

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2025 12:55 PM  
**To:** NIETC  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DOE-HQ-2024-0088 - Potential Designation of the Tribal Energy Access National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor

To whom it may concern,

Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) submits the comments below in support of designating the Tribal Energy Access National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC), in response to the proposal released by the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office on December 16, 2024.

### I. DESCRIPTION OF BASIN ELECTRIC

Basin Electric is a consumer-owned rural electric generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota. Basin Electric's transmission facilities include approximately 2,500 miles of transmission lines and equipment located in 93 switchyards. Basin Electric operates approximately 5,200 megawatts of electric generating capacity and has approximately 8,100 megawatts of capacity in its generation portfolio. Basin Electric provides supplemental wholesale power to 139 rural electric member systems in Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Its members' systems serve approximately three million member-consumers in both the Eastern and Western Interconnection. Basin Electric is a Transmission Owner and Transmission Customer in Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP), a Market Participant in Midwest Independent System Operator, Inc., a Joint Transmission Owner and Transmission Customer in the Common Use System, and a Participant in the Missouri Basin Power Project which has assets in both the Eastern and Western Interconnection.

### II. COMMENTS IN SUPPORT

Basin Electric supports the development of additional extra high voltage (EHV) infrastructure in the geographical areas outlined. The proposed location would augment and not supplant other efforts to develop EHV infrastructure including Notices to Construct resulting from the SPP Integrated Transmission Planning (ITP) (e.g., Laramie River-Rapid City -Maurine-Belfield 345 kV line from the SPP 2024 ITP portfolio). There is a need for additional north/south transmission capacity in this area. Transmission planners and other experts continue to collaborate and iterate on solutions that meet the myriads of factors inherent in the process for getting new transmission located, funded and built.

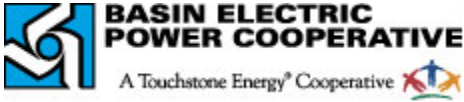
Basin Electric has had multiple meetings with other stakeholders and interested parties on the need for additional EHV transmission in the proposed NIETC area as well as surrounding area. The Oceti Sakowin Power Authority has been forthright and transparent in the needs of the area. Basin Electric supports the effort and believes designating this NIETC will be beneficial to the reliability of the area as well as solving economic issues.

### III. CONCLUSION

Basin Electric supports designating the Tribal Energy Access NIETC.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]



\*\*\*\*\*

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.  
Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

\*\*\*\*\*