

Roster of Experts for Future Briefings

Field of Expertise	NAME	Affiliation <i>(for identification purposes only)</i>
Rail-Track Geometry Engineer for Amtrak	Steve Chrismer	Amtrak
Electrical Engineer/Transmission Specialist	Gerry Callison	
Rail Safety and Economist	Bruce Campbell	Author, Lac Megantic: Public Betrayal Justice Denied
Rail	Wes Coates	Senior Rail Project Manager at HNTB
Rail - Consulting Engineer	Hal Cooper	
Rail Expert on Electrification and Consulting Engineer	Alan Drake	
Rail Labor	Fritz Edler	
Rail Labor	Mike Elliott	Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen
Rail logistics-engineer	Robinson Foster	Rail Solution, Steel Interstate Coalition
Rail-Rail Electrification Expert	David Foster	Rail Solution
Rail Passenger Advocate	Sean Jeans-Gail	Rail Passengers Association
Rail Labor	Ron Kaminkow	Railroad Workers United (RWU)
Rail Labor	Herb Krohn	
Rail Labor	Jeff Kurtz	Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers
Rail-Economist	Bruce McFarling	
Rail Passenger Advocate	Luis Moscoso	All Aboard Washington
Rail Industry Veteran/Passenger Advocate	Chuck Mott	
Rail Labor	John Wallace	RWU
Rail Corridor Planner/Consultant	Thomas White	
Rail-Electrical Engineer	Brian Yanity	Californians for Electric Rail
Renewable Energy	Nancy Hirsch	NW Energy Coalition
Renewable Energy Decarbonization Analyst	Alexander MacDonald	NOAA/American Meteorological Society
Renewable Energy	David Van Holde	

Renewable Energy/Food/Water	Wenonah Hauter	Food and Water Watch
Renewable Energy Expert	Dr. Holmes Hummel	Clean Energy Works
Rural Economies and Land Policy	Luther Propst	Sonoran Institute
Rural Electric Coops	Patrick Cox	Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC)
Electricity and Environmental Justice	Jim Heneghan	Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)
Farmers	Ronnie Cummins	Organic Consumers Association
Indigenous Leader/Economist	Winona LaDuke	Honor the Earth
Indigenous Leader	Tom Goldtooth	Indigenous Environmental Network
Indigenous Leader	Joel Moffett	Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians (ATNI)
Sustainable Economy and Energy Expert	Gar Alperovitz	Nat'l Ctr for Economic & Security Alternatives
Transportation-Grain Train	Ken Casavant	Retired, Washington State University
Vehicle Electrification	Joe Halso	Sierra Club
Sustainable Economy	Mark Hefflinger	Bold Nebraska
Sustainable Economy	Neil Seldman	Institute for Local Self Reliance
Sustainable Economy	Daphne Wysham	Center for Sustainable Economy
Economy/National Income	Steven Shafarman	Author
Environmental Justice Leader	Rodette Jones	Filbert Street Garden & United Workers
Environmental Justice - Diesel impacts	Angelo Logan	Moving Forward Network
Environmental Justice - Policy	Yvette Arellano	t.e.j.a.s.
Environmental Justice	Leticia DeCaigny	Diesel Health Project
Environmental Justice	Eric Kirkendall	Clean Air Now
Environmental Justice	Jennifer Kunze	Clean Water Action Maryland
Environmental Justice	Richard Mabion	Building A Sustainable Earth Community
Environmental Justice	Taylor Smith-Hams	Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Environmental Justice	Kim Wasserman	Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

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Solutionary Rail Book Contributors:

ROB BRIGGS is a retired national laboratory scientist with more than 30 years of experience performing energy-related research. He has participated in a wide range of studies involving economic analysis, computer modeling, software development, climate analysis, the development of codes and standards, and the development of innovative systems for improved energy efficiency.

GERRY CALLISON is an electrical engineer with Commonwealth Associates, Inc. Gerry's experience includes interconnecting Independent Power Producers and alternating current electrified rail systems to the power grid, transmission level protective relaying, and the study of electromagnetic interference from power lines co-located with railroads.

STEVE CHRISMER has worked for more than 30 years in the freight and high speed passenger railroad industry, and is a registered professional engineer specializing in vehicle and track engineering. Currently Steve works at LTK, one of the nation's major rail electrification consultancies. Previously he worked at Amtrak to develop high speed rail to an eventual maximum of 220 mph in the US.

ALAN DRAKE is a consulting engineer who works on complex, interdisciplinary problems. He wrote the chapter on freight for *Transport Beyond Oil* by Island Press. He was lead author on an econometric modeling paper with Millennium Institute on the benefits of a massive push for renewable energy plus urban rail and electrified railroads.

RON KAMINKOW has served as the general secretary of the cross-union group Railroad Workers United (RWU) since 2008. In 2005, he helped to found Railroad Operating Crafts United (ROCU), an RWU predecessor. Ron currently works as an Amtrak engineer in Reno, NV where he is a member of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen Division

PATRICK MAZZA is an advocacy journalist, analyst and organizer with an emphasis on ecological sustainability broadly conceived. In his over 30 years of experience, Patrick has worked for forest preservation, sustainable cities and clean energy. He is a founder and former Research Director for Climate Solutions, and now works in his own sustainability practice, MROC.

BRUCE MCFARLING is a development economist who has written extensively on rail sustainable transport and energy issues in the "Sunday Train" series appearing at Daily Kos and a variety of other community blog sites. Bruce promotes the strategy of the Steel Interstate System across the US. He first focused on the role of rail in passenger transport in Newcastle, New South Wales.

BILL MOYER co-founded the Backbone Campaign and has served as executive director since 2004. A leader in the theory and practice of *artful activism*, Backbone combines lessons of the performing arts with grand strategic principles from the *Art of War* to invigorate nonviolent social change movements. Bill and his Backbone colleagues have designed and produced hundreds of creative protests and trained thousands of change agents. Bill presents on the application of *grand strategy*, creative tactics and campaign design in workshops around the country. His moral and strategic commitment to always balance critique with proposal resulted in the Solutionary Rail project. Bill convened and directs the Solutionary Rail team to plot a path for America to transform a broken and dangerous railroad business model into a catalyst for social and environmental solutions that can act as an integral component of a just transition to sustainable society.

Praise for Solutionary Rail

“Rail electrification, as proposed in this remarkable book, is that rarest of things: a genuinely new idea, and one that makes immediate gut sense.”

(From the Foreword)

~ **Bill McKibben**, climate activist, author and co-founder of 350.org

“Don’t miss this provocative book! The time is now for big picture solutions like railroads powered by renewables.”

~ **Wenonah Hauter**, Executive Director, Food & Water Watch, author of *Frackopoly* and *Foodopoly*

“While corridor concepts go back generations, your group has brought **fresh ideas** as to what a future corridor might look like. Without new concepts to stimulate innovation, progress stagnates. ***Solutionary Rail* provides something tangible for all stakeholders to consider and to build on.**

Congratulations to your team for taking the corridor challenge, putting pen to paper, and producing a finished work.”

~ **Mike Elliott**, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

“Electrification is not only our best option for passenger rail travel but also for freight rail. Both are commonplace throughout the rest of the industrial world. With analytical rigor, Backbone Campaign’s Solutionary Rail Team shows how we can break through barriers to bring mass rail electrification to the US. This is an indispensable book for everyone curious about how to move people and goods long distances at high speed in a carbon-constrained world.”

~ **Denis Hayes**, President, Bullitt Foundation; principal national organizer of the first Earth Day in 1970; original director of Solar Energy Research Institute, now National Renewable Energy Laboratory

“Our continued reliance on extractive industries is untenable and unjust. *Solutionary Rail* provides a wonderful example of how tackling problems systemically—and planning long-term, on a regional scale—opens up tremendous opportunities. By reinvesting in electrified rail, shippers and passengers can enjoy higher speeds, more predictable schedules, and increased efficiency. *Renewable resources—like Great Plains wind—can flourish as rural energy cooperatives and Native American utilities gain access to distant markets.* Collectively, we can begin to restore the commons by investing in publicly-owned electrification infrastructure and high-speed tracks. And railroad workers can secure a ‘just transition’ building a greener economy. **Combining bold thinking with on-the-ground problem solving, *Solutionary Rail* helps us imagine what’s next.**”

~ **Gar Alperovitz**, author and President, National Center for Economic and Security Alternatives

“Gil Carmichael gave us the concept in 1999. RAIL Solution later provided a logo, a brand name, and a website. **Now *Solutionary Rail* has contributed a valuable next step in this fine work drawing together in one place a comprehensive statement of the benefits of electrification and the Steel Interstate.**”

~ **David Foster**, Executive Director, RAIL Solution

“The railroads were the engine that built the commercial heart of America. Lincoln foresaw how the transcontinental railroads would be crucial to uniting a continental country, and subsequent advances such as the telegraph were therefore enabled. The concepts laid out in ***Solutionary Rail* show that once again railroads can lead the way from the fossil fuel based society to an electric society dominated by renewable energy and more energy-effective commercial transportation.**”

~ **Alexander E. MacDonald**, President, American Meteorological Society, Retired Director of NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory, Director, Global Validation Model, Spire Global, Inc.

“*Solutionary Rail* is a visionary demonstration project that will not only help keep fossil fuels in the ground, ***Solutionary Rail* will catalyze an economic renaissance in rural communities along the line.** What an elegant solution. Read this book and get inspired to create a more sustainable future!”

~ **Luther Propst**, Founder, Sonoran Institute, board member, George B. Storer Foundation.

“Extreme extraction and the transport of fossil fuels has been devastating for Indigenous peoples in the US, Canada and around the world. Railroads have been a tool of colonization, the political takings of indigenous lands and genocide. Indigenous peoples have however persevered despite all odds. A new era of Indigenous Peoples rising up in strategic resistance in defense and protection of the sacredness of Mother Earth is taking place from the North to the Global South. It is renewing humanity, guiding it away from self-destruction all across this continent and specifically in the corridor from the Great Lakes, across the prairie lands, the Rockies, to the Salish Sea.

“The seventh generation principle and responsibilities to the rights of Mother Earth— Nature is not some abstract, romantic idea, but an ethic for survival of communities, the environment and all Life. ***Solutionary Rail taps into that spiritual challenge to change course and returns with a transformative vision for redeeming railroads and a society addicted to their dangerous cargo. Indigenous and non- indigenous rural communities can be part of this solution by powering these trains and their communities with renewable energy, and transmitting the surplus to the cities.*** So, when on behalf of future generations there is so much to which we must fiercely say ‘No!’ — *Solutionary Rail* offers us something to which we can all proudly say ‘Yes!’ ”
~ **Tom Goldtooth**, Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network

“Agriculture was started and sustained by high quality transportation and now transportation, especially rail, is heavily sustained by the largest user of the US transportation network, agricultural traffic and attendant revenue streams. Public participation in all modes has historical precedent: rail land grants, highway funding and waterway development. But the issue now is the historical efficiency and sustainability of fossil fueled rail transport. **The proposition of electrically powered railroads offers agriculture a more positive future, since electricity may be cost effective, is environmentally appealing and offers a future of high capacity and fast service, leading to environmental and economic sustainability.** Agriculture critically needs railroads and railroads need agriculture.”

~ **Kenneth Casavant**, Director, Freight Policy Transportation Institute, Washington State University

“The positive impacts of implementing Solutionary Rail are much broader than first meets the eye. It could very well help resolve existing stalemates on dam removal by giving farmers the confidence that they will have the rail capacity to get their grain to market. That could in turn dramatically increase the return of salmon to the Columbia and Snake rivers, which in turn would increase orca whale populations and improve the fishery. We need win-win solutions and that’s why Save Our Wild Salmon supports this inspiring and doable proposal.”
~ **Sam Mace**, Inland Northwest Director, Save Our Wild Salmon

"We are what we eat. But also we are how we travel. We need to move beyond gloom and doom to holistic solutions. America desperately needs a new transportation system, as well as a regenerative food, farming, energy, and political system. Part of the transformation is outlined in this visionary new book, *Solutionary Rail* by Bill Moyer and his able team. All aboard!"

~ **Ronnie Cummins**, Director, Organic Consumers Association

"*Solutionary Rail* provides a pragmatic and sustainable approach for revitalizing our national economy and infrastructure. In particular, rural America will benefit from the economic stimulus, new jobs and the source for renewable energy from this state-of-the-art rail electrification system. *Solutionary Rail* provides a path to the future in which everyone will benefit."

~ **Patrick Cox**, Ph.D., Director, Cooperative Leadership Network and Past President and Director, Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Texas

"The *Solutionary Rail* book addresses an issue which I have long advocated with regard to electrification of railways as **an essential step in modernizing America's railway network for improved freight and passenger transportation between cities which is long overdue.**"

~ **Dr. Hal Cooper**, consulting engineer and infrastructure expert

"This book is a must read for anyone who works for a railroad, wants to work for a railroad, or wants to come to a better understanding on how transportation can be restructured to fill the needs of a planet killing itself on fossil fuels."

~ **Jeff Kurtz**, Retired 41-year locomotive engineer with BNSF. and Iowa State Legislative Board Chairman (2004–2014)with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

"Reaching 100% clean energy means finding fossil free solutions for 100% of our economy. *Solutionary Rail* dares to take one of the toughest challenges for long-distance ground transportation in a modern economy, and double dares us to envision integrated solutions for rural economic development and renewable energy development in the same landscape of opportunity."

~ **Dr. Holmes Hummel**, Clean Energy Works, former Department of Energy policy advisor

"As a society, we must move away from the use of fossil fuel; however, a modern technological society requires mobility. Merely saying no to fossil fuel is not a solution. This project is an excellent positive step. We are running out of time. Tomorrow cannot be a copy of today."

~ **Thomas White**, railroad operations consultant and co-author of *Traffic*

"Bill Moyer's *Solutionary Rail* team outline a truly exciting and equitable vision for the ever elusive 'just transition' we're all searching for as we move away from fossil fuels. This is systemic change in action!"

~ **Daphne Wysham**, Director, Climate and Energy Program, Center for

Sustainable Economy

“A key policy discussion is going on across North America about the role of railroads with respect to Climate Change. Railroaders and community safety activists alike need to understand we must be part of that discussion. The publication of *Solutionary Rail* is an important contribution to that discussion. I encourage every railroader to read it...and think about it.”

~ **Fritz Edler**, retired 37 year veteran railroader and BLET Division Chair, Special Representative for Railroad Workers United

“A brilliant solution to our simultaneous need to cut carbon emissions and improve our transportation infrastructure. Brilliant!”

~ **Thom Hartmann**, author, radio and television journalist

“Americans are eager for big projects that reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. *Solutionary Rail* should certainly get the attention of our fellow citizens—especially those surrounded by giant diesel-guzzling trucks tearing up our already crumbling interstate highways. This new proposal might very well kindle a new fire in the public debate about our country’s transportation and energy future.”

~ **Roger Hickey**, Co-Director, Campaign for America’s Future

“Electrification of transportation is a critical part of decarbonizing our economy. *Solutionary Rail* makes the vital link between clean renewable energy as the necessary electricity supply to reducing emissions from the diesel trains and long-haul trucks. This book challenges us all to re-envision our energy infrastructure.”

~ **Nancy Hirsh**, Executive Director, NW Energy Coalition

“As the US population grows, along with the attending to the need for greater movement of goods, we have to protect mobility for people from the surging demand across a constrained network. *Solutionary Rail* thinks big in laying out its capacity building blueprint for how to keep America moving efficiently and sustainably.”

~ **Sean Jeans-Gail**, Vice President, National Association of Railroad Passengers

“Well reasoned and comprehensively documented – this book will jumpstart an energy transformation in the United States that has already been demonstrated as a success in other countries.”

~ **Ralph Nader**, author, consumer protection, environmental and democracy champion and former independent and Green Party presidential candidate