

Digest of Green Reports and Studies

Title	<i>Full Speed Ahead – Creating Green Jobs Through Freight Rail Expansion</i>
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Organization	BlueGreen Alliance; Economic Policy Institute
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URL	http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/admin/private_publications/files/BGA-Freight-Rail-Report-FINAL.pdf
Summary	The article outlines three quantifiable advantages railway investment and expansion has over investment in non-rail infrastructure: tonnage moved per gallon of fuel, green job creation, and job creation in commercial sectors utilizing freight rail as a goods-moving medium. The article illustrates these advantages as an underutilized method of green job creation, climate change stabilizer, and economic growth engine.
Key Findings	Economic models estimate 26,600 jobs are created for every billion dollars of freight rail capital investment; 7,800 being green jobs. The rail industry has nearly doubled the amount of goods shipped while fuel consumption over the past three decades remains stable, and creates a fraction of the pollution of other transport modes. Rail investment will generate green jobs with a potential economic output of \$3.00 for every \$1.00 that is invested.
Recommendations	Tax credits for rail capital investments. A renewal of the expired short line tax credit for short line and regional railroads. Development of public-private partnerships between freight railroads and passenger rail. Ensure policy promotes quality, and homegrown employment opportunities.
Definition of “Green”	“Green jobs are those jobs which help achieve goals to reduce climate impact, save energy, encompass waste reduction and recycling, conserve water, lower carbon pollution, produce renewable energy, recycle resources and goods, and remediate environmental problems.”
Methodology	Literature research
Data Sources Cited	Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Policy Institute, U.S. Energy Information Agency, ICF International
Report Geography	United States
Green Occupations Cited	Railroad Engineers, Rail-Track Laying and Maintenance Equipment Operators, Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters
Green Industries Cited	Freight Rail
Keywords	Rail; Freight; Logistics; Transportation; Infrastructure Investment; Locomotive; Train; Shipping; Cargo; Passenger
Legislation Cited	Railroad Retirement Act, Railway Labor Act, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
Bibliography (Y/N)	Y
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