

Coordination, Collaboration, and Transparency in Federal Infrastructure Permitting Review

Federal Permitting Via FAST-41

Presented by Rebecca Higgins, Permitting Council Chief of Staff

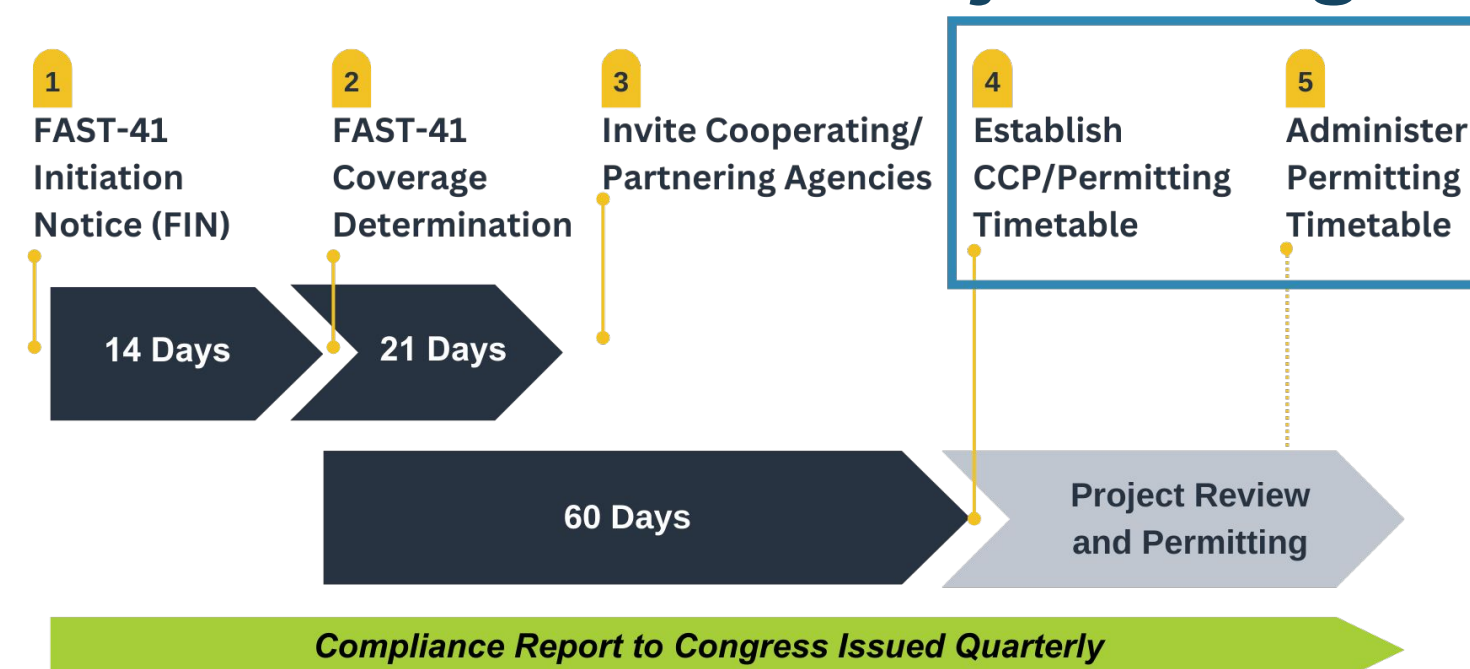
Established in 2015 by Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41), the Permitting Council is a federal agency charged with improving the transparency and predictability of the federal environmental review and authorization process for certain critical infrastructure projects. The Permitting Council coordinates federal environmental reviews and authorizations for projects that seek and qualify for FAST-41 coverage. FAST-41 covered projects are entitled to comprehensive permitting timetables and transparent, collaborative management of those timetables on the federal Permitting Dashboard.

FAST-41 Sectors

- Renewable energy production
- Conventional energy production
- Electricity transmission
- Surface transportation*
- Aviation
- Ports and waterways*
- Water resource*
- Broadband
- Pipelines
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Carbon capture
- Semiconductors
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning
- High-performance computing and advanced computer hardware and software
- Quantum information science and technology
- Data storage and data management
- Cybersecurity
- Energy Storage

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

FAST-41 Covered Project Stages



Interested in FAST-41 Coverage?

APPLY NOW

- Visit [permitting.gov](https://www.permitting.gov) and click the "BECOME A FAST-41 PROJECT" button.
- Review and submit required information for the FAST-41 Initiation Notice.
- Have more questions? Feel free to contact us for a pre-application consultation.

Project Benefits From FAST-41 Coverage

Predictability Agencies collaborate on permitting timetables	Coordination Timetable serves as an organizational tool for stakeholders	Resources Funding available to support permitting review process
Agency Leadership Focused attention from senior officials	Transparency Permitting timetables and federal decisions publicly accessible	Dispute Resolution Defined escalation procedures for resolving timetable issues

Member Agencies

The following federal agencies represent the members of the Permitting Council created by FAST-41.



ERIF & ERIF TAP | Environmental Review Improvement Fund

The Permitting Council has made \$155 million in ERIF funding available to aid federal agencies in permitting review. This funding can be used for hiring experts and acquiring needed tools and resources. The ERIF Tribal Assistance Fund (ERIF TAP) allocates additional funds to aid Tribes in fully engaging in the permitting review process.



Check Out FAST-41 Covered Projects

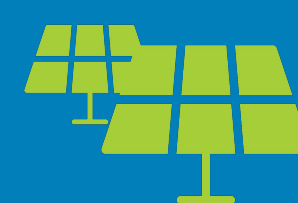


Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion project: Sponsored by the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), this FAST-41 covered project is focused on restoring Louisiana's Barataria Basin, which is experiencing some of the highest levels of land loss in the nation. This area is also one of the most affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and the project will work to remediate the decade-long damage still being experienced. Submitted for FAST-41 coverage in 2017, final permitting approval was granted in December 2022 thanks to collaboration between the Permitting Council and CPRA.

Louisiana Breaks Ground on Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion



South Fork Wind project: This project completed environmental permitting review approval in January 2022, making it the first offshore wind farm to complete the FAST-41 process. With 12 turbines generating 132 megawatts, it will power 70,000 homes in East Hampton, New York, representing a \$740 million investment and creating over 1800 jobs. Developed by Ørsted and Eversource, this project powered up for the first time in December 2023 and will have all 12 turbines installed by early 2024.



Gemini Solar & Storage project: Projected to generate enough reliable, clean energy to power 400,000 homes during super peak periods, this FAST-41 covered project will play a major role in realizing net zero emissions by 2050. Completing permitting review approval in 2020, this \$1.2 billion project combines 690 MW of photovoltaic solar with 380 MW of battery energy storage. Located in Nevada, with expansion plans for California and Arizona, the project sets a precedent for tribal collaboration and serves as a model for future initiatives.

SITING+ PERMITTING

MARCH 11 – 13, 2024 | COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



Become a FAST-41 project and visit the federal Permitting Dashboard

