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ClearPath Action Rundown
August 14th, 2026

Happy Friday!

1. ClearPath announces Chief External Affairs Officer

Bill Meierling

ClearPath welcomes **Bill Meierling** as Chief External Affairs Officer, where he will lead the organization’s external affairs and communications strategy.

Bill comes to the organization from the National Automatic Merchandising Association, where he served as Senior Vice President of External Affairs. He has also held executive roles at the International Franchise Association and the American Legislative Exchange Council.

"Bill adds more than two decades in public affairs and advocacy to our leadership team, and that's exactly the kind of firepower we need to build on the momentum we've created over the past 12 years," said Jeremy Harrell, ClearPath CEO.

Welcome, **Bill**!

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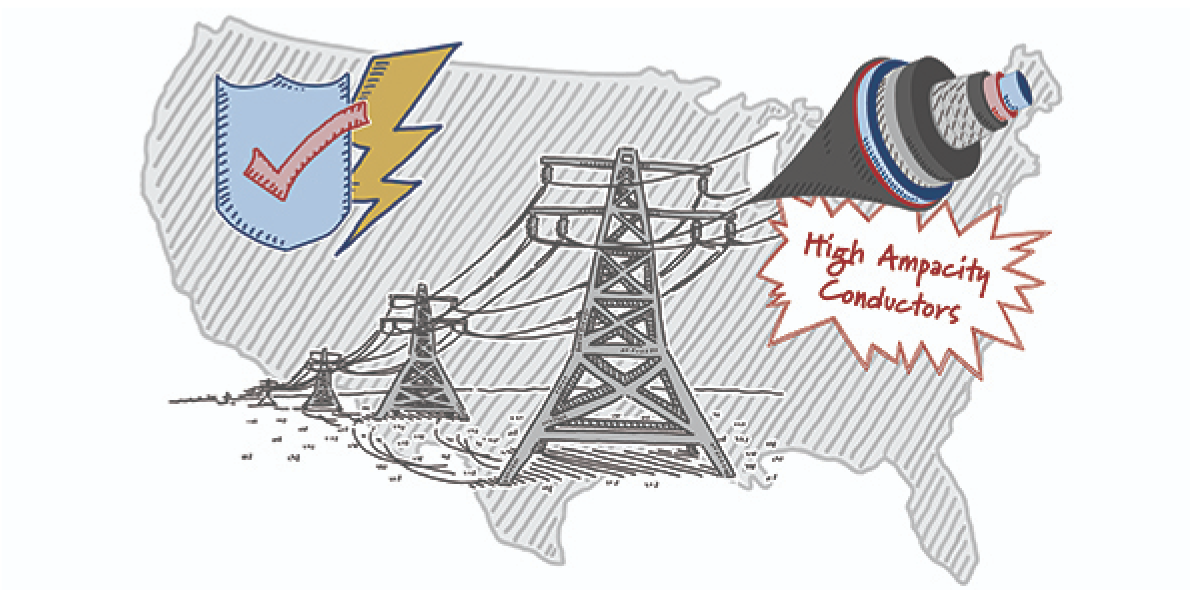
2. NEW report: Amping Up the Grid to Meet Surging Demand



Meeting surging demand from domestic manufacturing, oil and gas electrification and data centers means letting America build new transmission and getting more out of the lines we already have. ClearPath's new report, **Amping Up the Grid**, uses novel modeling tools to assess how innovative conductor technologies can help expand the grid. It **finds** that the cost-optimal approach to growing the grid includes both building new greenfield lines and reconductoring, which replace sold conductors with innovative conductors that can carry more electricity.

Key findings from this analysis include**:**

- Reconductoring creates 75% of grid capacity in the near-term, saving $20 billion on transmission investment;
- Reconductoring avoids over 6,000 miles in greenfield transmission;
- Composite core conductors are cost-competitive and play a significant role in both greenfield and reconductored transmission;

- Greenfield transmission is essential to creating a network capable of supporting demand growth reliably; and
- Transmission expansion represents 7-8% of total grid investment, making it an affordable technology solution that complements generation.

What's clear: American innovations expand grid capacity faster and cheaper than building new lines alone. New modeling approaches can more effectively and efficiently identify the cost-optimal mix of technologies and grid expansion approaches to meet demand reliably. Deploying innovations at scale alongside targeted new transmission is how the U.S. will keep power affordable and reliable as demand climbs.

Plug in: Read ClearPath's full report, also **highlighted** by POLITICO, "Amping Up the Grid," **here**.

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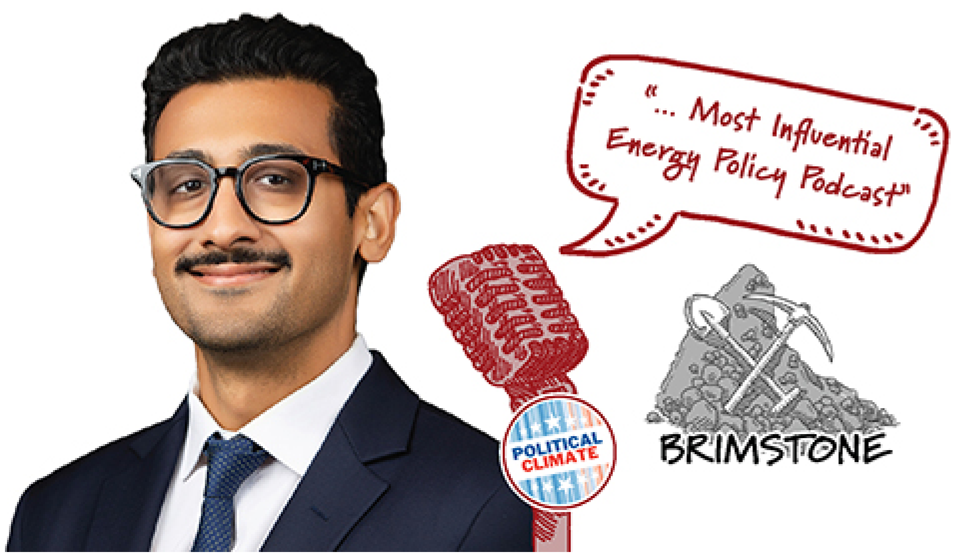
3. NEW episode: How a Humble Rock Could Transform Industry



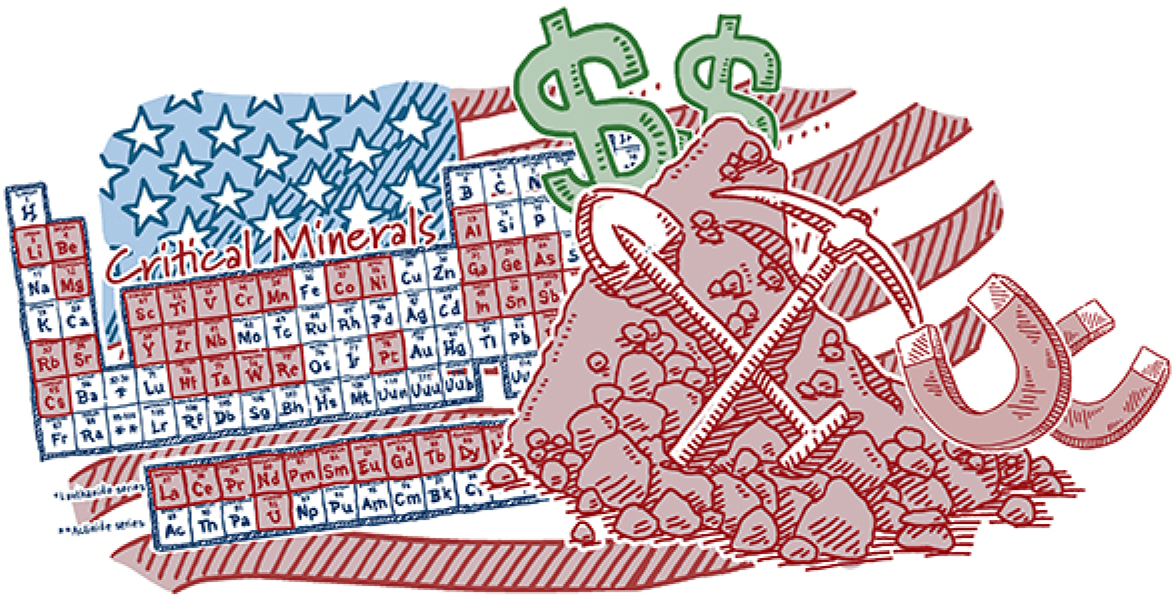
Letting America build starts with the materials America builds with. Few people realize that the cement used to make concrete is responsible for roughly eight percent of global carbon emissions. If cement were a country, it would be the third largest emitter on Earth.

On a new episode of **Political Climate**, ClearPath's **Rafae Ghani** joined Brimstone CEO Cody Finke to discuss how innovation, not mandates, can modernize cement production, increase supply chain resilience for building and critical materials and expand U.S. manufacturing.

What's clear: When American technology wins in materials, global emissions fall and manufacturers build here and sell everywhere.

Plug in: Listen to the new Political Climate episode, "How a Humble Rock Could Transform Industry," **here**.

4. New critical minerals investments announced



Securing the materials behind U.S. energy, manufacturing and defense sectors means building those supply chains here instead of relying on foreign adversaries. President Trump **announced** more than $2 billion in critical minerals investments across four agencies to fund domestic mining, processing and manufacturing activities.

Announcements include:

- $2.1 billion in Department of War commitments, including conditional loans for **rare earth-free magnets**, **battery materials** and the **scandium value chain**;
- $85.5 million equity investment in **refractory-grade bauxite** and over $80 million for **workforce development and innovation hubs** at three mining schools;
- $58 million in Export-Import Bank **loans** for boron, battery-grade graphite and tantalum-niobium processing;
- $4.8 million in Development Finance Corporation **project development funding** for a Madagascar rare earth project; and
- Up to $100 million from the Department of Energy through **PROSPECT** to revitalize the workforce at America's 14 mining schools.

What's clear: These commitments target the full critical minerals value chain, from mining and processing to advanced materials and the workforce needed to support them. Building strength across the supply chain will help America compete, reduce vulnerabilities and support the energy and defense technologies of the future.

Plug in: Take a look at ClearPath's new video, **Could Enhanced Mineral Recovery Solve America's Critical Minerals Bottleneck?**, for how new recovery methods can strengthen the domestic supply chains these investments aim to build.

5. 250 years of American energy innovation

250 YEARS
AMERICAN ENERGY INNOVATION

As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, ClearPath is **highlighting** America's innovation story. From the earliest discoveries in electricity and steam power to modern nuclear, natural gas, advanced grid technologies and agriculture, American innovators have consistently pushed the boundaries of what's possible.

Brief history lesson – Rare Earth Elements

- **1949:** Uranium prospectors discover rare earth deposit at **Mountain Pass, CA**.
- **1952:** Rare earth production begins at Mountain Pass under Molybdenum Corporation of America (Molycorp).
- **1960s-1980s:** Mountain Pass supplies most of the world's rare earths, including the **europium used in color television**.
- **2002:** Mountain Pass **suspends mining** amid lower-cost Chinese production.
- **2025:** The Department of War becomes the largest shareholder in **MP Materials** through a $400 million investment.

What's clear: Secure, resilient rare earth supply chains are essential to America's energy, economic and national security. Strengthening domestic production and reducing reliance on foreign adversaries will help ensure the United States has reliable access to the materials needed to power its economy and maintain its global leadership.

Plug in: Read ClearPath's **The Importance of Domestic Mining for U.S. National Security** for why a secure domestic supply of rare earth elements is a national security priority.

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6. The Circuit

ClearPath's **Hillary O'Brien** moderated a panel discussion, "The Future of American Energy," at the **American Conservation Coalition Summit**, held in Medora, North Dakota, alongside speakers **Roger Martella**, GE Vernova and ClearPath Advisory Board Member; **Sarah Hunt**, Rainey Center; **Matt Loszak**, Aalo Atomics and **Joel Edwards**, Zanskar Geothermal.

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7. ICYMI

- **Nuclear News** magazine, from the American Nuclear Society, highlighted ClearPath CEO Jeremy Harrell and his June 2026 **testimony** before Congress on the need for nuclear permitting reform.
- POLITICO Influence **reported** that **Elizabeth Stulberg** joined ClearPath as Program Director of Agriculture Innovation and will lead ClearPath's policy proposals dedicated to innovation, technology and regulatory reform in agriculture.
- CF Industries will **begin construction** on the $4 billion Blue Point complex this month after the Trump administration encouraged accelerating construction permits. With operations beginning in 2029, the site is projected to produce up to 1.4 million tons of low-carbon ammonia per year and capture over 95% of its CO_2 emissions.
- POLITICO **spotlighted** ClearPath's new **report** on high-ampacity conductors in their "Me First" spotlight, highlighting reconductoring as a faster, cheaper way to meet surging grid demand.
- DOE's Office of Electricity **announced** a new funding opportunity to support derisking and testing of distribution and transmission technologies, which would increase grid capacity, provide improved flexibility and reduce American dependence on foreign supply chains.

ClearPath believes America must lead the world in innovation over regulation… markets over mandates…providing affordable, reliable, clean energy.

That's all from us. Thanks for reading and have a great weekend!

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