



Supporting Organizations

Alliant Energy
American Chemistry
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Bemidji Area Forestry Affairs Council
Blandin Paper Company
Cooperative Network
Dairyland Power Cooperative
East River Electric Power Cooperative
Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
Great River Energy
Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce
Lyon-Lincoln Electric Co-op
McNeilus Steel
Midwest Shippers Association
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers
Minnesota Farmers Union
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
Minnesota Forest Industries
Minnesota Power
Minnesota Rural Electric Association
Minnesota Soybean Growers Association
Minnesota Valley REC
Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association
Ottertail Power Company
People's Cooperative Services
Renville-Sibley Co-op
Tri-County Electric Cooperative
Xcel Energy

What is Gopher CURE?

Gopher CURE is the state chapter of Consumers United for Rail Equity (CURE), a national coalition that is working to pass federal legislation to enhance the rights of rail customers captive to one rail company and to increase competition between the nation's four major Class I railroads. More information on CURE, its state chapters and the legislation we are pursuing can be found at railcure.org.

What is the purpose of Gopher CURE?

Gopher CURE serves as the local, grassroots network for the national effort to enact meaningful federal legislation. Our goal is to help educate our local, state and national elected officials about the need to reform the rules governing customers served by a single rail carrier, reform our antitrust laws to cover railroads, increase rail-to-rail competition and improve rail service.

What does it cost to join?

There are no membership dues or fees for participants in Gopher CURE. Several national trade associations and companies pay dues to the national CURE coalition to provide lobbying, legal and media relations support. Bob Szabo, a Washington, D.C.-based attorney who specializes in rail and transportation law, is the Executive Director of CURE. He and his staff provide information and updates to the state chapters.

What are the activities of CURE?

Coalition members can be as involved in Gopher CURE as they wish. We host brief monthly update calls for Gopher CURE members. Members are encouraged to personally contact their legislators and ask them to support the antitrust and Surface Transportation Board bills we are advocating in Congress. Other activities include periodic meetings with members of Congress, the Minnesota Attorney General, editorial boards, Commissioners and other decision-makers. A national rail customer lobby day is held every year in D.C.; the 2009 lobby day was held on March 25, and included participation from several Gopher CURE members.

How do I join or get more information?

Contact Gopher CURE chair, Amy Fredregill, who is the Vice President of the Cooperative Network. She can be reached at amy.fredregill@cooperativenetwork.coop or 651-228-0214.