



# National Transmission Planning Study

## Economic Analysis

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### NOTICE

This presentation includes specific examples from preliminary modeling to facilitate discussion and feedback; final results will differ from any results shown here.



# Economic Analysis



**What is the systemwide value of transmission?**

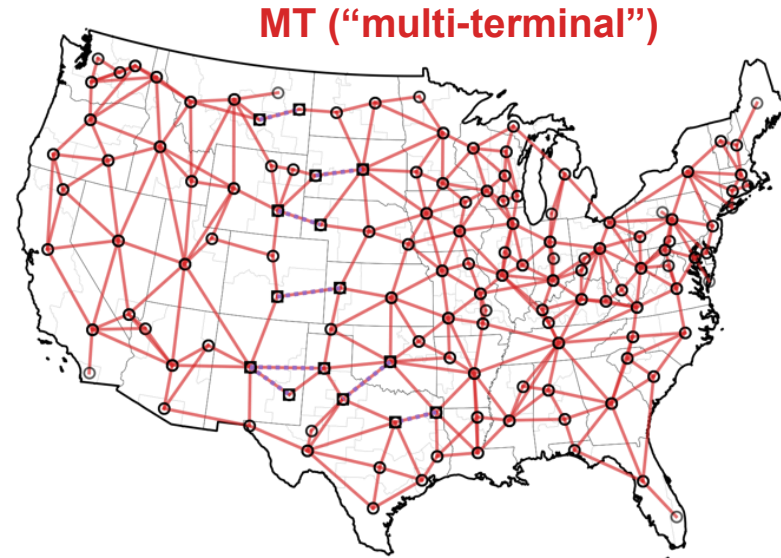
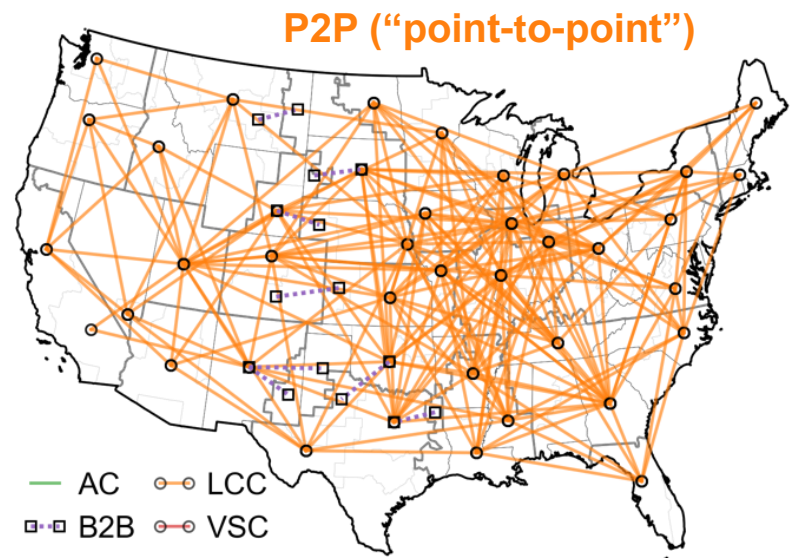
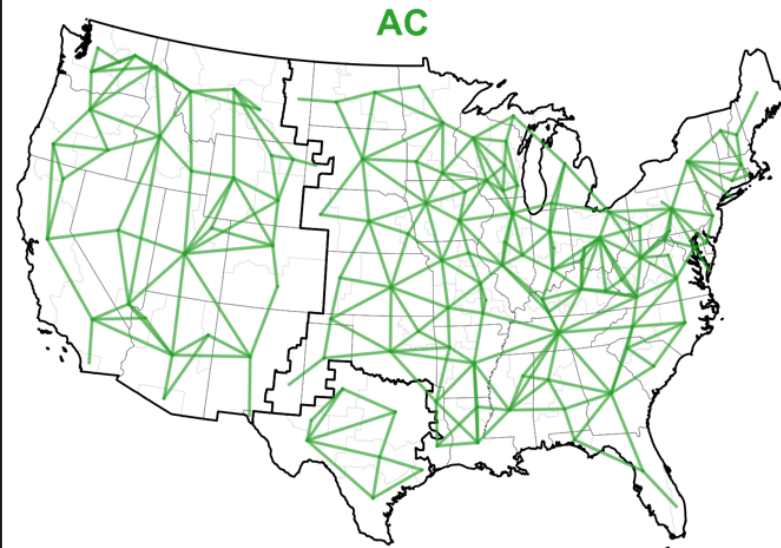
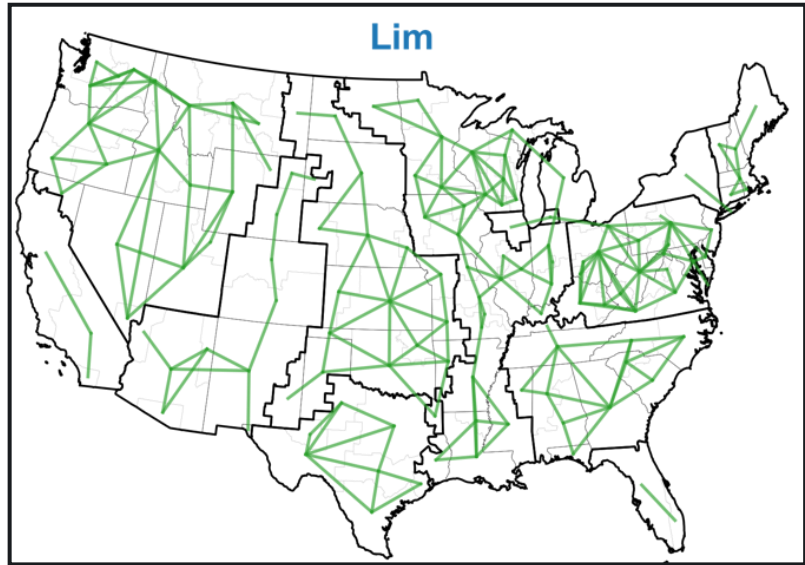


**How are benefits distributed among regions?**



**Can we achieve the quantified benefits of transmission under current market rules and regulations?**

# Economic Impact: Changes in system cost relative to the Limited framework



# Broad Range of Benefits Selected for Valuation



## Capital Costs

- Avoided generation capacity investments
- Access to lower cost generation sites
- Access to policy incentives for RE investments (e.g., investment tax credit)

## Operating Costs

- Avoided costs for fuel, cycling, and other variable costs
- Reduced transmission losses
- Access to policy incentives for RE generation (e.g., production tax credit)

## Reliability

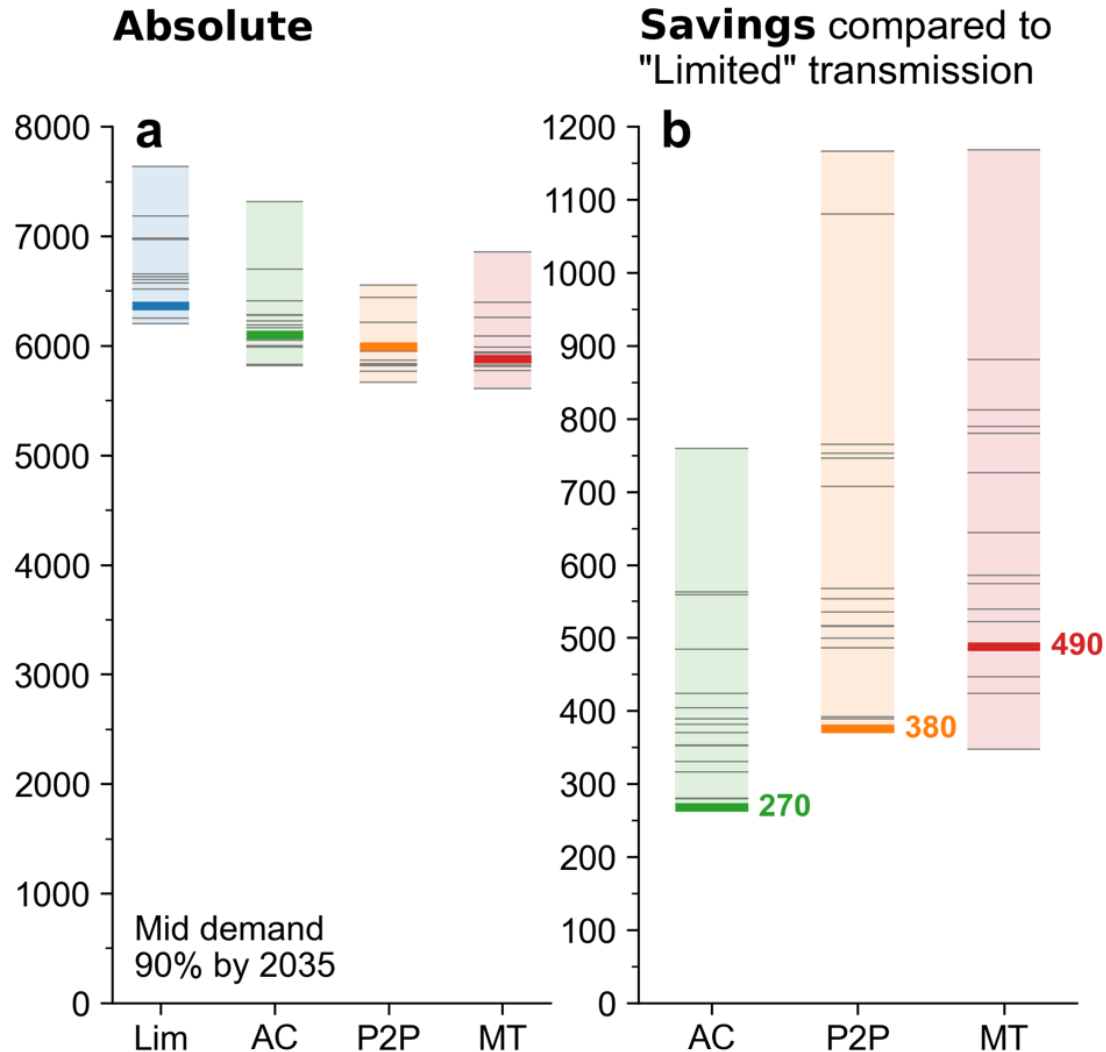
- Reduced cost of meeting requirements for ancillary services and resource adequacy

Benefit valuation does not include other relevant impacts such as resiliency, reduced loss of load probability, mitigation of weather and load uncertainty, air quality and health outcomes, etc.

# Accelerating transmission deployment consistently reduces system cost across a spectrum of modeling assumptions



## NPV of system cost through 2050 [\$billion]:



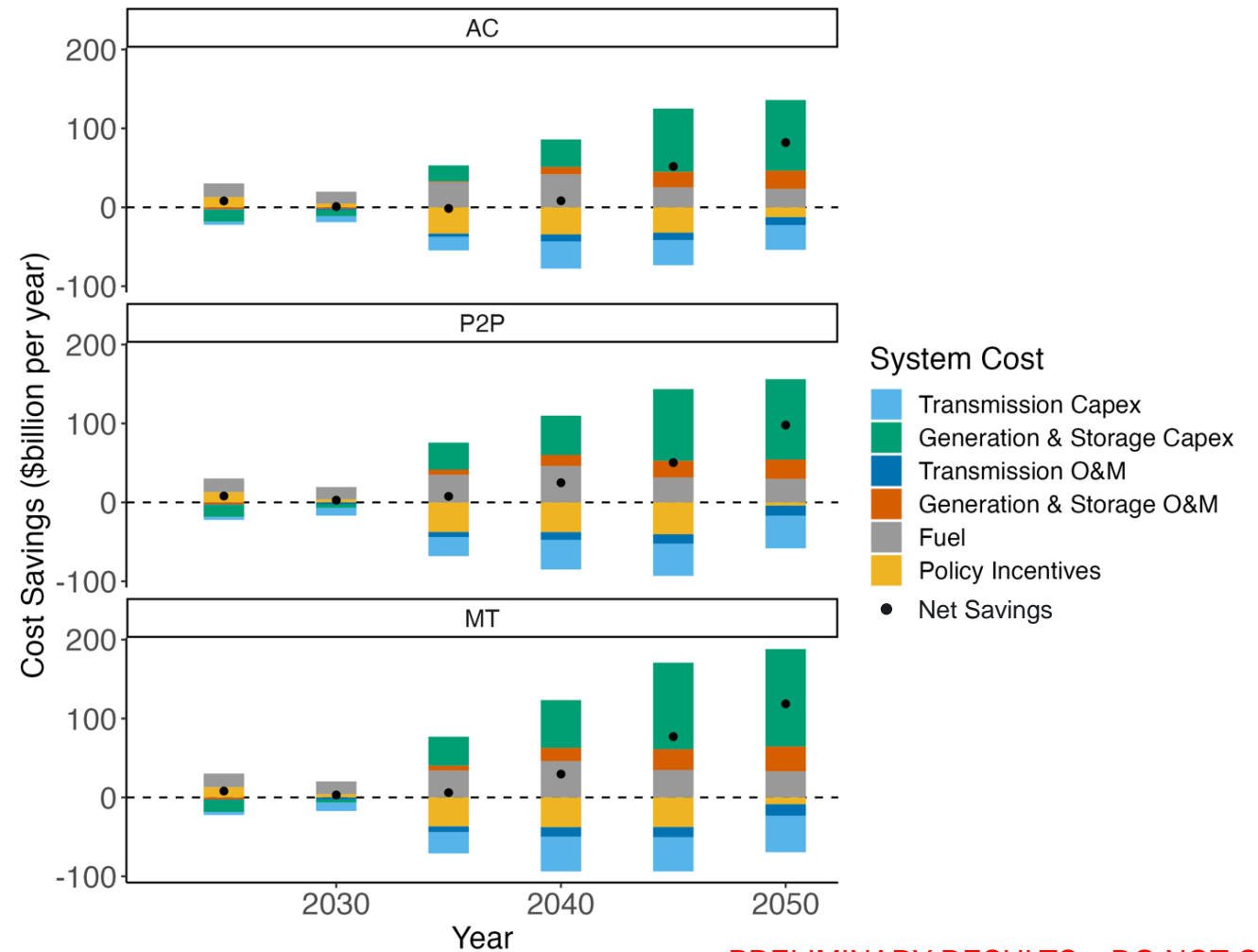
- Core P2P and MT scenarios achieve a benefit-to-cost ratio of 1.7 and 1.8, respectively
- Scenarios where new low-carbon technologies are not available have higher benefit-to-cost ratios, reaching 1.9–2.3

# Transmission expansion helps reduce capital, operating, and fuel expenditures for generation and storage



- Generation and storage capital costs decline by 11%–20% in the accelerated transmission frameworks; fuel costs decline 44-49%
- Transmission expenditures increase by 42-76% compared to the Limited framework
- Investments in interregional transmission grow noticeably after 2030 in the accelerated transmission frameworks and reach \$20 billion per year by 2050

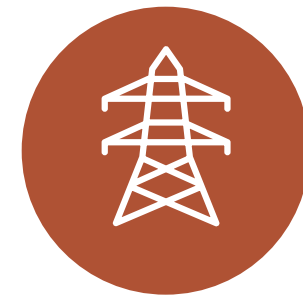
Source of cost savings (real \$billion per year) compared to the Limited framework



PRELIMINARY RESULTS – DO NOT CITE

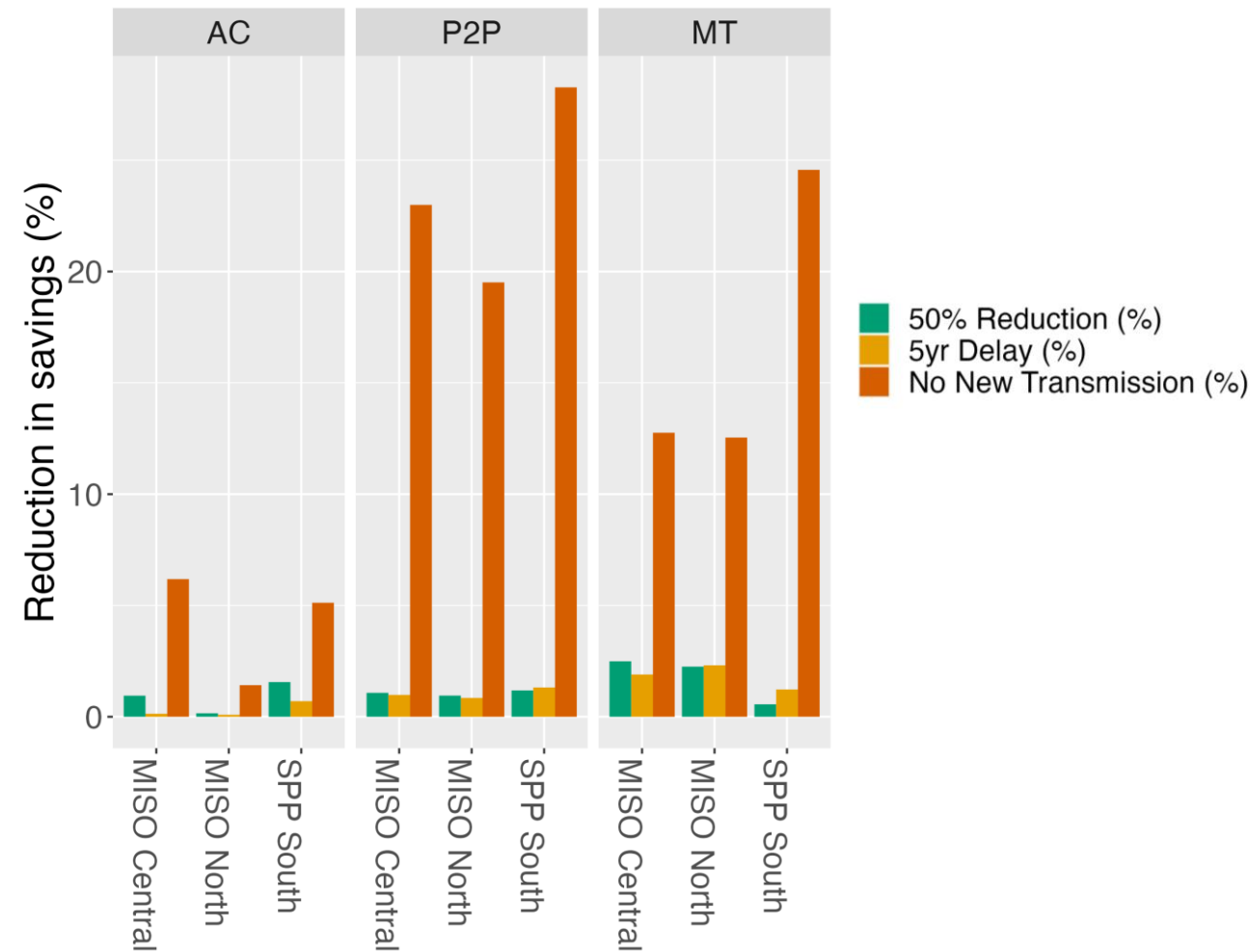
Note: Positive values indicate savings; negative values indicate additional costs; 90% by 2035 (100% by 2045), Mid Demand

# Developing transmission through high opportunity regions provides significant national benefits



- Not allowing new transmission with each subregion reduced systemwide savings by 5% to >20%
- Reducing the amount of new transfer capacity by 50% or delaying transmission development by 5 years still results in 98% of original system value

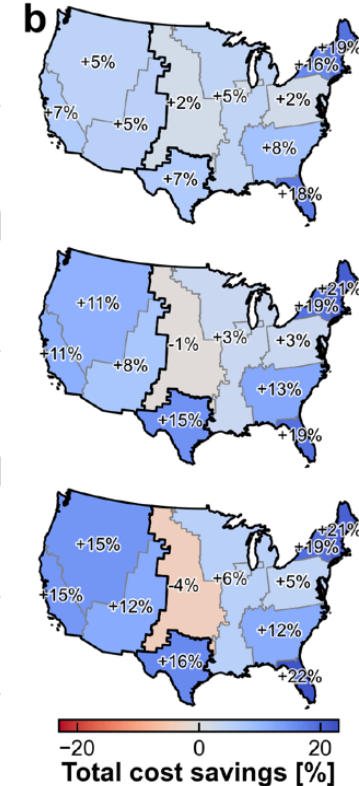
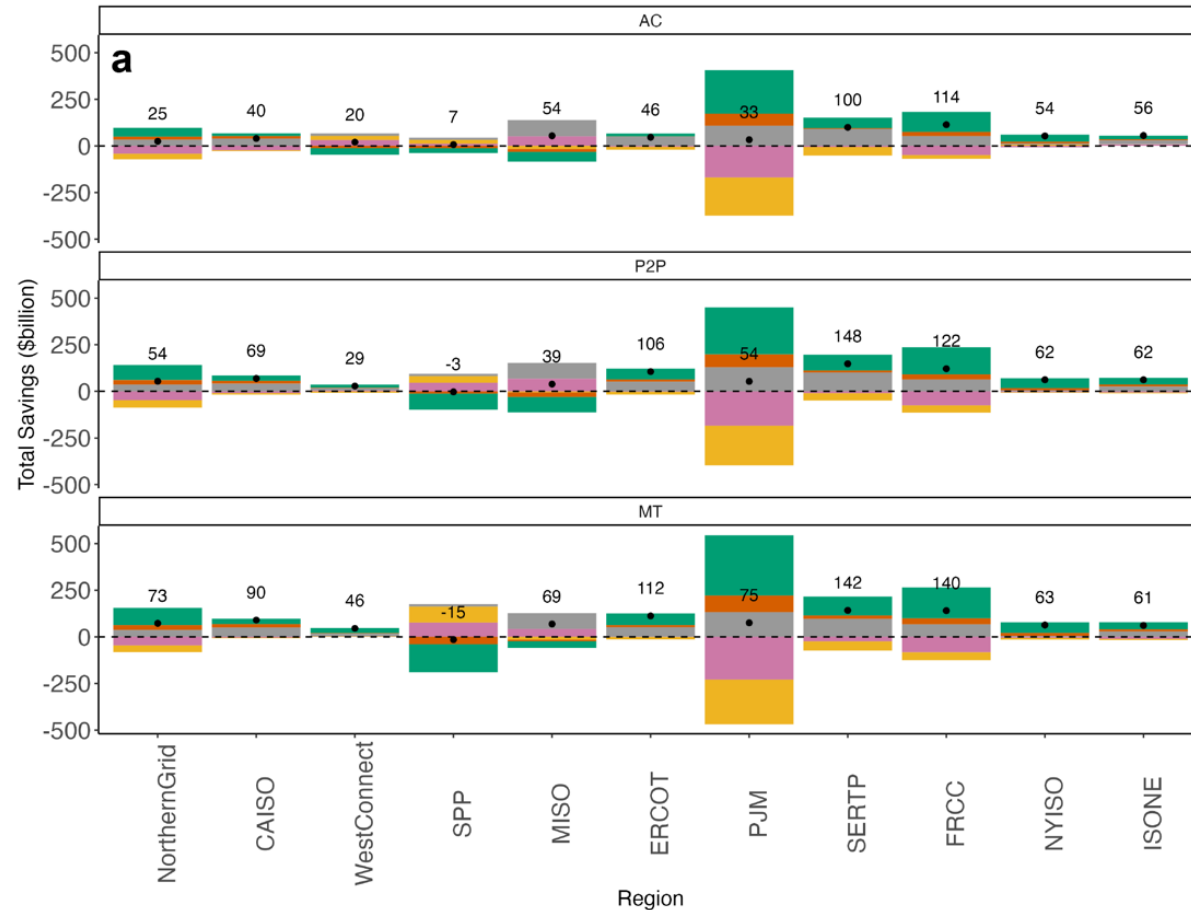
Reduction in systemwide savings (%) compared to the core scenarios



# Interregional transmission brings cost savings in almost all regions



Net present value of **system savings by region** absolute \$billion (a) and percentage (b) of avoided costs



PRELIMINARY RESULTS – DO NOT CITE

■ Generation & Storage Capex 
 ■ Generation & Storage O&M 
 ■ Fuel 
 ■ Policy Incentives 
 ■ Adjusted Prod Cost

90% by 2035 (100% by 2045), Mid Demand



What is the Production Cost Adjustment?

The difference in total production costs *adjusted for purchase costs and generator revenues* with and without a proposed transmission upgrade

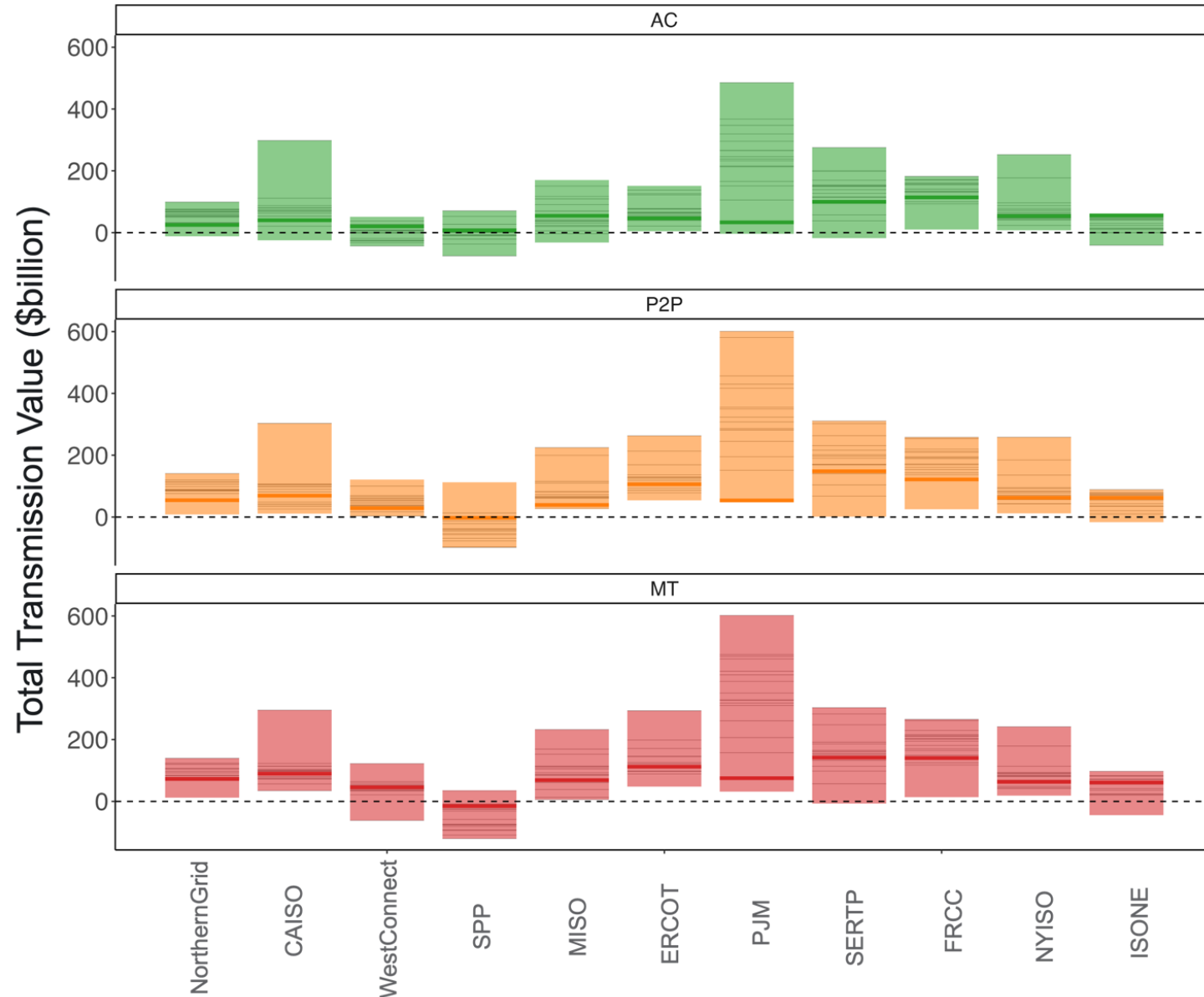
$$\text{Adjusted PC} = \text{Production Cost} + \text{Purchase Costs} - \text{Generator Revenue}$$



# The regional value of transmission is sensitive to technology availability, siting constraints, and climate conditions



NPV of regional savings through 2050 compared to Limited framework (\$billion)



PRELIMINARY RESULTS – DO NOT CITE

# The promise and reality of transmission benefits



## Potential benefits of transmission

### Capital Costs



- Avoided generation capacity investments
- Access to lower cost generation sites
- Access to policy incentives for RE investments (e.g., investment tax credit)

### Operating Costs



- Avoided costs for fuel, cycling, and other variable costs
- Reduced transmission losses
- Access to policy incentives for RE generation (e.g., production tax credit)

### Reliability



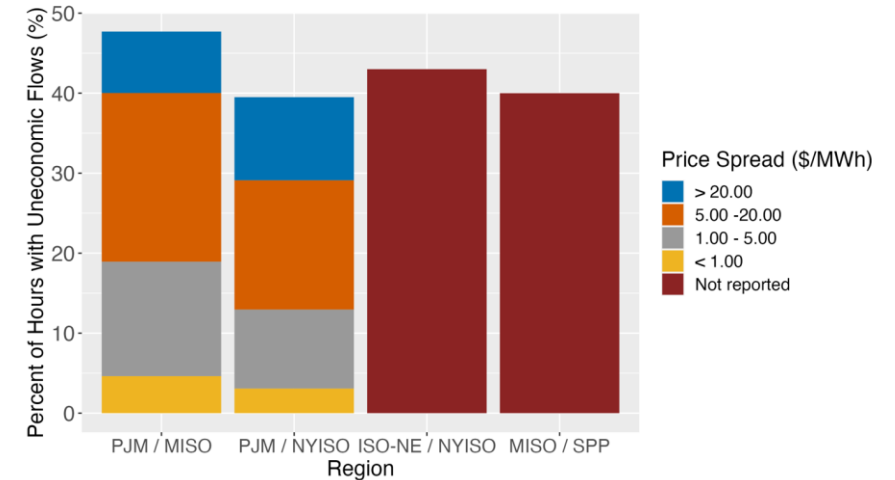
- Reduced loss of load probability
- Reduced cost of meeting requirements for ancillary services and resource adequacy

### Resiliency

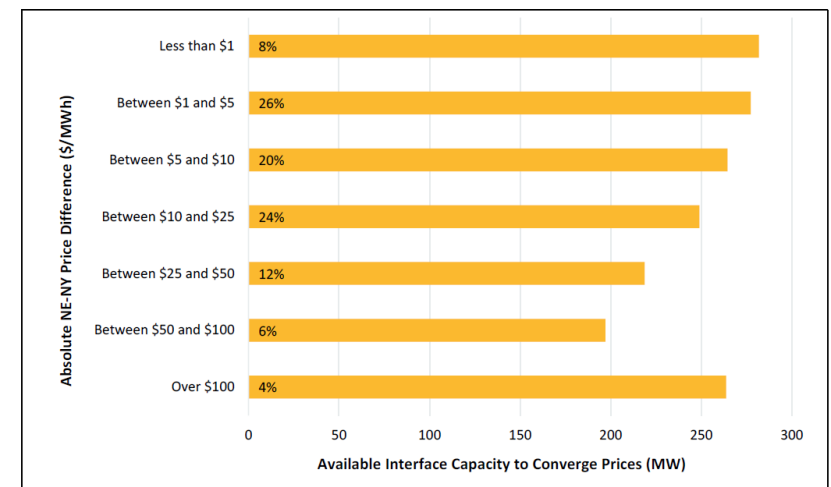


- Reduced severity and duration of outages
- Reduced outages during extreme events
- Mitigation of weather and load uncertainty

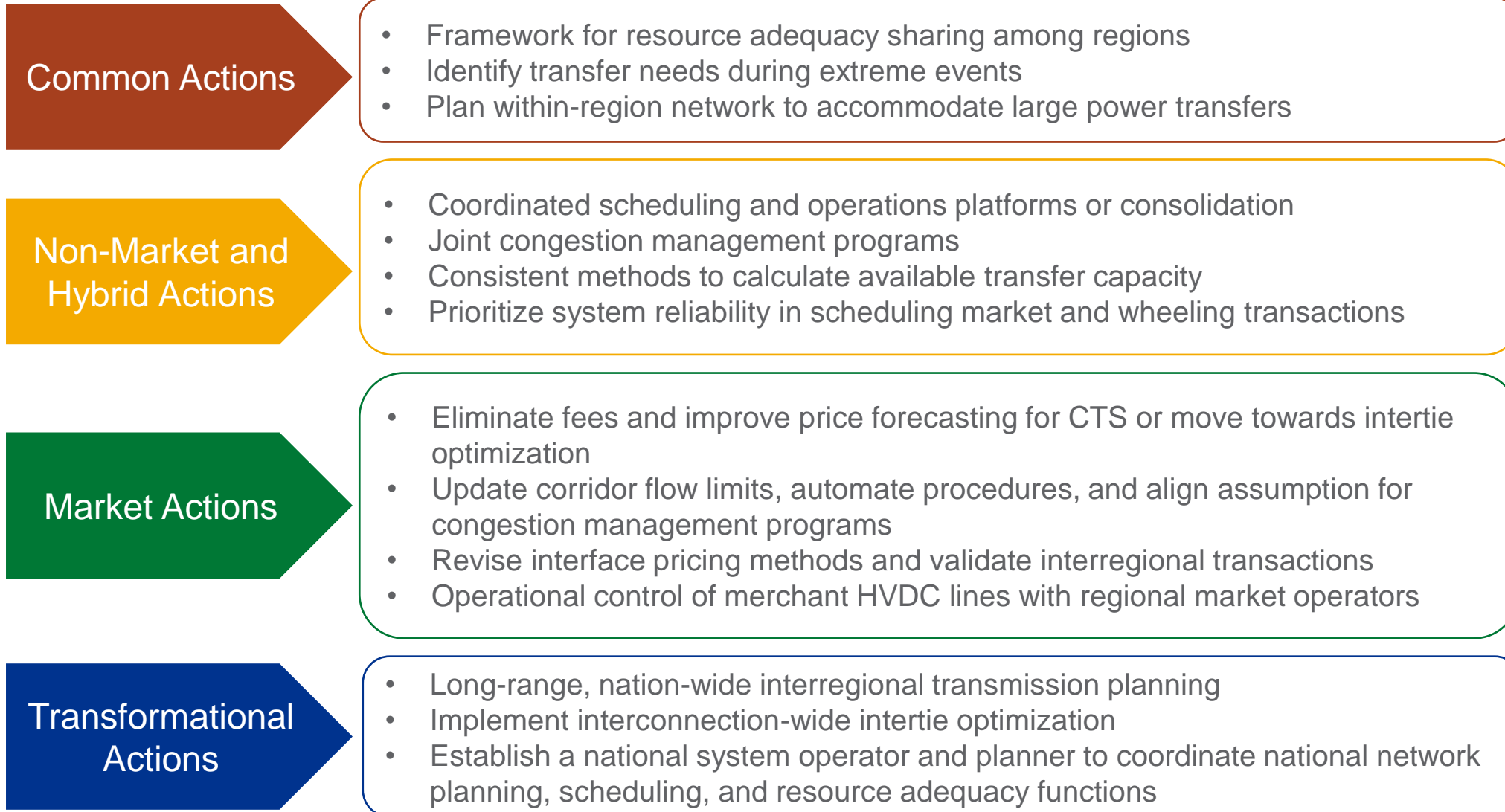
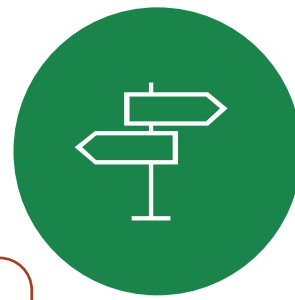
Hours with **uneconomic power flows** across major interregional seams, 2022



ISO-NE and NYISO **unused scheduling capacity**, 2022



# Opportunities to increase systemwide transmission value



# Summary



- Accelerated transmission deployment can save hundreds of billions through reduced capital, operating and fuel expenditures for generation and storage
- Marginal benefits of building interregional transmission are high



- Interregional transmission brings cost savings in almost all regions
- The regional value of transmission is sensitive to technology costs and availability, siting constraints, and climate conditions



- Existing regulations and practices may reduce the systemwide value of interregional transmission
- A number of incremental and transformation solutions are being explored to improve the utilization of transmission



**Thank you**

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