

WORLD POWER SYSTEMS REVIEW

1 May 2026

15 April 2026

U.S. coal-fired generating capacity retired in 2025 was the least in 15 years

During 2025, the U.S. electric power sector retired 2.6 gigawatts (GW) of coal-fired generating capacity at four power plants, the least since 2010. At the beginning of 2025, coal plant operators had planned to retire 8.5 GW of capacity; however, 4.8 GW of planned retirements were delayed to a future year, and the operators of two coal plants (1.1 GW) cancelled plans to retire. In addition, the operators of 1.2 GW of capacity planned for retirement in 2027 cancelled their closure plans, and a facility slated to retire in 2026 has delayed its closure until 2029.

Annual retirements of capacity at coal-fired power plants have decreased since 2022 when operators retired 13.7 GW of capacity, or about 6.5% of the coal fleet operating at the end of 2021. In 2025, only four coal-fired power plants retired generating units, representing 2.6 GW of capacity, or 1.5% of year-end 2024 capacity:

- February 2025—Indian River Generating Station Unit 4 in Delaware (410 megawatts or MW)
- March 2025—Cholla Units 1 and 3 in Arizona (383 MW)
- October and November 2025—Intermountain Power Project Units 1 and 2 in Utah (1,800 MW)
- December 2025—Prairie Creek Unit 1 in Iowa (15 MW)

The largest coal plant that retired last year, Intermountain Power Project, was operated by the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power. This lost generating capacity was partly replaced by a new natural gas-fired combined cycle generating facility (1,017 MW), which opened at the same location in late 2025.

More coal-fired generating capacity likely would have retired in 2025, but the U.S. Department of Energy issued emergency orders under Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act, directing several coal plants to temporarily remain available to operate with the goal of ensuring grid reliability:

- J.H. Campbell Units 1, 2 and 3 in Michigan (1,331 MW)
- Transalta Centralia Unit 2 in Washington (670 MW)
- R.M. Schahfer Units 17 and 18 in Indiana (722 MW)
- F.B. Culley Unit 2 in Indiana (90 MW)
- Craig Unit 1 in Colorado (427 MW)

Based on the most recent information that these coal plant operators have reported to EIA on the Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report, most of them have delayed the planned retirements from initially scheduled dates in 2025 to early-to-mid 2026. These emergency orders are in effect for up to 90 days but can be reissued, as was the case with J.H. Campbell.

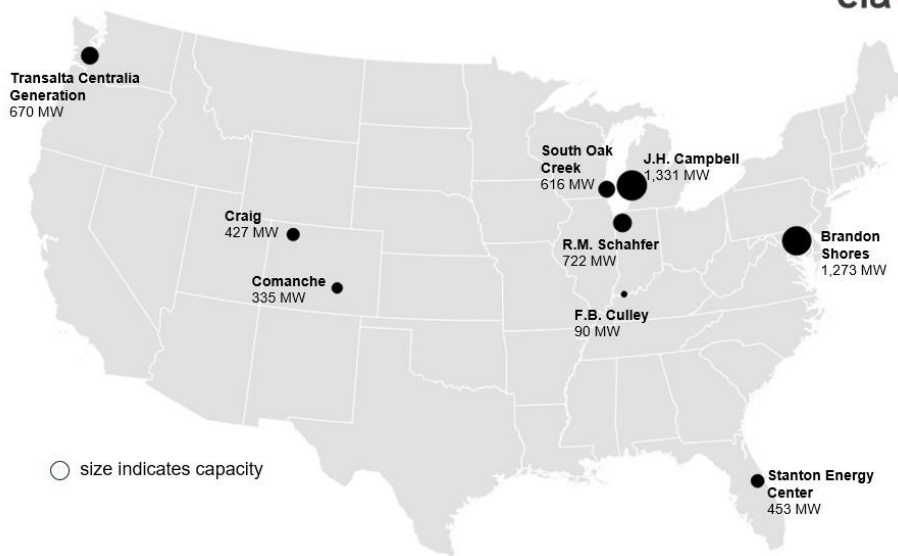
Plant operators at three other coal-fired power plants with a combined 2.2 GW of capacity have also decided to delay retirements that were originally scheduled for 2025: Brandon Shores (Maryland), South Oak (Wisconsin), and Comanche (Colorado). Instead of retiring its coal-fired Unit 2, the operator of the Transalta Centralia Generating Station now plans to convert it into a facility that runs on natural gas. This conversion is currently scheduled for 2028.

In 2026, the U.S. electric power sector currently plans to retire 6.4 GW of coal-fired generating capacity, which accounts for almost 4% of the U.S. coal fleet that was in operation as of the end of 2025. But these plans could change depending on future regulatory decisions or other economic factors.

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Coal plants scheduled to retire during 2025 but delayed retirement to later year megawatts (MW)



EIA
<http://www.eia.gov/>

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EU grants strategic status to Black Sea submarine cable linking Georgia and Romania

The European Parliament and the Council of Europe have approved the Black Sea Submarine Cable Project, granting it the status of a Project of Mutual Interest (PMI), a designation that unlocks access to EU funding and streamlined regulatory procedures.

Based on the decision published in the EU's official journal, the PMI status allows the project to benefit from accelerated permitting processes and financial support mechanisms aimed at strengthening cross-border energy connectivity across Europe.

The initiative is considered a key component of efforts to enhance energy security and diversify supply routes between Europe and the South Caucasus. It is expected to facilitate the export of renewable electricity generated in the region, particularly from Georgia, to European markets via the Black Sea. The PMI designation was granted as part of a broader package approved by the European Commission, which included 235 cross-border energy projects aimed at improving interconnectivity, reducing dependency on single suppliers and accelerating the transition to cleaner energy sources.

The Black Sea Submarine Cable Project envisions constructing a digital and high-voltage underwater transmission link between Anaklia, Georgia and Constanta, Romania. The plan includes a 1,155-kilometer line (1,115 km underwater and 40 km onshore) with a capacity of 1,300 MW. The Black Sea cable has been highlighted in recent years as a strategic project linking the South Caucasus more closely with the European Union's energy system, while also supporting the bloc's long-term climate and energy goals.

Georgia Today
<http://georgiatoday.ge/>

15 April 2026

FERC orders American Efficient to pay \$1.1B for 'brazen fraud'

American Efficient; its owner, Modern Energy Group; and affiliated companies must pay about \$1.1 billion for "one of the largest and most brazen frauds" in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's history, the agency said Wednesday.

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American Efficient violated the market rules of the PJM Interconnection and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator by selling them energy efficiency resources that it didn't control or that wouldn't reduce load beyond what would have happened anyway, FERC said.

The company also manipulated the PJM markets by fraudulently presenting itself as a legitimate capacity seller, making misleading statements that its program lowered customer prices and by failing to tell PJM that MISO and ISO-New England had disqualified the company from their capacity markets, FERC said.

FERC ordered American Efficient, Modern Energy and the affiliates to pay a \$722 million fine and return about \$410 million in "unjust profits," plus interest, to the grid operators — \$407.7 million to PJM and \$2.1 million to MISO

"American Efficient's years-long fraud profoundly disrupted the organized capacity markets and ultimately increased costs for ordinary Americans," FERC Chairman Laura Swett said in a concurring statement. "To make matters worse, American Efficient's scheme also subverted critical market mechanisms designed to promote reliability during grid stress conditions."

Modern Energy, a Durham, North Carolina-based holding company, didn't return a request for comment.

American Efficient considers itself an "upstream" participant in the energy efficiency industry, according to FERC. Instead of installing efficiency products or contracting with customers who do, it buys sales data from retailers like Home Depot, Lowe's and Walmart and then figures out how much electricity would be saved if end-use customers install the products, according to FERC. It then bids the energy savings into the capacity markets as if it caused them, the agency said.

"This is a scam for the history books," FERC said. "[American Efficient] engaged in naked rent-seeking — hijacking a regulatory mechanism intended to promote energy efficiency and converting it into an ATM for American Efficient's worthless paper-shuffling scheme." The company offered and cleared more than 20 GW over 11 years and received about \$500 million in capacity payments from PJM and \$15.5 million from MISO, according to FERC.

American Efficient's affiliates began participating in PJM's capacity market in 2014 and in MISO's capacity market in 2017. MISO expelled American Efficient from its capacity market in 2021 for failing to show it owned or had the rights to the efficiency resources, according to FERC. An American Efficient policy director who resigned from the company in October 2021 told FERC's enforcement office that the company's business model was "at best unethical" and amounted to "a wealth transfer between ratepayers" and the company, according to the agency.

Through its parent company, Modern Energy Group, American Efficient has received funding since 2021 from an unnamed investment bank in exchange for capacity payments, according to FERC. American Efficient, based in Durham, North Carolina, operates in 23 states, according to the company's website. "We operate projects in collaboration with major manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to facilitate the adoption of energy efficient products and aggregate, measure, verify and deliver their energy savings for wholesale energy markets," the company says on its website.

FERC's findings are largely in line with a "show cause" order it issued in December 2024 giving American Efficient a chance to respond to the allegations contained in a report from the agency's enforcement office.

A month later, American Efficient responded by suing FERC in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina, arguing that the agency's enforcement action

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violated the company's constitutional right to a jury trial and that FERC's status as an independent agency violates the U.S. Constitution.

The court in November rejected American Efficient's request for a preliminary injunction to halt FERC's enforcement action.

Utility Dive

<http://www.utilitydive.com/>

16 April 2026

Amazon signs first solar-plus-storage PPAs in Australia to power AI expansion

Tech giant Amazon has announced nine new renewable energy power purchase agreements (PPAs) in Australia totalling 430MW, with eight projects featuring solar generation co-located with battery energy storage systems (BESS).

This marks the company's largest single-year investment in the country and will help spearhead the expansion of its data centre AI. This also represents the first solar-plus-storage PPAs Amazon has signed in Australia and the first outside the US. Amazon disclosed that the portfolio comprises one wind farm, three utility-scale solar-plus-storage sites, four distributed solar-plus-storage projects, and a new battery energy storage installation to be added to the Mokoan solar PV power plant.

The projects span New South Wales and Victoria, with developers including OX2, X-ELIO, Anza, TagEnergy and European Energy. According to BloombergNEF data, Amazon was the largest corporate purchaser of carbon-free energy in Australia for 2025 and remains among the leading purchasers globally.

The investment directly supports Amazon's AU\$20 billion (US\$14.34 billion) commitment to expand data centre infrastructure across Australia by 2029, announced alongside Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in June 2025. That expansion aims to strengthen Australia's cloud computing and AI capabilities, with the renewable energy deals providing the carbon-free power needed to meet both operational demands and Amazon's goal of reaching net zero carbon across its operations by 2040 under The Climate Pledge.

PV Tech

<http://www.pv-tech.org/>

17 April 2026

Japan's Kashiwazaki Kariwa-6 Resumes Commercial Operation After More Than 14 Years Offline

Unit 6 at the Kashiwazaki Kariwa nuclear power station in Niigata Prefecture, central Japan, restarted commercial operations on 16 April after a hiatus of more than 14 years.

Tokyo Electric Power Company (Tepco) said the 1,315 MW Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR), which had been offline since March 2012, officially resumed commercial operation at 16.00 local time after it was confirmed earlier in the day that there were no abnormalities with the reactor, generator or turbine.

An official from the Nuclear Regulation Authority handed the certification of the final check to the plant's chief, Takeyuki Inagaki, reports in Japan said. This marked the first time a Tepco reactor has resumed commercial operation since the March 2011 triple meltdown at the company's Fukushima nuclear station in northeastern Japan. The resumption of commercial operations was initially scheduled for late February but was delayed by about 50 days following two postponements due to technical issues.

Workers at the plant originally began restarting the unit on 21 January, but the process had to be suspended hours later due to a malfunction related to control rods, which are essential to starting up and shutting down reactors, Tepco said. The Japan Times said

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the fault was caused by an electrical problem inside the panel used to operate and monitor the unit's control rods.

Tepco said it plans to operate Kashiwazaki Kariwa-6 for one year until its next planned inspection in April 2027. Tepco said in a statement on 16 April that “the regrets and lessons learned from the Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear power station accident are foundational to Tepco’s management and safety philosophy”. Kashiwazaki Kariwa is the world’s largest nuclear power station by capacity. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, its seven BWR units have a combined net capacity of 7,965 MW.

The facility served as an important energy source to supply electricity to the Tokyo metropolitan area before the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident at Fukushima-Daiichi. Tepco wants to bring the station back online and said in 2020 it was concentrating its resources on restarting the newer Units 6 and 7.

The plant’s restart means Japan has returned 15 units to service since the March 2011 Fukushima disaster. They are: Kashiwazaki Kariwa-6 (Tepco), Onagawa-2 (Tohoku Electric Power), Shimane-2 (Chugoku Electric Power), Mihama-3, Takahama-1, -2, -3, -4, and Ohi-3, -4 (Kansai Electric Power), Ikata-3 (Shikoku Electric Power), Genkai-3, -4, and Sendai-1 -2 (Kyushu Electric Power).

Before the Fukushima disaster Japan’s fleet of 54 nuclear plants generated about 30% of the country’s electricity, but were all shut down for safety checks following the accident. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the figure for 2023, was 5.5%, but the government want to see this climb to 20%. Japan’s prime minister Sanae Takaichi has said she will push for the accelerated revival of nuclear power with reactor restarts key to reducing costly fuel imports.

NUCNET

<http://www.nucnet.org/>

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PJM Report Highlights 2025 Planning Efforts

PJM has published the 2025 edition of its Regional Transmission Expansion Plan Report, which highlights the transmission projects approved by the PJM Board of Managers for the 2025 RTEP as well as PJM’s ongoing planning efforts.

PJM’s Regional Transmission Expansion Plan (RTEP) process identifies transmission system additions and improvements needed for reliable grid operations now and in the future for the 67 million people in the PJM footprint.

The report (PDF) discusses how PJM and its stakeholders continued to work throughout 2025 to identify challenges and craft solutions toward maintaining a reliable grid:

- PJM’s RTEP process identified 122 new baseline projects to maintain fundamental grid reliability in the face of markedly changing regional power flows, at an estimated cost of \$11.8 billion.
- The Board also approved 445 new network transmission projects, required to enable the reliable delivery of generation seeking to connect to the PJM system, at an estimated cost of \$959.1 million.

The report highlights that load growth continues to increase, driven primarily by the proliferation of data centers, along with the electrification of vehicles and building heating systems and some resurgence in manufacturing. PJM now projects its RTO-wide summer normalized peak to grow 3.1% annually over the next 10 years, which is up 1.5% from its 2024 forecast.

Accelerated retirements of generators that provide necessary attributes needed to maintain reliability are outpacing the addition of new, mainly inverter-based resources. The

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retirements are being driven by unit age and environmental public policy. The report notes that:

- PJM received 30 deactivation notifications totaling over 6.5 GW in 2025.
- Approximately 36% of new interconnection requests to the PJM grid are solar resources.

PJM faces an extreme and rapid tightening of supply and demand for capacity resources in the near term and needs additional resources to rapidly address PJM's near term reliability challenges. The report highlights the key planning milestones that PJM achieved in 2025 to support grid reliability, including the progress of PJM's "first-ready, first served" cycle-based study approach for new generators, which is allowing generator projects that are ready to proceed to do so, while incenting those that are not ready to proceed to exit the interconnection process.

Additionally, to mitigate the risk of resource adequacy capacity shortage and energy storage resource decline, PJM's Board of Managers has directed a number of planning process initiatives intended to enable capacity interconnection more expeditiously:

- Interconnection Process Reform
- Reliability Resource Initiative (RRI)
- Surplus Interconnection Service (SIS)
- Capacity Interconnection Rights (CIRs) Transfer Reforms

These initiatives are part of a broader set of actions that PJM has undertaken to ensure that reliability remains paramount.

Insidelines PJM
<http://insidelines.pjm.com/>

17 April 2026

The US's largest clean energy project is generating power

Vestas finished installing its wind turbines at Pattern Energy's SunZia, the largest clean energy project in the US, last month, and the wind farm has now come online.

April 17, 2026: SunZia Wind has begun testing its turbines as it nears the start of commercial operations in Q2 2025, E&E reported yesterday. Grid Status first reported the news. Neither the project developer, Pattern Energy, nor the California grid operator has publicized the milestone, and it's unclear exactly how much power is being transmitted at this time.

On April 13, CAISO, California's grid, sent a transmission control agreement letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission about Sun Zia.

Once SunZia wind is fully online, it will be able to generate enough electricity to supply 3 million people, or roughly 1 million to 1.2 million households in California and Arizona.

March 5, 2026: Wind turbine manufacturer Vestas installed 242 V163-4.5 MW wind turbines at the 3.5 GW wind farm, which, with 916 turbines in total, is the largest onshore wind farm in the US. It's built across New Mexico's counties of Torrance, Lincoln, and San Miguel. The wind farm also features 674 GE Vernova 3.6-154 turbines, completed in February, and 10 substations.

The largest clean energy project in the US comprises two arms: SunZia Wind and SunZia Transmission. The latter is a 550-mile (885 km) ± 525 kV high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line between central New Mexico and south-central Arizona. When complete, it will have the capacity to transport 3,000 MW of clean energy to the CAISO grid.

SunZia Transmission will enable SunZia Wind to supply customers during the early evening hours, when demand is high but renewable energy supply is low. It's going to use the same corridor as the Western Spirit Transmission Line.

Electrek
<http://electrek.co/>

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NYISO to Keep NYC Peakers Online into 2029

NYISO on April 15 announced that it will require the Gowanus and Narrows peaking plants in New York City and the Danskammer Generating Station in Orange County to stay online past their requested retirement dates to address short-term reliability needs.

“We have extended the designation of the Gowanus 2 and 3 and Narrows 1 and 2 generators consistent with the [state] peaker rule as needed to address ongoing reliability needs,” Zach Smith, vice president of system and resource planning for NYISO, said at the Operating Committee’s April 16 meeting. The units will stay online through May 1, 2029.

In its Short-Term Reliability Process report, NYISO said AlphaGen proposed the retention of the existing 608 MW of generation at Gowanus and Narrows. The ISO accepted this solution, pending the withdrawal of the deactivation notice. A representative of AlphaGen verbally confirmed at the OC meeting that it had done so. Smith said Danskammer will need to stay in service until Aug. 1 and may be required until at least Jan. 15, 2027, if the need persists. The Long Island Power Authority will install emission-reducing water injection systems at the Shoreham and Glenwood plants by May 1, 2027, according to the report. The ISO also noted that Office of the State Comptroller approved a capacity purchase agreement between LIPA and the Far Rockaway peakers, which also addresses Long Island’s reliability need. The ISO will present additional information at the Management Committee’s meeting April 29.

Responding to a question about reliability-must-run agreements, Smith noted that if a retirement is found to cause a reliability issue, then the generator in question is not allowed to deactivate until one year after its request if there is no longer a need. “Within the vicinity of a deactivation notice, they would not be eligible for an RMR,” he said. NYISO did not accept AlphaGen’s proposal to replace the old generators with newer, hydrogen-capable units. In the report, the ISO said that because the earliest the new generators would be online was mid-2031, it was not viable for the short-term reliability need. The ISO also pointed out that the repowering proposal would face “significant challenges ... to completing permitting and financing. The ISO also rejected a proposed solution from Daroga Power to address the reliability needs of Long Island and New York City with 200 MW of decentralized natural gas-fired fuel cell or linear generation systems with carbon capture. Daroga said it could install 40 5-MW installations across the city and Long Island but did not include any information on possible installation sites. Daroga also did not propose that the generators would participate in NYISO’s markets. NYISO in the report asked Daroga, and other developers of distributed generation, to continue working on similar solutions for future system needs.

The ISO is leaning heavily on future projects to resolve the reliability need. It listed several projects — including the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE), storage projects in Staten Island and Astoria, and Empire Wind 1 — as possible permanent solutions to the need. As those projects enter service, the city’s reliability margins “improve substantially,” the ISO wrote. “Under a barges-only scenario, New York City could be deficient by up to 187 MW over a four-hour period (571 MWh) at the non-coincident peak in summer 2026,” NYISO said.

But it also noted that “even assuming these future planned projects enter service according to their schedules and demonstrate their planned power capabilities and assuming no other generators become unavailable, Zone J [the city] would still have observed needs during the summer peak periods of 2029 and 2030.” And “when considering the potential for delays in planned projects, a [loss-of-load-expectation] violation (i.e., above 0.1 event-days/year) would occur in 2030,” it said. “The deficiency without planned projects

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or retained generation is estimated to be 525 MW." FERC has approved NYISO's tariff revisions allowing the participation of CHPE, which is expected to come online May 1.

RTO Insider

<http://www.rtoinsider.com/>

21 April 2026

US judge blocks Trump administration actions stymieing wind, solar projects

A federal judge on Tuesday blocked President Donald Trump's administration from enforcing a series of permitting policies that wind and solar energy industry groups say have stymied the development of new energy generation projects.

Chief U.S. District Judge Denise Casper in Boston issued a preliminary injunction, opens new tab sought by nine advocacy groups and industry trade associations that argued the administration had imposed unlawful roadblocks that have halted the development of wind and solar energy projects nationwide. The judge said the plaintiffs were likely to succeed in showing the U.S. Department of Interior and other agencies adopted a series of unlawful policies that had led to renewable energy developers canceling or delaying numerous wind and solar projects nationwide. Her ruling applies to members of the plaintiff organizations, which include RENEW Northeast and Alliance for Clean Energy New York. "This is an undeniable victory for members of our coalition and the broader clean energy industry, as well as American households and businesses," the groups said in a joint statement. The Interior Department in a statement said that while it does not comment on litigation, "America sets the global standard for energy production."

The ruling was the latest in a series of judicial rebukes to the Trump administration's efforts to block federal approvals for wind energy projects or stop work on multibillion-dollar offshore wind farms under construction on the East Coast.

The Republican president has sought to boost government support for fossil fuels and maximize their output in the United States, the world's top oil and gas producer, after campaigning for the presidency on the refrain of "drill, baby, drill." Trump on Monday invoked the Defense Production Act as he signed a series of energy-related presidential memorandums aimed at further boosting production of oil, coal and natural gas, citing the need for "defense readiness." Groups supporting wind and solar power sued in December, seeking to block government actions they said placed wind and solar technologies into what one of their lawyers described as a "regulatory second-class status."

Those actions included a policy the Interior Department adopted in a July memorandum that requires nearly every step in the wind and solar permitting process to receive approval from three senior political appointees, including Interior Secretary Doug Burgum. The memorandum cited directives and orders Trump had signed aimed at blocking offshore wind development and directing the Interior Department to eliminate "preferences" for "expensive and unreliable energy sources like wind and solar."

The plaintiffs argued the policy created a bottleneck that ground permitting to a halt and was adopted without any explanation for why it was needed, in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act. Casper, who was appointed by Democratic President Barack Obama, agreed, saying none of the directives the department cited explained or justified the three-tiered review process. She also blocked policies the plaintiffs said disfavor energy projects that are "capacity dense," as wind and solar ones would be deemed, and the Interior Department's adoption of an interpretation of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act that imposes stricter standards for offshore wind projects.

Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/>

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US House passes Build More Hydro bill

South Korea has announced plans to almost triple its operational renewable energy capacity from 37GW today to 100GW by the end of the decade.

The plans were presented by Kim Seong-hwan, minister of climate, energy and environment, to the government yesterday. Eunhae Jeong, director general for international affairs at the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, said that the plan would aim for renewable energy to account for 20% of the country's electricity generation by 2030, up from just 10.8%—including solar, wind, hydropower and biofuels—as of 2025.

The US House of Representatives has overwhelmingly approved the Build More Hydro bill (S.1020), marking a significant legislative step aimed at reviving dozens of stalled hydropower projects across the country. Having already passed the Senate, the bill now awaits the signature of President Donald Trump to become law.

The measure, led in the House by Dan Newhouse and in the Senate by Steve Daines alongside John Fetterman, passed with a decisive 394-14 vote. It is designed to address pandemic-era disruptions, supply chain constraints and permitting delays that have left a tranche of licensed hydropower developments in limbo.

At its core, S.1020 provides targeted regulatory relief by authorising the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the statutory deadline for commencing construction on certain licensed projects. Specifically, it allows for extensions of up to six additional years – granted in three consecutive two-year increments – for projects licensed prior to March 2020. The legislation also enables the reinstatement of licences that expired after December 2023 but before enactment, effectively restoring viability to projects that would otherwise have lapsed.

Industry stakeholders estimate that the bill will safeguard approximately 2.6GW of prospective hydropower capacity and protect around \$6.5bn in private investment. Nearly 40 projects stand to benefit, many of which had faced imminent deadline expirations under existing Federal Power Act provisions.

Speaking following the House vote, Newhouse framed the legislation as a pragmatic intervention to support baseload generation and grid resilience. “Once signed into law, this legislation will allow for the construction of nearly 40 projects totalling over 2.5GW of baseload power, improving grid reliability and lowering energy prices,” he said.

Daines highlighted the bipartisan nature of the effort and its role in reinforcing domestic energy security. “This bill helps ensure critical projects can move forward, protects billions in investment and strengthens America’s energy security,” he noted.

The National Hydropower Association and a broad coalition of regional and national stakeholders – including utilities, port authorities and agricultural groups – have backed the measure, underscoring hydropower’s continued strategic importance.

While the passage of S.1020 is being welcomed as a near-term fix, industry participants acknowledge that structural challenges remain. Lengthy permitting timelines and regulatory complexity continue to constrain new development, prompting calls for more comprehensive reform to accelerate project delivery and integration into the grid.

Power technology

<http://www.power-technology.com/>

23 April 2026

Wind power reaches 1.3TW as record 165GW installed in 2025

Wind power has cemented its role as a core pillar of the modern electricity system, with 165GW of new capacity installed in 2025, up around 40% on the previous record year,

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according to the latest Global Wind Report released on 20 April by the Global Wind Energy Council. Global wind capacity now stands at around 1.3TW, spread across 138 countries, as governments increasingly lean on homegrown wind to strengthen energy security and industrial competitiveness.

The 2025 buildout saw China, the US and India dominate additions, mainly driven by strong onshore demand. Turbine-level data shows that 28,395 new wind turbines were commissioned across 57 countries, from large-scale wind farm deployments to tailored onshore projects serving growing industrial and digital loads. The report underscores that wind is no longer a niche renewable: it is now the only clean energy source with proven scale, reliability and geographic reach capable of anchoring grids while the global energy system contends with sustained fossil fuel price volatility and geopolitical shocks. Against a backdrop of supply chain pressures, rising commodity costs and surging power demand from data centres and advanced manufacturing, wind's growth reflects both policy ambition and commercial maturation. The report highlights that conditions for maintaining momentum include long-term, stable policy frameworks, improved grid integration planning and faster permitting, while the Markets to Watch section spotlights jurisdictions where deployment is finally catching up with stated climate and industrial targets

For system planners and project developers, the 2025 figures signal that wind power has moved beyond discrete pilot zones into a mainstream, system-wide asset class, delivering firm, low-cost capacity and resilience across both mature and emerging markets.

Power technology

<http://www.power-technology.com/>

24 April 2026

New York Electric Grid Faces Narrow Reliability Margin Heading into Summer

The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) today released its annual Summer Reliability Assessment, finding that the reliability margin under baseline summer conditions is 417 MW – the lowest margin in recent history.

The assessment notes that 34,615 megawatts (MW) of power resources are available to meet forecasted peak demand of 31,578 MW. As established by the New York State Reliability Council, under normal system conditions, the NYISO is required to maintain 2,620 MW from the available resources in reserves.

The report forecasts reliability challenges under extreme temperature scenarios despite the addition of new capacity in the past year. Aging generation, transmission constraints, and rising demand pose major challenges as reliability margins continue to decline. “This assessment reflects the challenges of the grid in transition – declining reliability margins, performance issues with aging generators, and an absence of new dispatchable resources,” said Aaron Markham, Vice President of Operations for the New York Independent System Operator. “Coordination with generation owners, utility companies, neighboring grid operators, and government officials will be essential as we work to maintain grid reliability this summer.”

Under extreme weather scenarios, reliability margins are forecasted to be deficient. For example, if the state experiences a heatwave with an average daily temperature of 95 degrees lasting 3 or more days, the capacity margin is forecasted to be -1,679 MW. That number declines further to -3,370 MW under an extreme heatwave with an average daily temperature of 98 degrees.

Under those conditions, NYISO operators would initiate emergency operating procedures to secure up to 3,166 MW to maintain system reliability. The NYISO may issue grid alerts if reserve margins drop below regulated levels. These alerts are designed to raise

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awareness about grid conditions and inform the public if electricity conservation is necessary. The all-time record for peak demand of 33,956 MW was set on July 19, 2013.

NYISO

<http://www.nyiso.com/>

27 April 2026

US to end more offshore wind leases in exchange for fossil fuel investments

President Donald Trump's administration said on Monday that it had reached a deal to end two more U.S. offshore wind leases in exchange for \$885 million in pledged investments in domestic fossil fuels.

The projects, one in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific, are managed by Ocean Winds, a joint venture between France's ENGIE, opens new tab and Portugal's EDP Renewables, opens new tab.

The announcement comes a month after French energy giant TotalEnergies reached a similar agreement with the Interior Department to redirect \$1 billion from offshore wind leases to U.S. oil and gas production. The deals represent a new strategy in Trump's effort to stymie U.S. offshore wind projects, which the president has called ugly, costly and inefficient. "Now that hardworking Americans are no longer footing the bill for expensive, unreliable, intermittent energy projects, companies are once again investing in affordable, reliable, secure energy infrastructure," Interior Secretary Doug Burgum said in a statement.

An offshore wind industry group criticized the deals for canceling projects that would provide needed electricity to serve soaring demand.

"We should maximize use of this valuable, domestic resource and pursue a true all-of-the-above energy strategy rather than deliberately limiting our options," Hillary Bright, executive director of trade group Turn Forward, said in a statement. Both projects are joint ventures. Ocean Winds partnered with a unit of asset manager BlackRock on Bluepoint Wind, which is off the coast of New York and New Jersey, and with Reventus Power, a London-based offshore wind investment firm, in the Golden State Wind project off California.

Global Infrastructure Partners, the BlackRock unit, agreed to invest \$765 million, the bid amount for Bluepoint Wind, in a U.S. liquefied natural gas facility, the agency said.

"We look forward to continuing to deploy capital into conventional and other energy sources in furtherance of the twin goals of increasing U.S. energy independence and affordable energy," Salim Samaha, chair of midstream and LNG for Global Infrastructure Partners, said in the statement.

In addition, Interior said Golden State Wind will be able to recover \$120 million in lease fees after it invests a similar amount in oil and gas, energy infrastructure or LNG projects.

Engie said last week that it was in talks with the administration about a possible refund for its offshore wind leases. It had paused three projects in development and booked impairments.

"We welcome the opportunity to engage constructively with the administration on this agreement and acknowledge the clarity they have provided with this decision and deal," Michael Brown, CEO of Ocean Winds North America, said.

Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/>

28 April 2026

2 more offshore wind projects scrapped under Trump administration pressure

Two U.S. offshore wind projects totaling up to 4.4 GW of planned capacity will not move forward after the developers entered into an agreement with the U.S. Interior

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Department in which the government said it will cancel the leases and “reimburse” the companies — but not until after they have made equal investments in American liquified natural gas, oil and energy infrastructure.

DOI issued a statement on Monday saying Bluepoint Wind offshore New York and Golden State Wind offshore California “each separately agreed to voluntarily end their offshore wind leases” and not to pursue any new offshore wind projects in the United States. DOI put the value of the lease agreements and potential reimbursements at \$765 million for Bluepoint and \$120 million for Golden State.

EDP, a Portuguese company with stakes in both projects, said it had “agreed to settle imminent claims.” The reimbursement of the amounts previously paid for the leases’ acquisition are contingent upon reinvestment in other U.S. energy projects “aligned with the current Administration of USA’s priorities,” EDP said. “The proceeds are expected to be received after fulfilment of conditions precedent which is anticipated to happen during 2026.”

Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum said in a statement that the companies that bid for the offshore wind leases “were basically sold a product in 2022 that was only viable when propped up by massive taxpayer subsidies.”

“Now that hardworking Americans are no longer footing the bill for expensive, unreliable, intermittent energy projects, companies are once again investing in affordable, reliable, secure energy infrastructure,” he said. “In addition, the agreements resolve the unaddressed national security concerns at both projects.”

Ocean Winds, a 50% owner of Bluepoint Wind and Golden State Wind, is a joint venture owned by ENGIE and EDP Renewables. Global Infrastructure Partners, a part of BlackRock, owns the other 50% of Bluepoint. The Canada Pension Funds Investment Board is the other co-owner of Golden State. “We appreciate the very constructive engagement with Secretary Burgum and the Department of the Interior and are pleased to have reached a practical resolution based on our shared commitment to pragmatic outcomes,” Salim Samaha, Chair of Midstream & LNG at GIP, said in a statement.

The agreements follow a similar outline as the one agreed to by DOI and TotalEnergies in March, under which TotalEnergies would abandon two offshore wind leases worth nearly \$1 billion and instead invest an equal amount in U.S. gas and power production.

The Trump administration’s agreement with TotalEnergies is already drawing scrutiny from legal experts and Democratic lawmakers, both for how the deal was struck and the government’s decision to use the Treasury Department’s Judgment Fund to finance it. However, to date, no entity has filed a lawsuit challenging the deals, and some experts have raised questions of standing. Tony Irish, a former lawyer with DOI, wrote in a post on LinkedIn that the agreements are most likely legal settlements premised on the notion of imminent litigation, though he noted that he was basing his comments on public announcements and had not seen the text of the agreements.

“If so, these two agreements not only share the same general infirmities of the [TotalEnergies] ones, but are even weaker,” he wrote. “The imminence of suspension is clearly tied to a willingness to enter into agreement.”

The Oceantic Network, a trade organization for the offshore wind industry, released a statement from Sam Salustro, senior vice president of policy and market affairs, slamming the agreements. “Unable to defend its offshore wind actions in court, the administration is using taxpayer dollars to buy foreign companies out of legally executed offshore wind leases,” Salustro said, referring to the administration’s losing streak in court involving previous attempts to stop work on wind projects.

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“The economic damage and costs to consumers’ pocketbooks are staggering,” he said. “Communities should be celebrating cost savings and homegrown power — not paying more because viable American energy projects are being canceled.”

He noted that the announcement from DOI coincided with Massachusetts’ announcement that the state has activated contracts with the approximately 800-MW Vineyard Wind project, which it said would save Massachusetts customers a projected \$1.4 billion on electricity bills over the next 20 years.

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