



America's
Rural Energy
Coalition

WDEA Annual Meeting
October 14, 2021
Williston, ND

Brad Bekkedahl
AREC Board Member



**America's
Rural Energy
Coalition**





2011 – Formation of America’s Counties for Energy Independence (ACEI) made up of county officials from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico

2017 – Group of rural leaders met in Kansas City, MO to discuss forming a community-based rural energy advocacy organization called Rural Shale Stakeholders.

2018 - ACEI and the RSS met in Omaha, NE and formed America’s Rural Energy Coalition (AREC)

Brief History of America’s Rural Energy Coalition



**America’s
Rural Energy
Coalition**

A collaborative effort by rural community stakeholders and industry representatives from across the country to build sustainable rural communities by maximizing the opportunities and minimizing the challenges presented to them as a result of the development of their regional energy resources : oil, condensate, natural gas, mining, wind, solar, coal, nuclear, geothermal.

Mission



**America's
Rural Energy
Coalition**

**A free exchange of thoughts, ideas,
and encouragement**

**The dissimilation of lessons learned on
successful community and industry
programs, approaches, and initiatives
related to the energy industry**

**Heightened the country's awareness
of
the critical role rural America plays in
the development, transmission, &
distribution of our natural energy
resources**

Goals



**America's
Rural Energy
Coalition**

**A strengthening of the partnership
between the community and the
energy industry**

**Support for any and all efforts to
create an energy independent
America**

**The development of a “common
cause” between all the rural energy
regions when it comes to the
development of their resources and
the sustainable futures of rural
America**

Goals



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Upholstery
CD/DVDs
Vitamin Capsules
Dashboards
Putty
Floor Wax
Tooth Paste
Sports Car Bodies
Caulking
Food Preservatives
Antihistamines
Cortisone
Dyes
Life Jackets
Heart Valves
Enamel
Anesthetics
Dentures
Linoleum
Rubber Cement
Artificial Limbs

Ballpoint Pens
Soft Contact Lens
Crayons
Antiseptics
Basketballs
Deodorant
Epoxy
Insect Repellent
Roofing
Denture Adhesive
Water Pipes
Shampoo
Antifreeze
Vaporizers
Pillows
Artificial Turf
Movie Film
Fertilizers
Aspirin
Sun Glasses
Dishes

**42 of the 6,000 products
made from Petroleum**



**America's
Rural Energy
Coalition**

**President – Doug McLinko,
Bradford Cty Commissioner (PA)**

**Vice President – Gerry Baker,
IOGCC Deputy Assistant Director
(retired) (OK)**

**Secretary – Rachel Gonzales-
Hanson, Sr. VP of Western
Region Operations, National
Assoc. of Community Health
Centers (TX)**

**Treasurer – Joseph Parker,
Executive Director, Scenic Rivers
Development Alliance (MS)**

Board of Directors

Officers



**America's
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**Kevin Burns, Wise County
Commissioner (TX)**

**Gregg Todd, Duchesne County
Commissioner (UT)**

**Stephanie Meadows, Sr. Director,
Upstream Policy, API**

**Brad Bekkedahl, North Dakota
District 1 State Senator (ND)**

**LeeAnne Gandy, Lea County School
Superintendent (NM)**

Board of Directors

Members



**America's
Rural Energy
Coalition**

Pennsylvania

Texas

Mississippi

Oklahoma

New Mexico

Arizona

Utah

North Dakota

California

**States Currently
Represented**



**America's
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Coalition**

**Individual Membership -
\$100/YR**

**For Profit Corporate
Membership - \$1,000/YR**

**Non-Profit / Public
Organization
Membership - \$750/YR**

**Energy Industry
Membership - \$1,500 /YR**

**Membership Dues
Structure**



**America's
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***Rural America
Where Americans Come
for their Energy***

Date: April 19-21, 2022

**Location: Grand Hyatt, San Antonio,
TX**

**Duration: Start at noon on Tuesday
and ends at noon on Thursday**

**2022 Annual
Conference**



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Coalition**

arenergyc.org



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Patience and Persistence is the key



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