

Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG) brings together a diverse set of stakeholders, including customers, renewable resource developers, labor advocates, traditional utilities, environmental advocates, manufacturers of transmission technologies, and merchant transmission developers. Together, we advocate for policies that will modernize the United States' electric power network.

A resilient and reliable transmission grid is the backbone of a clean electricity system and a strong economy. Smart state and federal policies that improve the way the grid is developed, planned, and paid for will help it become a more cost-effective, robust, reliable, and secure network that supports expansion of clean energy, distributed energy resources, competitive power markets, and consumer benefits.

Our Work

Since 2008, ACEG has educated lawmakers, regulators, advocates, academics, and other stakeholders about the benefits of a clean energy grid and the challenges we must overcome to maintain, upgrade, and expand it.

- Groundbreaking Analysis: ACEG and its partners develop and commission analyses that examine the benefits of and barriers to a modernized grid.
- **Engaging Policymakers:** ACEG takes an active role in educating lawmakers and the administration, as well as advocating for smart transmission policies.
- Proactive Education: ACEG hosts frequent webinars and organizes meetings with community groups to
 explore transmission benefits and the roadblocks to building needed transmission.

Transmission and America's Future

- Improved grid reliability: Expanded interregional transmission will dramatically reduce power outages during extreme weather events by allowing grid operators to tap resources from other regions. Unconstrained transmission could result in more than \$1 billion in savings during extreme weather events and even greater annual savings.¹
- **Supporting our present and future energy demands:** With low-cost, clean energy sources often located in remote areas, strategic growth of the electric grid will help deliver that power to the families and businesses that need it. Every path to 100% clean energy requires increased transmission. Without it, gas and coal plants will need to produce more energy to meet growing demand from EVs and broader electrification.²
- **Lower electric bills:** Investing in transmission lines reduces electricity production costs, decreases energy losses in the transmission process, reduces congestion, increases reliability, and encourages competition all of which lower consumers' utility bills.
- **Improved health:** Expanded transmission can reduce pollution by allowing cleaner resources to connect to the grid. The emissions from fossil fuel generation are associated with serious health consequences, and many of these plants are located near marginalized communities.
- **American jobs:** Investing in transmission can spur the creation of 6 million net new jobs, increasing electric sector employment more than five-fold by 2050.³



ACEG Policy Priorities

- **Siting:** ACEG supports streamlining the transmission siting process to reduce the time needed to build clean energy transmission infrastructure.
- **Permitting:** ACEG supports improving the transmission permitting process without unduly weakening environmental or community protections.
- **Planning:** ACEG supports improved regional and interregional planning to develop high capacity transmission lines that reduce congestion, improve remote energy delivery, and improve reliability and resilience.
- **Cost Allocation:** ACEG supports broad cost allocation that accounts for the many benefits transmission lines bring to electricity customers, including reliability, economic, and environmental benefits.

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Sources

- 1 Tandon Manz, Sheila, "Economic, Reliability, and Resiliency Benefits of Interregional Transmission Capacity," Oct. 2022.
- 2 Denholm, Paul, et al, "Examining Supply-Side Options to Achieve 100% Clean Electricity by 2035," Aug. 2022.
- 3 Clack, Christopher, et al, "Consumer, Employment, and Environmental Benefits of Electricity Transmission Expansion in the Eastern U.S." Oct. 2020.