



FAST-41 and the Permitting Council

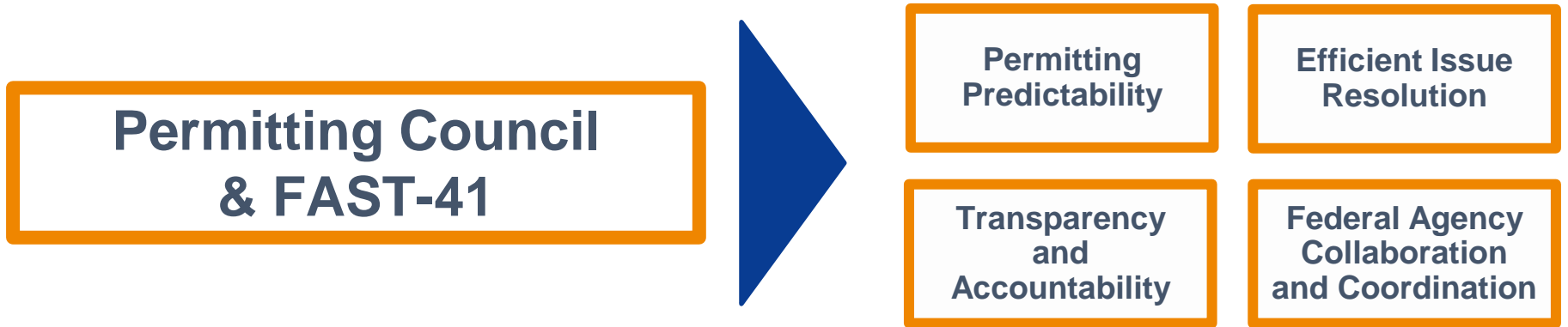
Why Does FAST-41 and the Permitting Council Exist?

Common Complaints about Federal Permitting

- The Federal permitting process is inefficient. There are so many layers and no natural coordination process for Federal agencies.
- The Federal permitting process lacks predictability which can lead to additional costs and projects not getting done on time.
- It is unclear which agencies are responsible for what components of the permitting process.
- Projects get stuck in approval processes for unknown reasons and project sponsors have limited options to escalate issues to decision makers.
- It is unclear who is the right point of contact at any given Federal agency.



The Goals of FAST-41 and the Permitting Council





FAST-41 does *not*:

- Cut corners or reduce the quality of project review and permitting processes.
- Dictate the outcome of any environmental review or authorization process.
- Reduce engagement with Tribes or stakeholders.
- Prescribe deadlines.
- Modify or set rigid timeframes for NEPA or other processes.

The Permitting Council Executive Director does *not* play a role in:

- Substantive aspects of decision making in the project review processes.
- Selecting or prioritizing certain types of projects for FAST-41 coverage or agency review.
- Advocating for a project.
- Underlying environmental review and authorization processes, which are administered by the relevant agencies pursuant to applicable law.

The Permitting Council



Office of Management
and Budget



Permitting Council
Office of the Executive Director
(Council Chair)



Council on
Environmental Quality



Advisory Council on Historic
Preservation



Department of Agriculture



Department of Army



Department of Commerce



Department of Defense



Department of Energy



Department of Housing and
Urban Development



Department of Homeland
Security



Department of the Interior



Department of Transportation



Environmental Protection
Agency



Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

FAST-41 Coverage



Increased predictability: Federal agencies required to collaborate on the creation and management of the permitting timetable.



Focused attention of agency leadership: to drive issue resolution, direct resources, and maintain internal accountability.



Enhanced coordination: Permitting timetable is a one-stop shop for project sponsors and Federal agencies to coordinate on project progress and timeline extensions.



Increased transparency & accountability: Permitting timetables and Federal decisions are accessible to the public. Timetable oversight from Permitting Council and annual report to Congress on compliance of agencies.



Resources: Funding can be transferred to Federal, state, local government agencies, and Tribes to support work related to federal environmental authorizations.



Dispute resolution: Clearly defined escalation procedures for resolving permitting timetable issues (roadblocks).

How FAST-41 Increases Predictability & Accountability

Current Stage of the Project & Estimated Completion Date

New England Wind

PERMITTING DASHBOARD PROJECT POSTING DATE: MARCH 15, 2021

All dates below are specific to the schedule of the Environmental Review and Permitting processes for this project.



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND PERMITTING STATUS
IN PROGRESS



ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
REVIEW AND PERMITTING
12/28/2023

Status of Environmental Review and Federal Permits



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
AND PERMITTING
PROCESSES
COMPLETED



SECTOR
Renewable Energy
Production



CATEGORY
Project Category FAST-41
Covered Projects



LEAD AGENCY
Department of the Interior,
Bureau of Ocean Energy
Management

All Relevant Federal Agencies Clearly Identified

[View FAST-41 Postings by Agencies](#)

Other Agencies with Actions or Authorizations:



Department of
Commerce, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration



Department of the Army,
US Army Corps of
Engineers - Regulatory

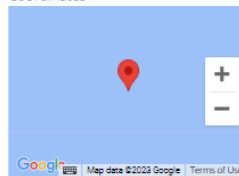


Department of the
Interior, Fish and Wildlife
Service



Environmental Protection
Agency

Coordinates



Primary Location

Coordinates
41.028127, -70.818195

Lead Agency Information:

POC Name: Christine Crumpton
POC Title:
Environmental Protection Specialist
POC Email:
christine.crumpton@boem.gov
Agency/Department: Bureau of
Ocean Energy Management

Sponsor Contact
Information:

Project Sponsor: Park City Wind, LLC
POC Name: Stephanie Wilson
POC Title:
Director of Permitting, Offshore
Avangrid Renewables
POC Email:
stephanie.wilson@avangrid.com

Easy to Access
Contact
Information

How FAST-41 Increases Predictability & Accountability

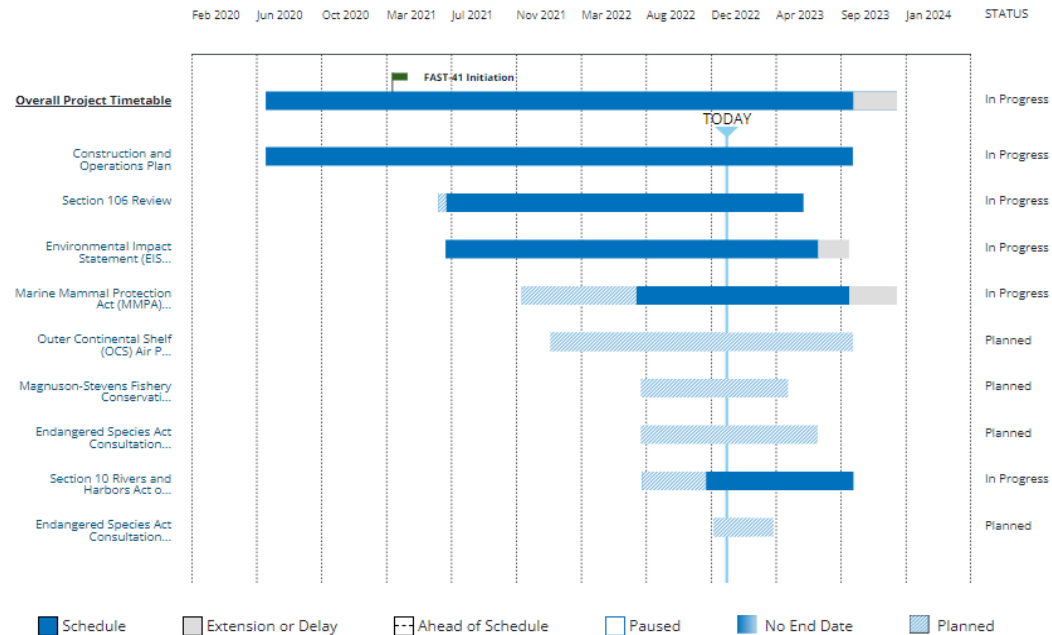
Federal reviews & authorizations relevant to the project clearly posted.

Each authorization or review hyperlinks to a list of actions needed to complete the overall authorization or review, and describes the progress of each action.

Permitting Timetable

The permitting timetable below displays data as reported by agencies. Dates for Environmental Review and Permitting processes (Actions) that are in 'Paused' or 'Planned' status are subject to change and are not indicative of a project's final schedule.

- For information about extensions, select an Action from the timetable below and select 'View Action Details' at the bottom of the page.



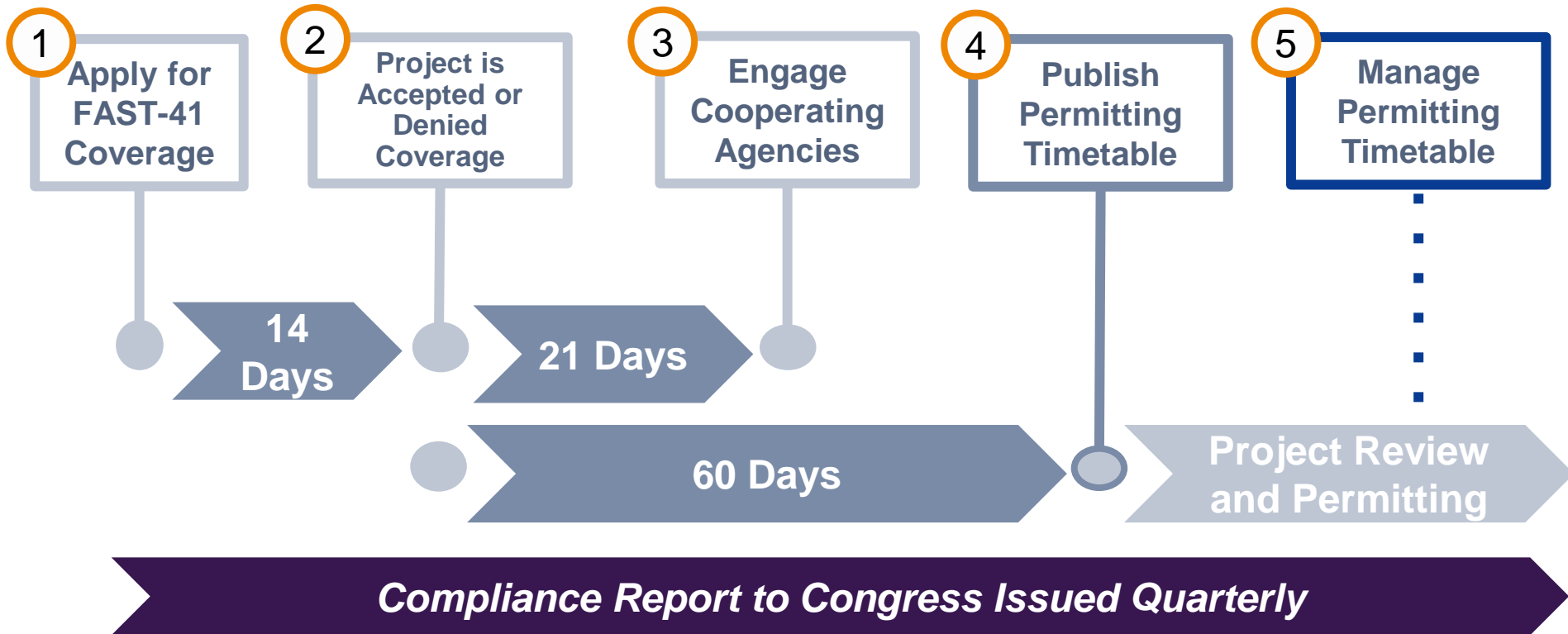
Status of each Federal review & authorization

Executive Director provides oversight and coordination through the administration of the permitting timetable.

OSW Projects with FAST-41 Coverage

Title	Agency	Status
Atlantic Shores North	BOEM	Planned
Atlantic Shores South	BOEM	In Progress
Bay State Wind Project	BOEM	Planned
Beacon Wind	BOEM	Planned
Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Commercial Project	BOEM	In Progress
Empire Wind Energy Project	BOEM	In Progress
Kitty Hawk North Wind Project	BOEM	In Progress
Kitty Hawk South Offshore Wind Project	BOEM	In Progress
Maryland Offshore Wind Project	BOEM	In Progress
Mayflower Wind Energy Project	BOEM	In Progress
New England Wind	BOEM	In Progress
Ocean Wind 1 Project	BOEM	In Progress
Revolution Wind Farm Project	BOEM	In Progress
Skipjack Wind Farm	BOEM	Planned
Sunrise Wind Farm	BOEM	In Progress

From Application to Permitting Timetable



Funding to Support FAST-41 Projects

Environmental Review Improvement Fund (ERIF)

The Executive Director may transfer funds to facilitate timely and efficient environmental reviews and authorizations for FAST-41 covered projects.

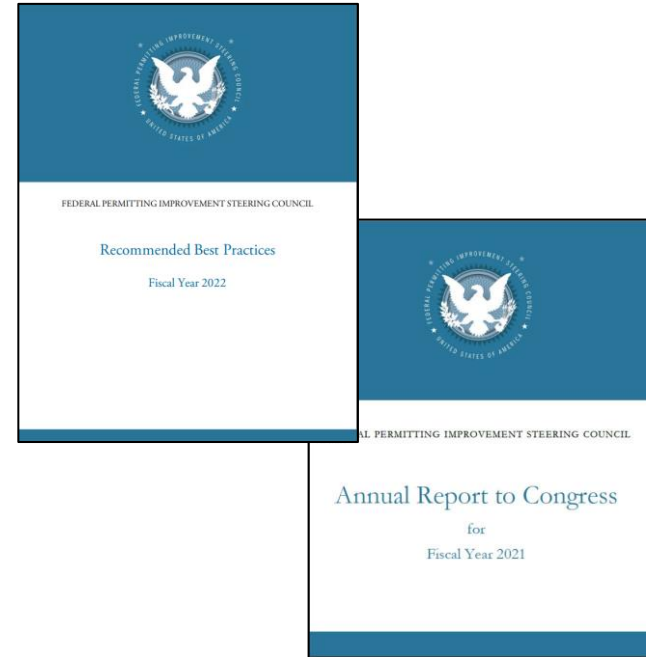


Who's Eligible?

- Federal agencies
- Tribal Governments
- State agencies
- Local governments

FAST-41 Best Practices Recommendations

- At least annually, the Permitting Council issues recommendations for infrastructure permitting best practices in eleven categories, including:
 - Enhancing early stakeholder engagement, including engaging with Native American stakeholders to ensure that project sponsors and agencies identify potential natural, archeological, and cultural resources and locations of historic and religious significance in the area of the covered project.
 - Improving coordination between Federal and non-Federal government entities.
 - Increasing transparency.
 - Creating and distributing training materials useful to Federal, State, Tribal, and local permitting officials.
- Agencies must report to Congress annually re agency progress implementing Permitting Council best practices



Eligibility: FAST-41 Sectors

FAST-41 Sectors:

1. Renewable energy
2. Conventional energy
3. Electricity transmission
4. Surface transportation*
5. Aviation
6. Ports and waterways
7. Water resources*
8. Broadband
9. Pipelines
10. Manufacturing
11. Mining
12. Carbon capture
13. Semiconductors
14. Artificial intelligence and machine learning
15. High-performance computing and advanced computer hardware and software
16. Quantum information science and technology
17. Data storage and data management
18. Cybersecurity

(*) WRDA funded and DOT-led projects are excluded from FAST-41.



Eligibility: FAST-41 Project Criteria

Criteria Category	Definition	Examples
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to NEPA • Requires investment of \$200M+ • Project not eligible for abbreviated environmental review or authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offshore Wind projects • Interstate Electricity Transmission Lines • Utility-Scale Solar Fields
Tribal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to NEPA • Sponsored by Tribe & located at least partially on land within their jurisdiction • \$200M threshold does <u>not</u> apply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal broadband • Tribal energy projects • Tribal water infrastructure
Discretionary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200M threshold does not apply • Council determines that project is of size and complexity that would benefit from coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural broadband projects that require an EIS that are not valued at \$200 million or more • Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure
Carbon Capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes construction of: any facility, technology, or system that captures, utilizes, or sequesters carbon dioxide emissions, including projects for direct air capture and carbon dioxide pipelines. • Project is covered by a programmatic plan or environmental review development for the primary purpose of facilitating development of carbon dioxide pipelines. • No NEPA requirement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsurface injection & storage projects • Coal plant capture & injection • Refinery capture & injection

How to Apply for FAST-41?

The FAST-41 application also known as the “FAST-41 Initiation Notice” (FIN) can be submitted:

- Through the [online submission tool](#)
- Email- instructions can be found [here](#)

We are here to help!

Contact FAST.FortyOne@fpisc.gov for a pre-application consultations or any questions.

Required information for the FIN:

- Project Information: Title, Sector, Type, Location
- Project Sponsor Name and Contact Information
- Statement of the purposes and objectives of the project
- Concise description including general location and/or a summary of geospatial information, if available, and the locations, if any, of environmental, cultural, and historic resources
- Statement regarding the technical and financial ability of the project sponsor to construct the proposed project
- Statement of any Federal Financing, environmental reviews, and authorizations anticipated to be required
- Assessment that the project meets the definition of a covered project as defined in 42 U.S.C. §4370m(6)(A) and a statement of reasons supporting the assessment.

For more information go to:

www.permitting.gov

Appendix



Permitting and Environmental Review Process

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):

- “Major” projects: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a complex Environmental Assessment (EA); Many of these added to FAST-41 process.
 - ~1% of all projects require an EIS
 - ~5% of all projects require an EA (and many of these are not “major/complex”)
- Remaining ~95% are categorical exclusions (CatEx/CE)

Duration of Environmental Review Process:

- From 2010-2018, an EIS took an average of 4.5 years (median = 3.5 years). Wide variation, with some taking 10+ years, some taking <2 year.
- EAs generally take less time; CEs often take just a few months. But wide variation here too.

Federal Permitting: 60+ federal permitting/review processes across 15+ federal agencies (e.g. Endangered Species Act; Section 106 historic properties review; Section 404 Clean Water Act; rights-of-way authorizations; special use permits; etc.)