



**NEXTGEN
HIGHWAYS**



NASEO: Energy Policy Outlook

Randy Satterfield, Executive Director

February 5, 2026

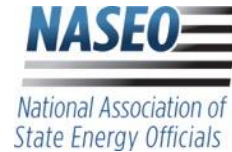
National Coalition Members



American Clean
Power Association



AUTONOMY
INSTITUTE



The Nature
Conservancy



Solar Energy
Industries Association





Energy Needs Are Growing

- AI / data centers
- Advanced manufacturing
- Electrification
 - Transportation
 - Building/home heating



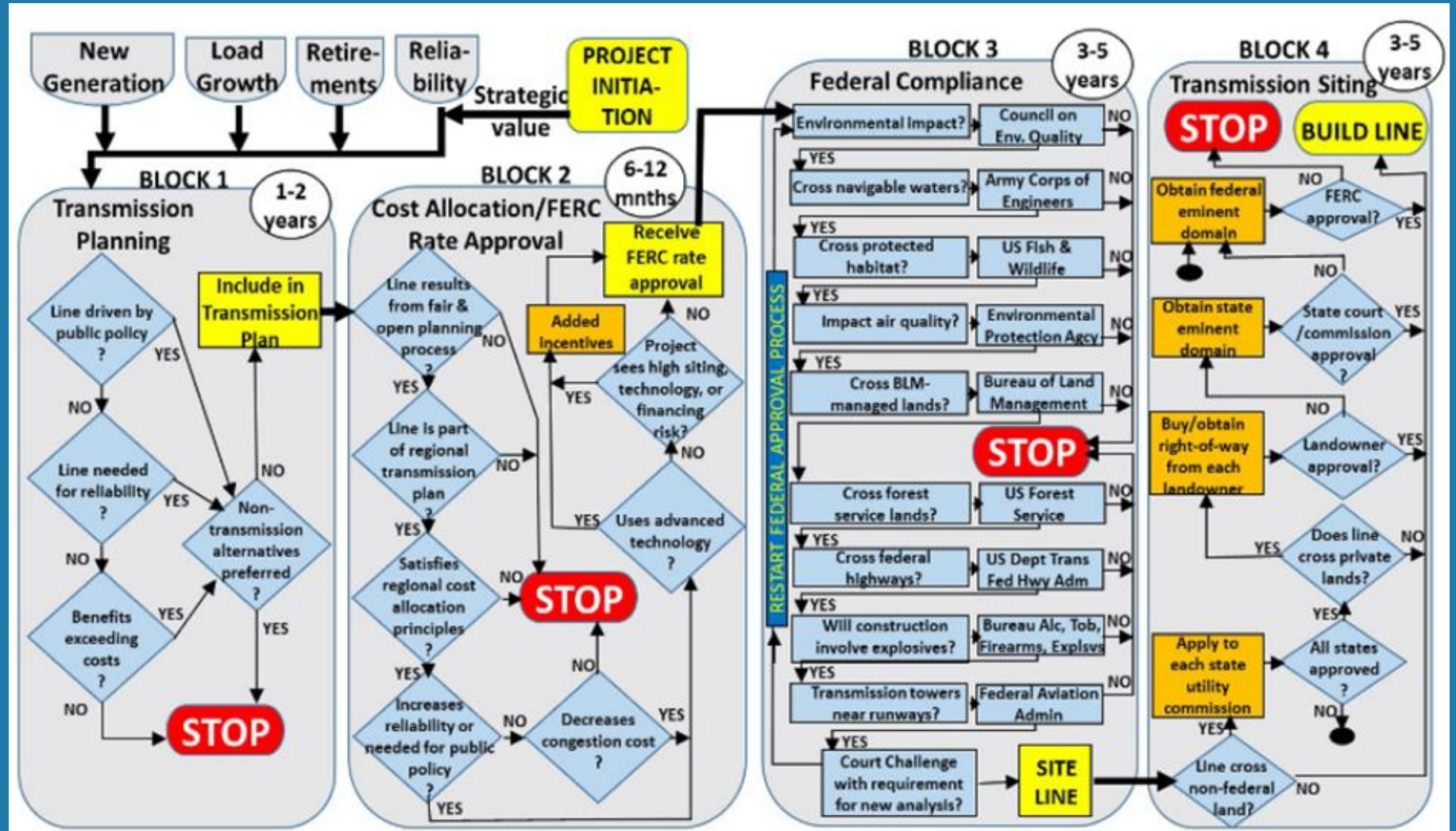
Climate change and extreme weather require a more resilient power system

Is the Transmission System Ready to Meet These Needs?

- NREL's 2024 National Transmission Planning Study found the U.S. transmission system will need to double in size by 2050 to meet demand
- But transmission project timelines are getting longer, not shorter – with negative effects on reliability and costs for consumers

The Transmission Development Challenge ...

(It's complicated.)



Transmission Siting Often Faces Pushback from Communities

The Frederick News-Post

Enraged, distressed residents tell PSEG to stop proposed regional transmission line

By Gabrielle Lewis glewis@newspost.com Nov 15, 2024 Updated Nov 15, 2024

Frederick County Council Adopts Resolution Opposing Md. Piedmont Reliability Project

February 4, 2025 - 2:00 am

The vote was unanimous.

LoudounNow

Residents, Parents Protest Transmission Lines on School Grounds

Amber Lucas Mar 20, 2025 14

The public prefers
infrastructure to be built where
there is already infrastructure.

A Simple Solution: Use Existing Rights-of-Way

- NextGen Highways promotes the strategic and safe **co-location** of electric and communications infrastructure in existing highway rights-of-way (ROW)
- State-level efforts work to lift outdated regulations that prohibit co-location
- Federal permitting reform opportunities
 - Transportation reauthorization opportunities
 - Legislative efforts to support colocation
 - US DOT/FHWA support

Co-Location Outcomes

- Speed transmission development
- Support affordable, reliable, clean energy
- Support transportation electrification
- Impact fewer private landowners
- Lessen environmental impacts

Reimagining highways as infrastructure corridors to meet 21st-century needs

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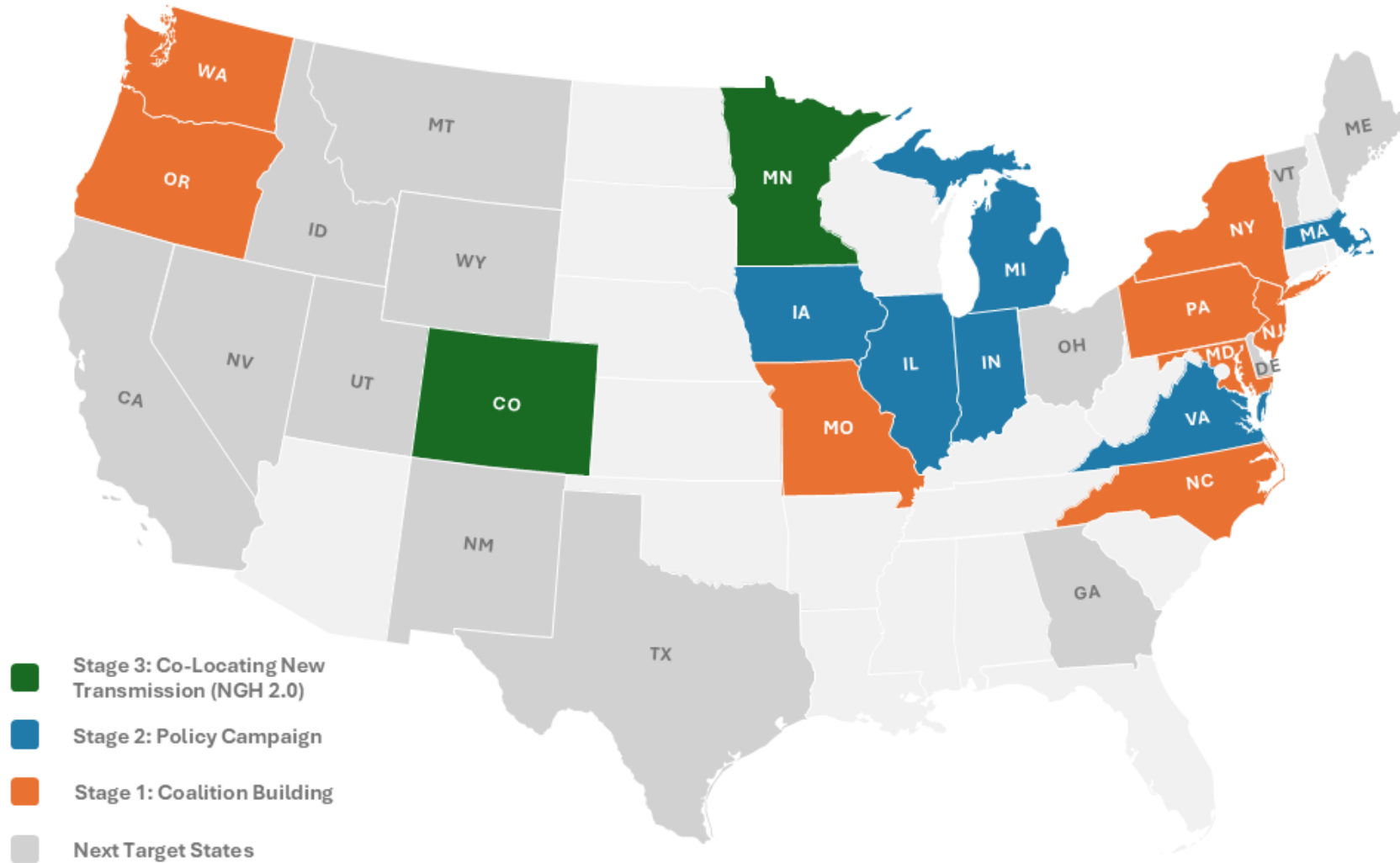
Barriers to Co-Locating Transmission

- 40+ state DOTs prohibit or restrict co-location in interstate highways
- Utilities/transmission providers do not consider highway ROW for transmission siting
- Utilities and state DOTs typically do not proactively collaborate
- Culture issues, rooted in experience

NGH Work in States

- After convening state-level coalitions, NextGen Highways successfully supported legislators in lifting prohibitions on co-location in:
 - ✓ 2024: Minnesota
 - ✓ 2025: Colorado
- Driving policy change in Virginia, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa

Where Else Are We Working?



Role of State Energy Offices

- Champion co-location as an option for common sense siting
- Engage and convene discussions within state government
 - Governor's office, state DOT, PUC
 - Policy makers
- Engage with other stakeholders on the barriers and opportunities for co-location
 - Utility, transportation, RTO, clean energy and other stakeholders
- Leverage [NASEO/NGH right-of-way policy paper](#), states' activities to address transmission co-location, and Wisconsin's success

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Thank you!

For more information, please check out our website (www.nextgenhighways.org) or
send us an email (info@nextgenhighways.org)