

# PJM Cycle 1 Readiness Scorecard

Assess your project readiness across all compliance dimensions

Prepared by Zonevex | zonevex.com  
Application Deadline: April 27, 2026

## Score Your Project. Find Your Gaps. Fix Them Before April 27.

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### Instructions

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Score each dimension using the criteria below. For each gap identified, follow the specific remediation steps. This assessment is designed to surface problems NOW -- while you still have time to fix them -- not after PJM issues a deficiency notice with a 10-day cure window.

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### Dimension 1: Site Control (Max 25 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/25

If you scored 20: You're close. Commission a boundary survey and overlay it with your Attachment N site plan. Verify every square foot on the plan falls within controlled land. This catches the gap that kills projects at Killer #2 (insufficient coverage).

If you scored 15: You have two specific problems to fix immediately:

- \* Entity name mismatch: Complete the entity name verification matrix (Template C in Playbook). For each mismatch: either amend the document with the counterparty, or execute an assignment agreement with complete chain of title. Do this NOW -- not during a 10-day cure window.
- \* Expiring term: Contact your landowner and execute a term extension amendment. Target: site control through at least April 2028 (gives you buffer past the 1-year minimum).

If you scored 10 or below: You are at serious risk of termination at application. Prioritize: (1) Execute binding site control agreements covering the full footprint. (2) Use the Site Control Summary Table (Template C) to map every parcel. (3) Engage a land agent to accelerate acquisition of missing parcels. If you cannot secure 100% control by April 20, evaluate whether Cycle 1 is realistic or if you should target Cycle 2.

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### Dimension 2: Financial Readiness (Max 20 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/20

If you scored 15: Run the Financial Calculator (included in this toolkit) with your actual project capacity at \$240/kW, \$400/kW, and \$600/kW network upgrade scenarios. The critical number is your worst-case RD2 at DP1 -- you'll have only 30 days to fund it after Phase I results. If you can't fund the \$600/kW scenario, decide now what your walk-away threshold is.

If you scored 10 or below: You need to solve funding before you submit. Options:

- \* Arrange an ILOC from your bank (1-2 week lead time; requires collateral)
  - \* Obtain a surety bond (may be faster than ILOC; requires creditworthiness)
  - \* If you need project-level financing: engage a project finance advisor now -- you need commitments, not conversations, by April.
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## Dimension 3: Technical Documentation (Max 15 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/15

If you scored 10: Your critical path item is the PSSE dynamic model (B-2). Manufacturer lead time is 4-8 weeks. If you haven't requested it yet, do it TODAY. Contact your inverter/turbine manufacturer's interconnection support team and request the PSSE v33+ compatible .dvr file with documentation. Everything else can be completed in parallel.

If you scored 5 or below: You need to engage your EPC or electrical engineering firm immediately for: (1) site plan preparation, (2) one-line diagram, (3) equipment specification compilation, (4) PSSE model request. If you don't have an EPC yet, you are likely not ready for Cycle 1.

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## Dimension 4: Point of Interconnection (Max 15 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/15

If you scored 10: Complete the POI Evaluation Workbook (included in this toolkit). The three screening steps that take <2 hours total:

1. Run Queue Scope at your POI (<https://queuescope.pjm.com>) -- check thermal headroom
2. Check ATC at PJM OASIS (<http://oasis.pjm.com>) -- check transfer capability
3. Search Interconnection.fyi for your POI -- count competing projects

If any of these show red flags (zero ATC, high queue density, red thermal congestion), evaluate alternative POIs BEFORE committing.

If you scored 5: You need to select a POI. Use the POI Evaluation Workbook to screen 2-3 candidates. The POI is the most consequential decision in your application -- it determines your cluster, your likely costs, and your project viability. Do not rush this. Spend 1-2 days on thorough evaluation.

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## Dimension 5: Permitting (Max 10 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/10

If you scored 4-7: This won't block your Cycle 1 application (PJM doesn't require permits at application), but it signals readiness. Create a permit matrix listing every required permit with: issuing authority, status, expected timeline. For Virginia PBR: if wildlife monitoring hasn't started, you need 12 months -- plan accordingly. For Maryland CPCN: average 388 days -- if you haven't started, factor this into your construction timeline.

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## Dimension 6: Agreements and Platform (Max 10 points)

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Your Score: \_\_\_/10

If you scored 7: Set up your NextGen account THIS WEEK. Non-member companies need a CAM assignment from

PJM -- this takes business days. Log in, verify Read/Write access, and complete your Company Profile. Download all Cycle 1 forms fresh from PJM's portal.

If you scored 4 or below: Immediate actions:

1. Download ASA from <https://www.pjm.com/planning/service-requests/application-and-forms>
2. Contact [InterconnectionSupport@pjm.com](mailto:InterconnectionSupport@pjm.com) for NextGen account setup (non-members)
3. Designate signatory and prepare corporate authorization document

## Dimension 7: Process Preparedness (Max 5 points)

Your Score: \_\_\_/5

If you scored 3: Read Playbook Sections 7 (Cluster Study Process) and 9 (Decision Point Playbook). Define your economic kill criteria NOW: at what \$/kW upgrade cost will you withdraw? Having this number before Phase I results arrive prevents emotional decision-making under pressure.

## Total Score

## What Your Score Means

### 85-100: Ready to Submit

Final QA only. Complete the Pre-Submission QA Signoff (Template D). Submit 2-3 business days before deadline -- don't risk technical issues on April 27.

### 65-84: Actionable Gaps -- Fixable Before Deadline

You have specific problems to solve. Prioritize by risk level:

1. Site control gaps (Dimension 1) -- highest cure difficulty; fix first
2. PSSE dynamic model (Dimension 3) -- longest lead time; request from manufacturer now
3. Financial funding (Dimension 2) -- ILOC lead time is 1-2 weeks
4. Everything else -- can be completed in days

### 45-64: Significant Gaps -- Deadline at Risk

Multiple critical dimensions incomplete. The question isn't "can I submit" -- it's "should I submit a deficient application and try to cure, or prepare properly for Cycle 2?" Submitting with known gaps wastes deposits if you can't cure within 10 business days. For site control gaps specifically: if you don't have executed agreements today, getting them in 7 weeks is extremely tight.

## Below 45: Target Cycle 2

Your project is not ready for the reformed process. A deficient application will result in termination and lost deposits. Use the 12+ months before Cycle 2 to: secure site control, form entities, arrange capital, complete environmental studies, and prepare documentation. Everything in this toolkit applies to Cycle 2 -- start now.

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## Critical Path Items (Ordered by Lead Time)

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