

## **Update on the FERC docket (ER26-1563) and what comes next.**

Many of you took the time to submit comments to FERC in March. PJM has now filed a formal response and amendment, addressing some of the comments raised by Central Virginia local governments and community members. In doing so, it has effectively reopened the docket for additional public comment.

This is our opportunity to respond again. PJM's filing creates an opportunity to submit supplemental comments responding directly to their arguments and ensuring the record reflects the full scope of concern.

While FERC does not decide where transmission lines are built, the policies in this docket influence how large-scale generation moves forward and the conditions that can drive future transmission needs considered at the Virginia SCC, including projects like Joshua Falls–Yeat.

Ensuring that concerns about cost, planning assumptions, and downstream transmission impacts are clearly documented at the federal level strengthens our position in the next phase of this process.

If you're considering submitting for the first time or reinforcing your previous comments, here is where to focus:

1. This docket is about the Expedited Interconnection Track (EIT), not siting and approval of the Joshua Falls–Yeat line (which is decided at the SCC)

2. Keep comments tied to process, cost, and planning

3. Focus on issues like:

Pushing projects forward before full engineering is complete

Risk shifting to ratepayers through planning-level estimates

How fast-tracking generation can drive the need for large transmission buildout, lines like the proposed Joshua Falls – Yeat 765kv greenfield line.

Ensuring costs follow the source of demand

How accelerated timelines under EIT may outpace local and regional planning cycles, limiting the ability to coordinate infrastructure and assess impacts

The level of engagement we've already seen is working. Now it needs to continue, both here and at the state level, where final decisions will be made. Stay engaged!

## **FERC Comment Instructions**

(Note: If you previously filed a comment and already created an account, you can skip to Step 6.)

Recommended comment window: by May 1st

Submitting a comment takes 5–10 minutes. Have your comments in a Word or PDF document before you begin.

#### Step 1

Go to:

On the left side of the page click E-Filing

On next page click New User

#### Step 2

Enter your name, email address, and create a password. Finally, enter the verification letters then click NEXT (Do not click Done, if you do you will not be able to eFile your public comments)

#### Step 3

Enter your mailing address and phone number and then click Next, the next screen will ask you to verify your mailing address, click Next.

#### Step 4

The next screen asks the organization you are working on behalf. Since you are a private citizen leaving a comment you will leave this information blank and click Done. Note, the screens states, “If you are a private citizen you can leave this page blank”

#### Step 5

A Verification email will be sent to the email address you specified. Once you receive that email click on the link provided within the email. It will indicate your email address has been verified and you are ready for the process to upload your public comment.

Step 6 – Login with Credentials - <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOOnline.aspx>

Click eFiling on the blue bars, if asked to login do so. On the next screen select “General” within the left box. Then select “Comment (on Filing, Environ., Report, or Tech Conf)” in the middle box, then Comment in the right box. Finally click Next.

#### Step 7

When asked for the docket number, type: ER26-1563 and then click Search. Once the docket pulls up click the + mark beside the docket. Once the docket shows up in the selected dockets window below. Now click Next.

#### Step 8

You will now be at an upload screen. Your comments will have to be in PDF or Word format. Click Choose File and select your file with your typed comments. Provide a description and click Upload. Once the file is uploaded click Next

#### Step 9

On the next screen select “As an individual” and then select Next. On the next screen you will see individual selected and your email, if not there type the email that you used for your initial registration.

Click Add as a Signer and then click Next. Finally, on the next screen click submit. Once submitted, your comment becomes part of the official federal record. Congratulations!

#### **What Should You Say?**

Do not feel intimidated by technical arguments. FERC regulators want to hear from communities affected by these policies. Your perspective matters. Even if you submitted a comment previously, you can submit again to clarify or reinforce your concerns in light of PJM’s recent filing.

Please use the example below as a starting point and include your own perspective or concerns.

Subject: Docket ER26-1563 - Supplemental comments in response to PJM’s Answer and amendment

In response to PJM’s recent filing, I want to reiterate that my prior comments addressed issues within the scope of the EIT proposal, including planning methodology, cost responsibility, and downstream transmission impacts. These concerns were not fully addressed and should remain part of the Commission’s consideration of whether the proposal is just and reasonable.

In Virginia, much of the demand growth driving these policies is concentrated commercial load, which raises additional concerns about cost allocation and the placement of infrastructure impacts on other communities.