**Transmission Policy Questions**

1. **Siting & Permitting**
   1. How can we achieve coordination of federal and state transmission siting processes in such a way as to achieve consistency and avoid duplication?
   2. Should there be more geographically and functionally coordinated end to end transmission planning and approval processes between federal, regional, state and local siting and permitting agencies in the East and who should coordinate it?
2. **Distributed Generation & Renewable Integration**
   1. What policies, practices and technical standards should be implemented to ensure the safe, reliable and cost effective integration of large scale intermittent generation?
   2. What are the transmission system impacts of the two way energy flow generated by distributed energy resources and how should they be addressed? What new consultation and information-sharing mechanisms should be developed to address the associated regulatory, technical, and analytical issues and implications?
   3. What are the near and long term implications of the growth of distributed generation resources (DG) on the electric industry, consumers and public policy?
   4. How does the interconnection of DG resources to the distribution system impact the safety, security and reliability of the transmission system? How are these impacts best addressed and by whom - utilities, policymakers, regulators, DG manufacturers or developers?
   5. How might DG technologies support a robust transmission grid and system resiliency during extreme weather events? Is data available on how DG has performed in extreme weather conditions? Should utilities participate in building/providing DG facilities? What are the appropriate consumer protections?
3. **Emerging Issues**
   1. There is a convergence of industry drivers and emerging issues that make a compelling case for a robust transmission system. How can we build transmission infrastructure which will incorporate future needs?
   2. What are the transmission and system reliability impacts of the increased inter-dependence of gas and electric markets?
   3. What are the transmission system impacts of the increased compliance and other requirements to address cyber security threats and vulnerabilities?
   4. How can the nation meet the looming need for significant transmission infrastructure investment in light of the persistent current low load growth?
   5. How should the nation balance the need for and development of demand response and energy efficiency resources with the need to develop transmission infrastructure?
   6. What are the transmission system impacts of the increased integration of new technology such as smart grid, micro grid, electric vehicles and battery technology?
   7. How will climate change be addressed in infrastructure siting/planning?
4. **Transmission Planning & Construction**
   1. What is the role of regulatory certainty in transmission infrastructure development and how can we achieve it? How can we validate need for transmission infrastructure while maintaining regulatory certainty? What is the impact of annual retooling by regional planners or project re-openers either by a state or federal regulatory agency?
   2. Should regional planners implement transmission planning approaches that recognize aging infrastructure, system security and operational performance/flexibility needs?
   3. What is an adequate and appropriate level of environmental due diligence and review for a transmission project? Should final design details be required for an agency to make permitting/approval decisions?
   4. The EIPC phase 2 studies identified potentially significant transfer capability needs between regions. Should these results be deployed in regional transmission planning processes and used to address areas of transmission stress?
   5. What are the industry best practices for transmission planning and construction?
5. **National Energy Policy**
   1. How can we drive efficiencies in the siting processes for interstate transmission projects? Do we need a national energy policy or backstop transmission siting authority for FERC?
   2. How can the DOE reform its National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor authority under the Energy Policy Act 2005 to make it effective? What opportunities exist for coordination with other federal agencies?
6. **Broader Policy Issues**
   1. Should transmission infrastructure that supports geographic areas like Washington DC or other areas critical to national security be designated as requiring levels of reliability exceeding what exists today?
   2. What transmission policies, practices and rates would prepare the transmission system for extreme weather events like Hurricane Sandy?