



Railroad Workers United

Solidarity • Unity • Democracy

The Rank & File in Action!

Railroadworkersunited.org • (202) 798-3327 • info@railroadworkersunited.org

RWU Resolution in Support of a “Green New Deal”

Co-Chairs

Ross Grooters, BLET #778
UP, Des Moines, IA

Aaron Dixon, IAM #27
UP, Kansas City, MO

Bernie Mahoney, BRS #16
CSX, Port St Lucie, FL

General Secretary

Ron Kaminkow, BLET #51
AMTK, Reno, NV

Recording Secretary

James Wallace, UTU #305
BNSF, Lincoln, NE

Treasurer

Hugh Sawyer, BLET #316
NS, Atlanta, GA

Organizer

Will Young, IAM #27
UP, Kansas City, MO

International

Steering Committee

Aaron Dixon, IAM #27
UP, Kansas City, MO

Ross Grooters, BLET #778
UP, Des Moines, IA

Adam Haslag, IBEW #1832
UP, Kansas City, MO

Ron Kaminkow, BLET #51
AMTK, Reno, NV

Bernie Mahoney, BRS #16
CSX, Port St Lucie, FL

Mark Moylan, BRC #6013
CN, Proctor, MN

Hugh Sawyer, BLET #316
NS, Atlanta, GA

Dan Stroup, BLET #188
CN, Superior, WI

James Wallace, UTU #305
BNSF, Lincoln, NE

Andrew Weir, TCRC-LE #240
CN, Sarnia, ON

Will Young, IAM #27
UP, Kansas City, MO

Whereas, the people of the world are facing a climate emergency, with poor and working people bound to be the ones most seriously impacted by such a crisis; and

Whereas, to confront this crisis, we need a mobilization that puts millions to work building the windmills, solar collectors, grids, transportation network, and other tools needed to convert to a clean energy economy; and

Whereas: the production of equipment and construction of infrastructure for the new climate-safe economy under such a Green New Deal has the potential to provide manufacturing, construction, and transportation jobs for millions of workers at good wages and benefits; and

Whereas, in addition to a jobs guarantee providing wages that will lift workers out of poverty, a Green New Deal promises to include basic income programs and universal health care for those who are not in the workforce; and

Whereas, a Green New Deal could help rebuild the U.S. labor movement by guaranteeing the right to organize, bargain collectively, engage in concerted action and retain basic Constitutional rights on the job for all workers; and

Whereas, a Green New Deal embodies the common interests of all working people in climate protection, jobs for all and greater equality, addressing the legacy of race, gender, and other forms of discrimination and injustice, expressing human values that recognize the equal worth and common fate of all people; and

Whereas, public opinion polling reveals that the programs of the Green New Deal are extraordinarily popular, showing that over half of voting-eligible adults said they would be *more likely* to support a candidate running on a Green Jobs Guarantee; and

Whereas, the original New Deal coalition brought together diverse constituencies including labor, African Americans, city dwellers and farmers; likewise, a Green New Deal could provide the basis for a broad, long-lasting coalition that can move society in a progressive direction to the benefit working people; and

Whereas, labor and environmentalists have too often been at loggerheads, undermining both the protection of the environment and workers' living standards; and

Whereas, a Green New Deal could become a common program, unifying the environmental and labor movements, by making climate protection the way to provide good jobs for all, putting an end to the phony conflict between “jobs and the environment”; and

Whereas, the demand for labor created by the transition to a fossil-free economy, combined with the *Climate Jobs Guarantee*, could set a new floor for wages and benefits that all employers will need to exceed if they wish to sustain a workforce; and

Whereas, a greatly expanded, efficient, clean, sustainable rail transportation network for the transport of both freight and passengers has the potential to be at the core of any such Green New Deal program;

Therefore, be it Resolved that Railroad Workers United support the passage of a Green New Deal by Congress, to be signed into law by the President of the United States; and

Be it Further Resolved that RWU mobilize its members, supporters, and allies at the local, state and national level to back such a Green New Deal.

Adopted by the RWU Steering Committee 2/6/19