This excerpt from the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provides states advanced Congressional Consent to enter into interstate compacts in order to address transmission siting challenges.

“(i) INTERSTATE COMPACTS.—(1) The consent of Congress is given for three or more contiguous States to enter into an interstate compact, subject to approval by Congress, establishing regional transmission siting agencies to—

“(A) facilitate siting of future electric energy transmission facilities within those States; and

“(B) carry out the electric energy transmission siting responsibilities of those States.

“(2) The Secretary may provide technical assistance to regional transmission siting agencies established under this subsection.

“(3) The regional transmission siting agencies shall have the authority to review, certify, and permit siting of transmission facilities, including facilities in national interest electric transmission corridors (other than facilities on property owned by the United States).

“(4) The Commission shall have no authority to issue a permit for the construction or modification of an electric transmission facility within a State that is a party to a compact, unless the members of the compact are in disagreement and the Secretary makes, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the finding described in subsection (b)(1)(C).”