

Leveraging the rail network for electric grid resilience

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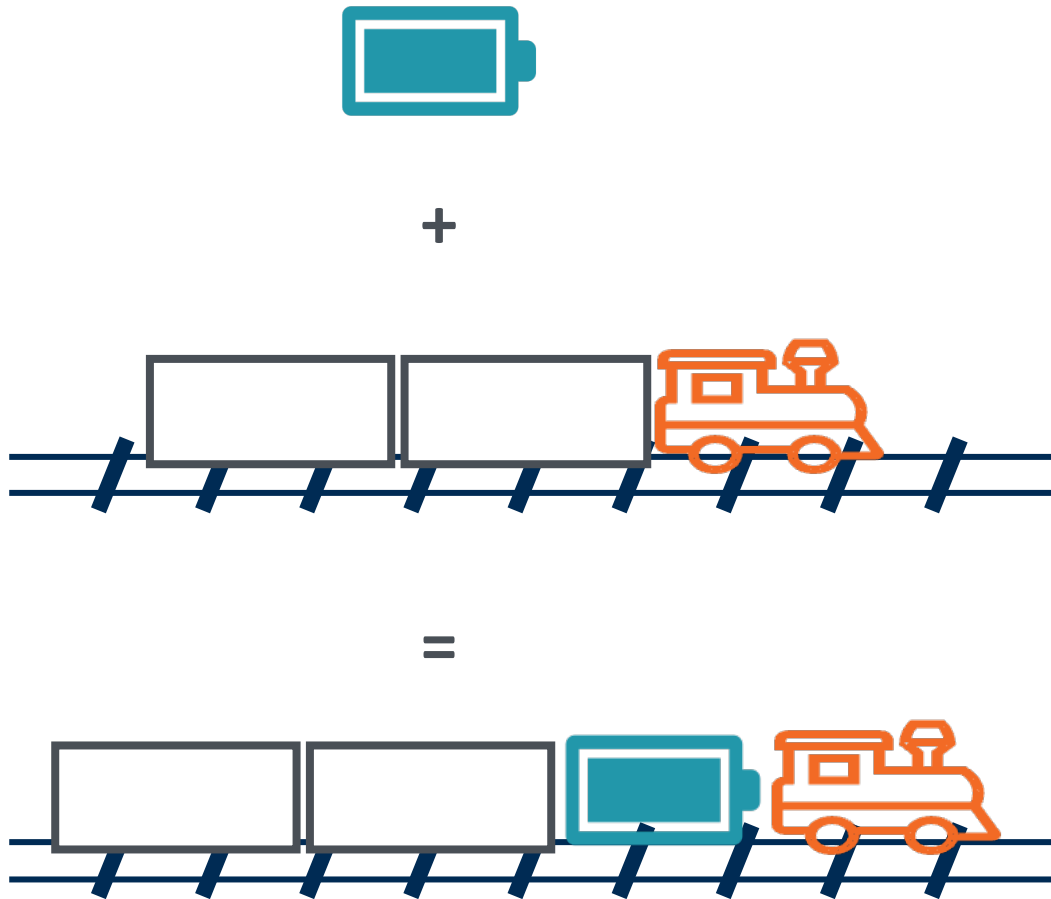
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ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AREA
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Benefits of Rail



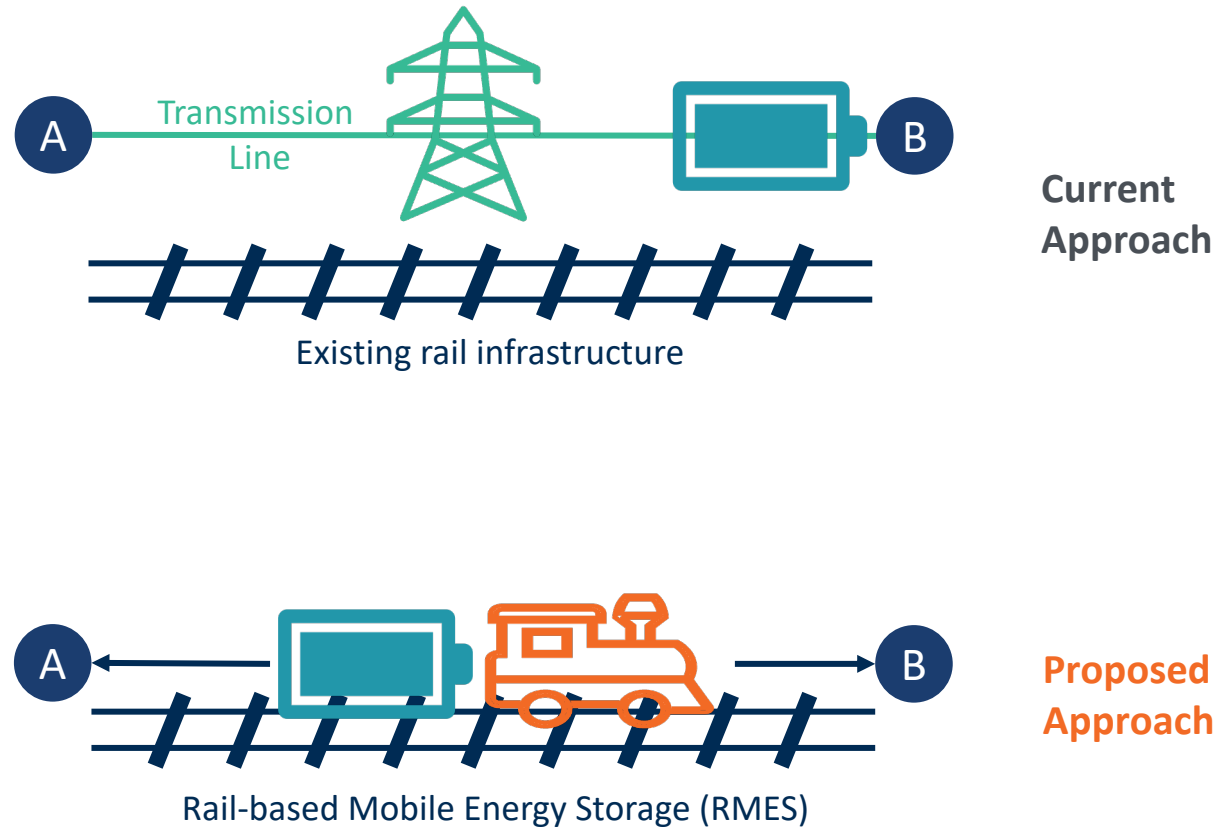
One train can carry **1 gigawatt-hour (GWh) of battery storage** - roughly equivalent to the battery-carrying capability of **1,000 semi-trucks**

At over 140,000 miles, the US rail network is the largest in the world, with **rights-of-way and large amounts of real-estate** in some of the most population-dense and transmission-congested regions

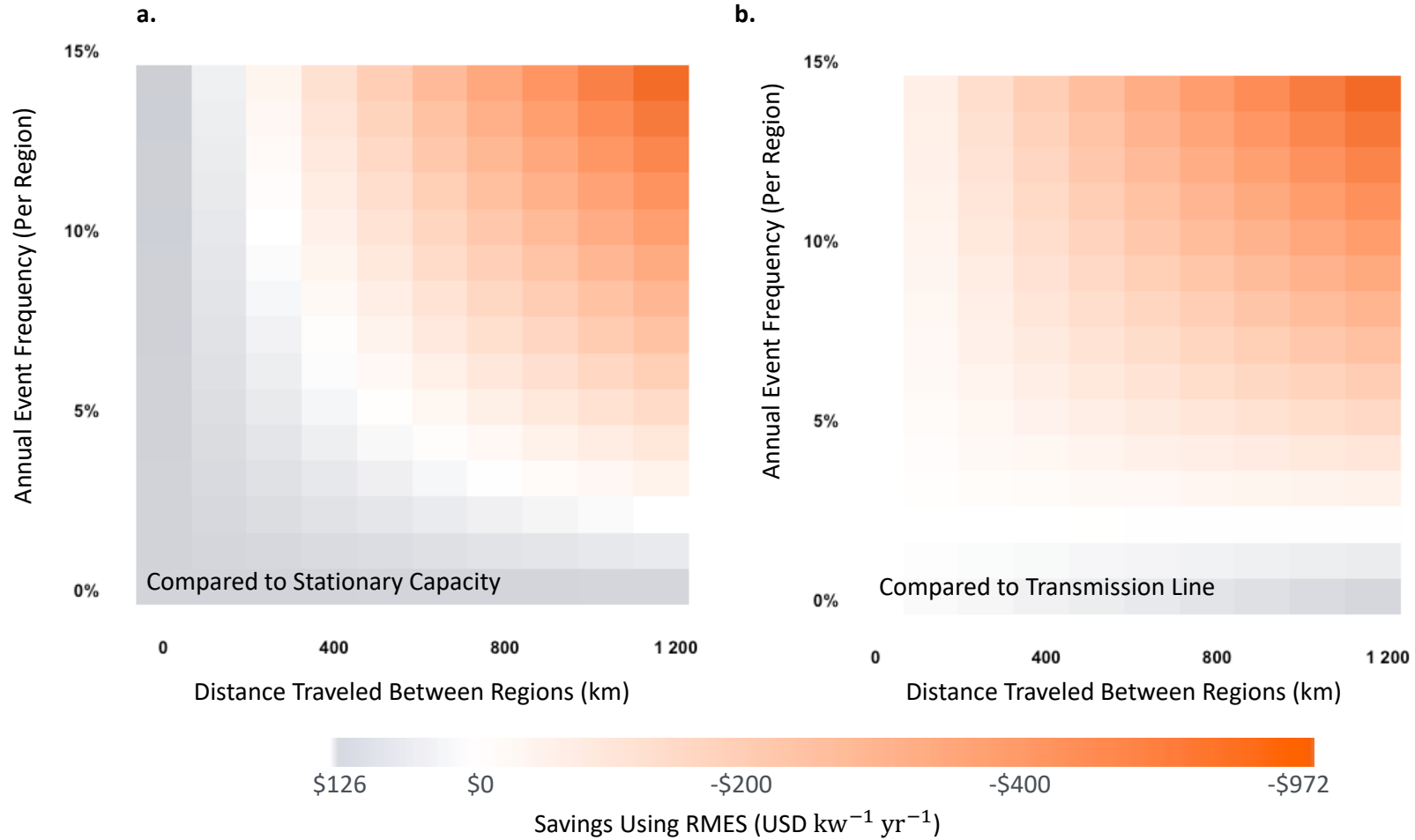
Daily and weekly routes already **moving freight interregionally and across the country**

Supplementing transmission expansion with RMES

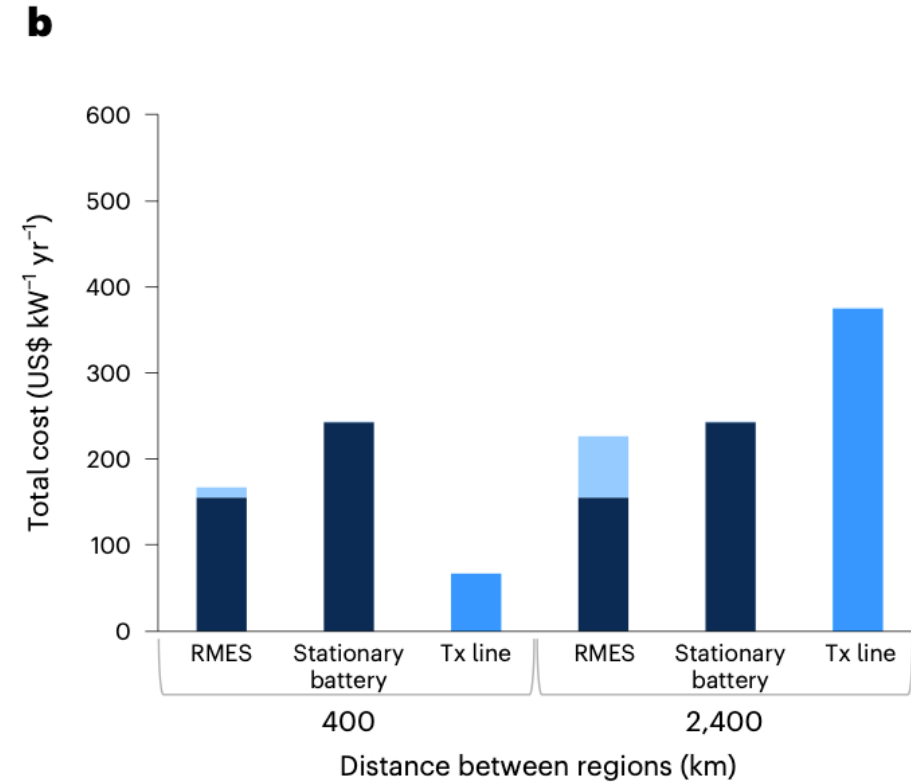
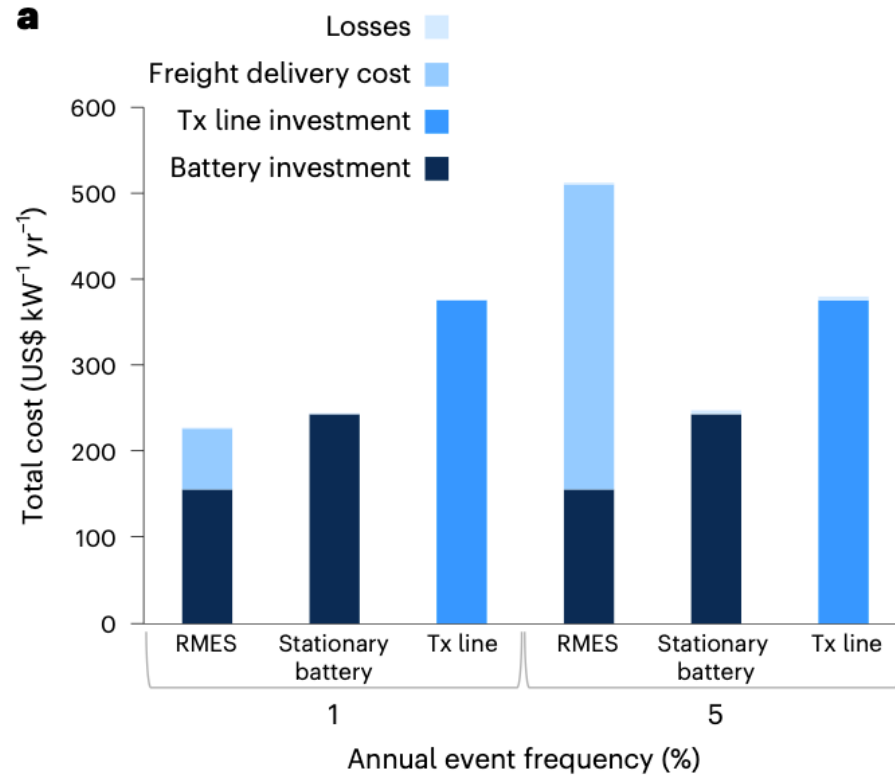
Utilizing the existing rail network to transmit power between regions avoids the expense and politically/logistically challenges of transmission investments



Benefits of RMES

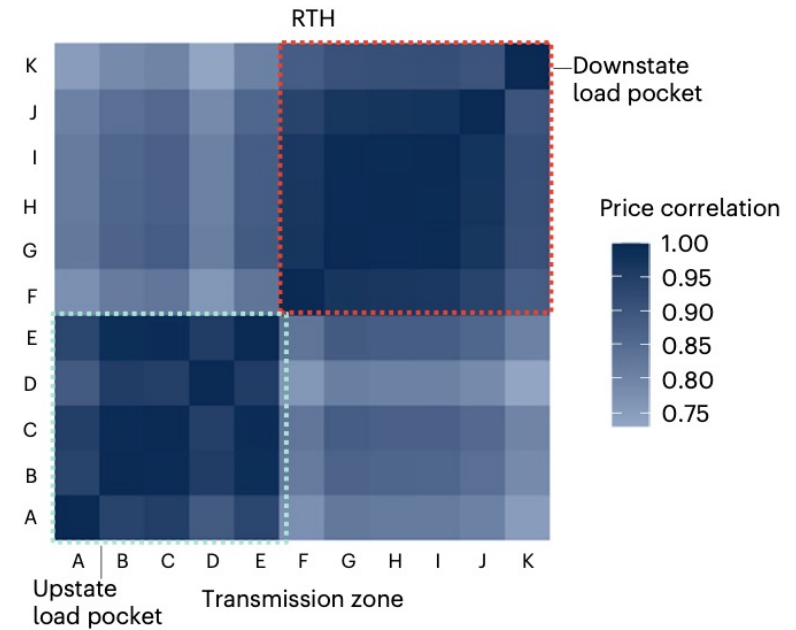
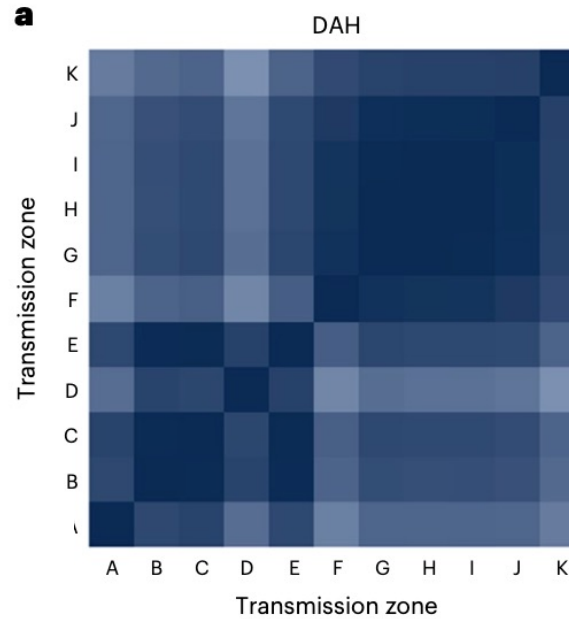
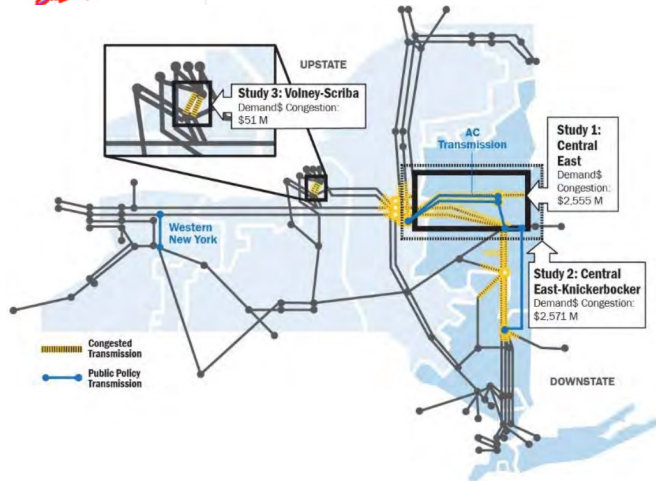
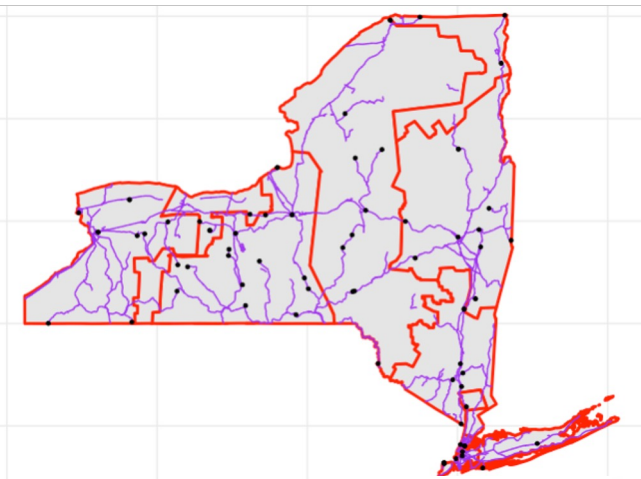


Cost Breakdown



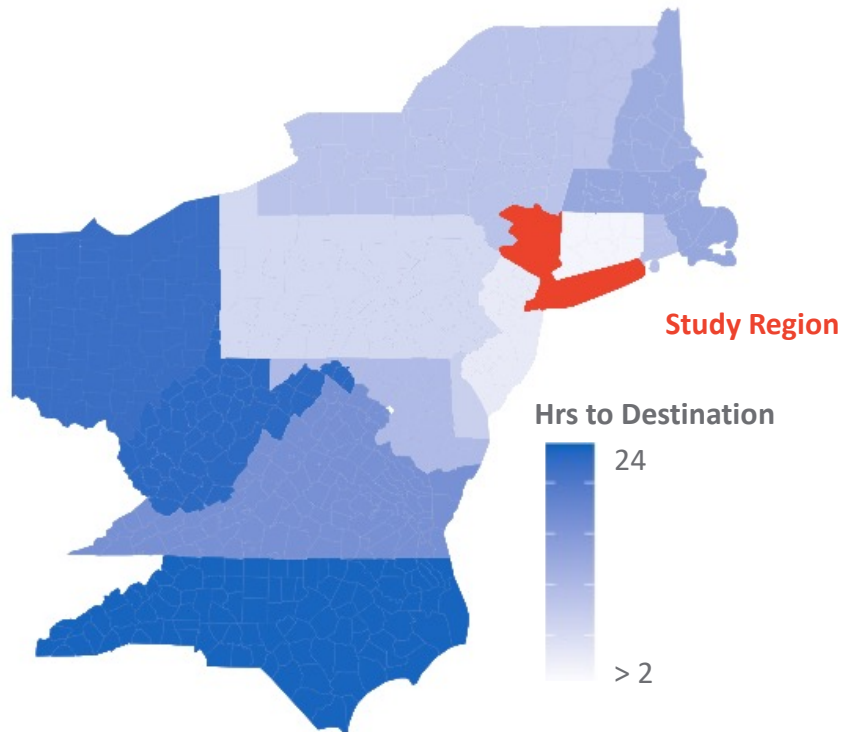
Transmission-Constrained Capacity Zones

NYISO has historically overbuilt capacity in zones due to transmission constraints. Moving storage between zones could avoid this excess capacity buildout and renewable curtailment



NYISO's Grid Resilience Goals

Areas within 24-hour rail travel time to NYISO Zones G-K



- 1. Interregional Coordination:** Significant access to RMES in other states within a 24 hours, allowing for interregional asset sharing during times of acute stress
- 2. Transmission Investment for Resource Diversification:** Intra- and interstate RMES would increase diverse resource access at a lower cost
- 3. Clean Supply in Load Centers:** RMES would increase the load center access to clean electricity supply without expensive transmission investments or dedicated supply within city limits

Questions?



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Electrification of Freight Shipping with Containerized Batteries

Economic, environmental and grid-resilience benefits of converting diesel trains to battery-electric

[Natalie D. Popovich](#), [Deepak Rajagopal](#), [Elif Tasar](#) & [Amol Phadke](#) ✉

- Techno-economic feasibility of **retrofitting existing electric locomotives** with 9MWh battery tender cars
- Battery-electric tender cars are **cost-competitive with diesel** at **\$100/kWh battery prices** and industrial electricity tariffs

Rapid battery cost declines accelerate the prospects of all-electric interregional container shipping

[Jessica Kersey](#), [Natalie D. Popovich](#) & [Amol A. Phadke](#) ✉

- Techno-economic feasibility of **containership battery electrification** for 104 unique scenarios
- **1,500 km range is electrifiable now**; 5,000 km range in near future



No. 11

November 2021

Industry battery-powered freight pilot projects are underway

United States

Union Pacific Railroad - \$100 million investment in 20 battery electric locomotives; announced January 2022



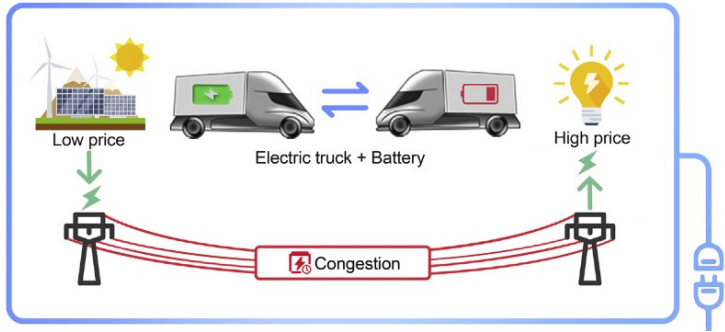
Source: [Union Pacific](#)



Internationally

- **Maersk** - 600 kWh container ship battery for hybrid operation; sails between west Africa and east Asia
- **Current Direct** - swappable container waterborne transport battery; funded by European Commission

Other work on mobile energy storage



He, G. et al. *Utility-Scale Portable Energy Storage Systems. Joule 5, 379–392 (2021)*

Assessment of curtailed wind energy potential for off-grid applications through mobile battery storage

Muhammad Bilal Siddique , Jagruti Thakur *

Operational flexibility enhancements using mobile energy storage in day-ahead electricity market by game-theoretic approach

Zhijun Qin ^a, Yuhong Mo ^a ✉, Hui Liu ^a, Yihui Zhang ^b

Existing Studies:

Focus on **LMP arbitrage and operational flexibility**

Mostly limited to **on-road methods** of transport (passenger vehicles, trucks, electric school buses) which are **constrained in weight-carrying capacity**

Local scale, not addressing **systemic reliability challenges at the national scale**