

SPP Transmission Services

5/5/2025

Initial Version

Expedited Designation Process

# Revision History

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date or version number | Author | Change Description | Comments |
| 5/5/2025 | Josh Ross | Initial version |  |
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# Background

The Expedited Designation study process is the process for evaluating long-term network service requests in which 1) the source has Network Resource Deliverability (NRD) through Network Resource Integration Service+ (NRIS+), and 2) the source is in the same Deliverability Area (DA) as some or all of the customer’s network load.

The Expedited Designation process is an alternative to the Aggregate Transmission Service Study (ATSS) process for obtaining long-term service. A comparison of the two processes is shown below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ATSS** | **Expedited Designation study** |
| 165 day process | 90 day process |
| Evaluates service upgrade needs and evaluates Z2 Credit Payment Obligations (CPOs) | Evaluates Z2 Credit Payment Obligations (CPOs) only |
| Aggregates multiple requests into a single study | Each request is studied separately |
| Any SPP long-term service request can be evaluated | Requirements to enter the process are more stringent |

This document explains the Expedited Designation study process, timelines, and requirements. In the event of an omission or discrepancy between this document and the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (SPP Tariff) or SPP Business Practices, the SPP Tariff and SPP Business Practices prevail.

Capitalized words in this document indicate defined terms in the SPP Tariff and have the same meaning as the SPP Tariff.

## Governing Language

The following SPP Tariff language governs the Expedited Designation process:

1. Section 29.2
2. Section 30.2
3. Section 30.2.2 (this is the primary section of Tariff governing this process)
4. Section 32
5. Section 32.4
6. Attachment J Section III B
7. Attachment P
8. Attachment Z1 Section I

# Process

## Overview of the Study Process

Eligible Customers may procure long-term transmission service by submitting a valid Application for the Expedited Designation process if the following requirements of Tariff Section 30.2.2 are met:

1. The proposed Network Resource has been assigned Network Resource Deliverability,
2. Some or all of the Eligible Customer’s designated load is located in the same Deliverability Area as the proposed Network Resource,
3. The requested start date for the new or changed Network Resource is at least ninety (90) Calendar Days after the request is submitted,
4. The capacity of the designation request does not exceed the threshold described below:
   1. For the first year the resource is planned to be designated, SPP will compute the ratio of the Eligible Customer’s system peak responsibility in the DA where the resource is located to the Eligible Customer’s system peak responsibility located in all DAs in SPP.
   2. The capacity of the designation request cannot exceed the generator’s Network Resource Deliverability multiplied by this ratio.

Network Resource Deliverability is the amount of real power that can be delivered to the aggregate of Network Load within a Deliverability Area by a Generating Facility, as measured at the Point of Interconnection (POI). The NRIS+ product provides Network Resource Deliverability, which will be less than or equal to the Maximum Injection Capability:

Diagram

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

If the long-term transmission service request does not meet these requirements, it must be submitted through the ATSS instead.

SPP will acknowledge the receipt of a valid Application within ten (10) Calendar Days of the submission. If the Application fails to meet these requirements, SPP will notify the Eligible Customer within fifteen (15) Calendar Days of receipt and specify the reasons for such failure.

Once an Application is deemed valid, SPP will analyze the request to determine whether revenue credits would be due pursuant to Attachment Z2, the amount of such credits, and the amount of such credits that would qualify for Base Plan Funding (BPF). The results of this analysis will be documented in a study report posted on the [SPP OpsPortal website](https://opsportal.spp.org/Studies/Trans) within 60 Calendar Days of receipt of the Application.

Once the study report is posted, the Eligible Customer will be notified and will have three (3) Business Days to indicate it agrees to the revenue credit payments by executing an [Expedited Designation Election Form](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Expedited_Designation_Election_Form.docx). After submission of this form, SPP will accept the OASIS request and the customer’s Network Interconnection Transmission Service Agreement (NITSA) will be updated to reflect the resource designation and the amount of any revenue credit payments due. SPP shall tender the amended agreement to the Eligible Customer for execution. The Eligible Customer will have thirty (30) Calendar Days to execute the NITSA or request the filing of an unexecuted NITSA.

If the Eligible Customer fails to execute the [Expedited Designation Election Form](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Expedited_Designation_Election_Form.docx) within three (3) Business Days of study posting, the Application shall be considered terminated and the OASIS request will be refused.

Diagram

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

## Submitting a Request

### Registration as an Eligible Customer

A prerequisite for participating in the Expedited Designation process is to complete the registration process to become an Eligible Customer. SPP Customer Relations staff will assist with the registration process through the [Request Management System](https://www.spp.org/stakeholder-center/stakeholder-relations/request-management-system/).

Customers should allow sufficient time for the registration process to be completed so that all the study requirements can be met prior to the close of the open season.

### Completed Application Requirements

The Application requirements for the Expedited Designation process includes the following:

1. A valid OASIS request (ADDNITSDNR)
2. A complete and executed Expedited Designation Study Agreement
3. A NITS Application

Documents should be submitted by email to [TS@spp.org](mailto:TS@spp.org).

SPP must receive all of these items for an Application to be deemed valid.

### OASIS request

The Eligible Customer must submit a valid Transmission Service Request (TSR) on [OASIS](https://www.oatihub.oati.com/Hub/Modern-Light/index.html#nbb). It is the Eligible Customer’s responsibility to ensure that the OASIS request meets the requirements of SPP Business Practices.

The OASIS request must:

1. Be an ADDNITSDNR request,
2. Have a term of one year or longer,
3. Have a start date at least ninety (90) Calendar Days after the request is submitted,
4. Have a valid Source and Sink for the Point of Receipt (POR) and Point of Delivery (POD) requested pursuant to SPP Business Practices 2100 and 2150,
5. Be in STUDY status.

To qualify for renewal at the end of the term, the request must span at least five (5) full years.

If the Source/Sink is new, then it must be registered in webRegistry/EIR. Once the Source/Sink is registered, please send an email to [TS@spp.org](mailto:TS@spp.org) indicating the new Source/Sink needs to be added in OASIS. The SPP Transmission Services department will work with the Model Coordination and Congestion Hedging departments to ensure this new Source/Sink is mapped to the appropriate Settlement Location. Once this is verified, Transmission Services will request the Interchange Scheduling department to add the Source/Sink in OASIS so that it will appear in the dropdown option for the ADDNITSDNR request. The customer must also request this new Source/Sink be added to the commercial model through Model Coordination’s normal monthly process. This Source/Sink can be added to the commercial model while the Expedited Designation study is being performed. Please do not use a generic ‘Source’ for your request. The ‘Source’ must still be registered in webRegistry.

### Expedited Designation Study Agreement

The Eligible Customer must submit a completed and executed [Expedited Designation Study Agreement](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Expedited_Designation_StudyAgreement.doc). The study agreement shall be completed to include Eligible Customer contact information, OASIS request number, GI request number, and signature.

No study deposit is required, but as stated in the study agreement, SPP will bill the Eligible Customer for study costs after the study completion.

### NITS Application

The Eligible Customer must complete and submit a [NITS Application](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Master_SPP_NITS_Application_rev_9-3-2024.xls). The NITS Application must include all of the information required in SPP Tariff Section 29.2. An [example NITS Application](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Master_template_SPP_NITS_Application_Example_revised_10-20-2023.xls) is provided for reference.

## Revenue Crediting Analysis

The Expedited Designation process will use the most up-to-date ATSS models and inputs that are ready to use. Per SPP Tariff Section 30.2.2, only summer models will be used for analysis.

In accordance with Attachment Z2 of the SPP OATT, any Upgrade Sponsor paying Directly Assigned Upgrade Costs for all or a portion of an upgrade is eligible to receive revenue credits or Incremental Long-Term Congestion Rights (ILTCR), provided that there is an agreement authorizing construction of the upgrade with an execution date, or effective date granted by the Commission if filed unexecuted, on or before July 1, 2020. If the date is after July 1, 2020, the Upgrade Sponsor is not eligible to receive revenue credits, but may receive ILTCRs.

A Transmission Service Request in the Expedited Designation process will not be evaluated for any new upgrade requirements, but will be evaluated to determine revenue credits for all Creditable Upgrades meeting the eligibility described in the previous paragraph. Base Plan Funding for the Expedited Designation request will be evaluated per SPP Tariff Attachment J Section III.B criteria and applied to the required revenue credits. Any revenue credit obligations that do not qualify for Base Plan Funding will be directly assigned to the Eligible Customer.

The results of the revenue crediting analysis shall be documented in the Expedited Designation study report.

## Study Reporting

Upon completion of the revenue crediting analysis and within sixty (60) Calendar Days of Application submittal, SPP will post the study report to the [SPP OpsPortal website](https://opsportal.spp.org/Studies/Trans) and notify the Eligible Customer of the report posting. The report will include request information, upgrades with Credit Payment Obligations, the amount of those Credit Payment Obligations, and the amount of Base Plan Funding applied to the Credit Payment Obligations.

SPP will fill in an [Expedited Designation Election Form](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Expedited_Designation_Election_Form.docx) for the request and include it with the study posting. If the Eligible Customer wishes to agree to the Credit Payment Obligations and move forward with the transmission service, the [Expedited Designation Election Form](https://opsportal.spp.org/documents/studies/Expedited_Designation_Election_Form.docx) must be signed and returned to [TS@spp.org](mailto:TS@spp.org) within three (3) Business Days of report posting. If the Expedited Designation Election Form is not signed and returned within three (3) Business Days of report posting, the Application shall be considered terminated.

## Next Steps

Upon receipt of Expedited Designation Election Form, SPP shall:

1. Accept the OASIS request,
2. Update the status of the study on the [SPP OpsPortal website](https://opsportal.spp.org/Studies/Trans) to reflect the request has been accepted,
3. Update the Eligible Customer NITSA to reflect the new transmission service and Credit Payment Obligations.

The Eligible Customer must then confirm the OASIS request in accordance with NAESB requirements.

The Eligible Customer must execute the NITSA or request the filing of an un-executed NITSA within thirty (30) Calendar Days of receipt. SPP will file an unexecuted NITSA with FERC for any Eligible Customer failing to execute the NITSA or request the NITSA be filed unexecuted within thirty (30) Calendar Days.

If the Eligible Customer fails to sign and return the Expedited Designation Election Form within three (3) Business Days of report posting, SPP shall:

1. Refuse the OASIS request,
2. Update the status of the study on the [SPP OpsPortal website](https://opsportal.spp.org/Studies/Trans) to reflect the request has been refused.

## Questions and Contacts

Questions regarding the Expedited Designation process can be directed to one of the following SPP Staff members, or by email to [TS@spp.org.](mailto:TS@spp.org) Questions can also be directed to SPP’s [Request Management System](http://www.spp.org/stakeholder-center/customer-relations/request-management-system/).

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# Terms and Acronyms

| Acronym | Term |
| --- | --- |
| SPP | Southwest Power Pool |
| ATSS | Aggregate Transmission Service Study |
| DA | Deliverability Area |
| CPO | Credit Payment Obligation |
| NRIS | Network Resource Integration Service |
| BPF | Base Plan Funding |
| TSR | Transmission Service Request |
| NITSA | Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement |
| NRD | Network Resource Deliverability |
| POI | Point of Interconnection |
| FERC | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission |