



NASEO: Energy Policy Outlook

Randy Satterfield, Executive Director
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National Coalition Members



Americans for a
Clean Energy Grid



ACORE
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON
RENEWABLE ENERGY



American Clean
Power Association



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LSPower
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NASEO
National Association of
State Energy Officials

NEMA
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The Nature
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POW
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RIVIAN

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ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW CENTER**

Smart Electric
Power Alliance

Solar Energy
Industries Association

VEIR

Union of
Concerned Scientists

WORLD
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**NEXTGEN
HIGHWAYS**





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

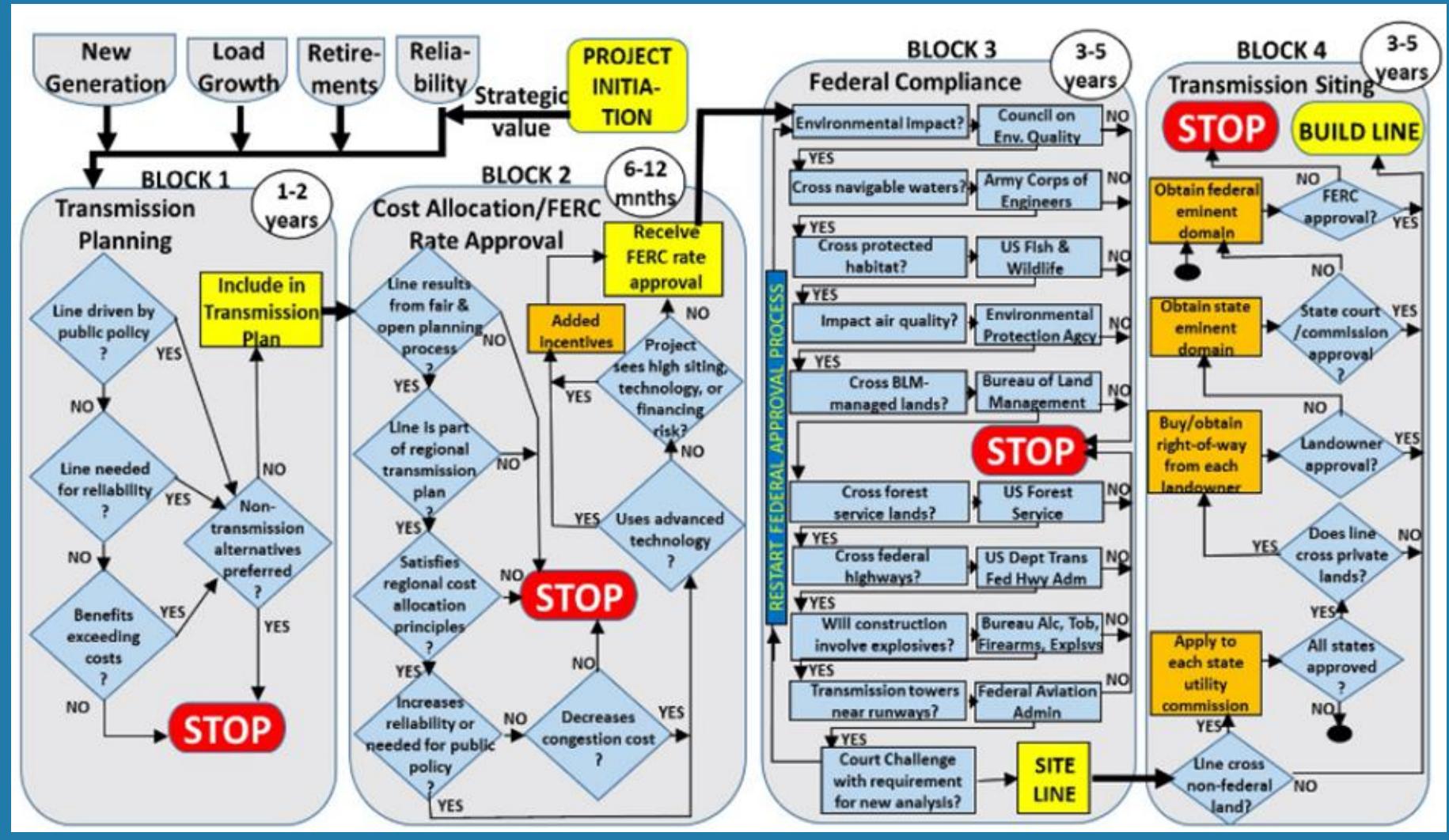


Is the Transmission System Ready to Meet These Needs?

- 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

NEXTGEN HIGHWAYS 



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

A wide-angle photograph of a multi-lane highway at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, orange and yellow clouds. The highway curves through a landscape of green hills and fields. Several vehicles, including cars and trucks, are visible on the road. The overall atmosphere is scenic and modern.

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

Barriers to Co-Locating Transmission

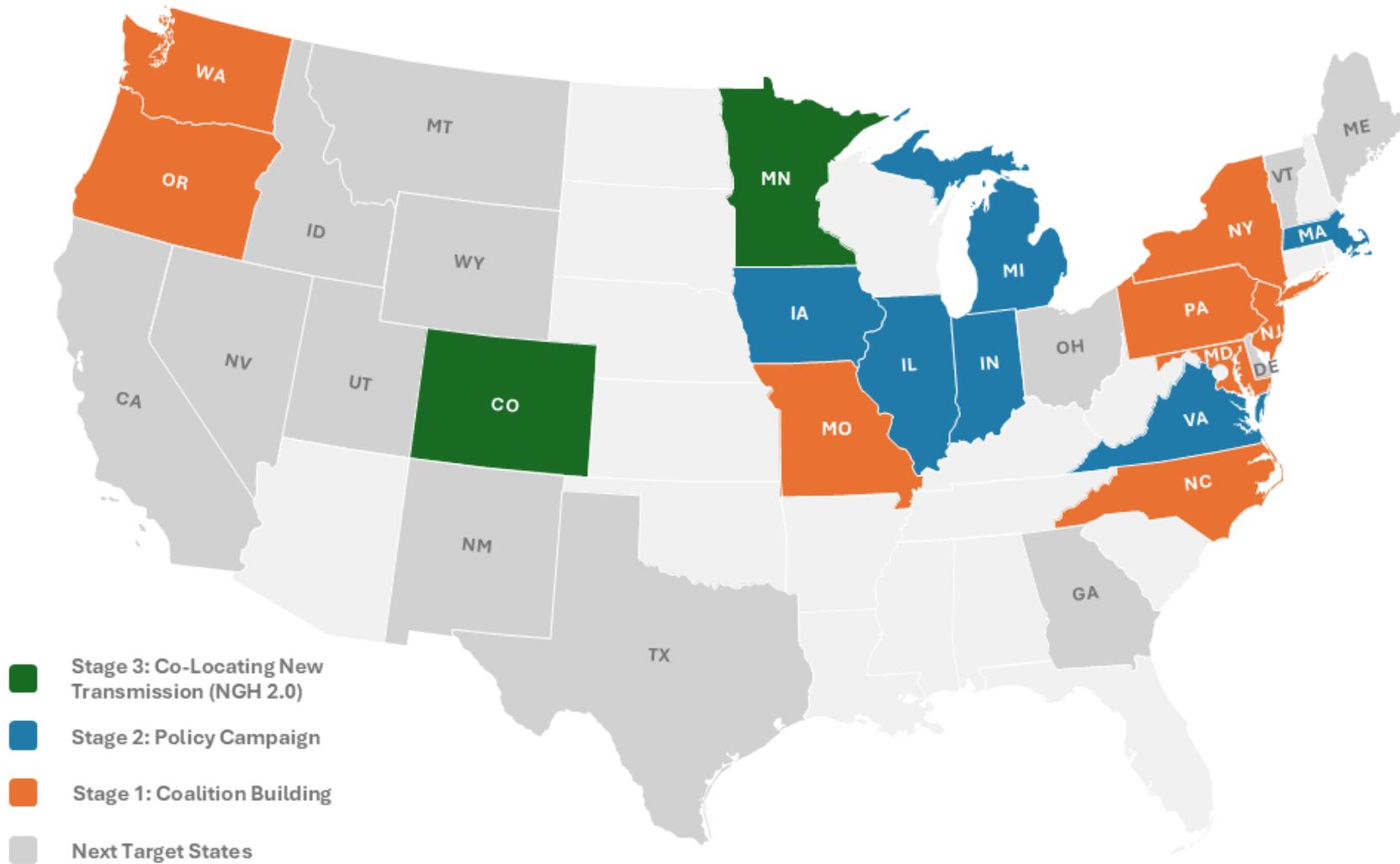
- 40+ state DOTs prohibit or restrict co-location in interstate highways
- Utilities/transmission providers do not consider highway ROW for transmission siting
- Utilities and state DOTs typically do not proactively collaborate
- Culture issues, rooted in experience

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)