects and partnerships, even if the authority never owns or finances the line.

A statewide perspective on transmission needs

Look across utility territories and planning boundaries to identify gaps, particularly where benefits are shared but responsibility for advancing a solution is fragmented.

Modest early commitments

Studies, prioritization, and partnership development can begin with relatively limited cost and risk. These efforts reduce uncertainty before larger project commitments are made.

State transmission authorities offer a *partial* but relatively low-risk and low-cost solution to our transmission expansion problem

