



October 20, 2021 - Update

Our Vision

STRATEGIC GOALS –

- To have **ELECTRIC POWER** adopted as the principal motive power of domestic and North American railroad (freight and/or passengers) transportation
- To encourage **RAILROADS** to be an enabler of electric grid integration and innovation

What the REC Offers

- **A BRIDGE** between critical but disparate sectors of the economy
- **A FORUM** for addressing the economic and environmental interests of the transportation and energy sectors
- **A distinctive VOICE** for the public's interest in a clean energy economy, critical infrastructure investment, and collaborative decision making
- **A PATHWAY** for forward-looking railroad operators, electric manufacturers, new technologies, renewable energy companies, and market participants looking for holistic solutions

REC Year One

- **Conducted (3) open meetings with a variety of guest speakers**
- **Published its first whitepaper on the Value of Rail Electrification**
- **Provided comments to FERC on its Transmission Incentives NOPR, promoting utilization of Brownfields Rights-of-Way (ROW), including for railroads**
- **Provided contributions to the Nevada State DOT on its Rail Electrification Plan**
- **Launched a new website: [Rail Electrification Council](#)**

REC Year Two

- **Formed (3) committees that address fundamental areas of rail electrification**
- **Wayside- train interface equipment at or near grade crossing, in a rail yard, or deployed along parts of the line**
- **Power Sources- how existing railroad rights of way is a feasible way to build out the grid**
- **Motive Power- adoption of electricity as the principal motive power**

Several options-diesel electric, full battery, battery hybrid, hybrid battery/hydrogen fuel cell, hybrid battery/fossil fuel, hydrogen fuel cells, and in some cases full electric.

Wayside Committee

Current Focus

- **Research study on existing locations**
 - **How is it used**
 - **How are renewables integrated**
 - **How it addresses efficiency, resiliency**
 - **How it affects the environment**
 - **Lessons learned**
- **Different characteristics of wayside infrastructure across transit, Class I Freight, and Shortlines**

Power Sources Committee

Current Focus

- **Request to the US DOT for guidance on Railroad Rights-of-Way (ROW)**
 - [REC US DOT Letter, July 26, 2021](#)
- **Comments on the FERC ANOPR Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection**
 - [REC ANOPR Comments, October 12, 2021](#)

Motive Power Committee

Current Focus

- **Roadmap for transformation**
 - **Electric motive power on zones/sections of track**
 - **Private railroads**
 - **Zero emission initiatives**
 - **Existing programs and pilots**
 - **Battery electric locomotives working in tandem with diesel**
 - **Use cases for each type of technology**
 - **Meeting ESG targets and achieving stewardship goals**

REC Newsletter



September 13, 2021 | No. 2

The next open meeting of the REC is planned for October 2021. If you are interested in attending, [please contact Steve Griffith](#).

INDUSTRY & COUNCIL UPDATES

The REC Committees Moving Forward with Their Agenda

The Council formed three committees this year address fundamental areas of rail electrification: Wayside, Power Sources, and Motive Power Committees. [Learn more.](#)

Power and Rail Networks Working Together

The Macro Grid Initiative is seeking to build support for expanding and upgrading transmission. NEMA and the REC are extremely valuable partners in this effort. We will be looking to our partners to help educate policymakers. [Read more here.](#)

Infrastructure and Jobs Act Key Highlights

Last month, the Senate passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to invest in the nation's infrastructure, including funding for roads and bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, electric grid, water systems, broadband, among other priorities. [See key highlights here.](#)

FRA and the Potential for Rail Electrification

Emerging Federal initiatives will provide unprecedented funding for electric-powered trains and related infrastructure, [learn more about the FRA and its potential.](#)

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