### **Challenges of Decarbonizing Cement for the**

#### **Ready Mixed Concrete Industry**

Lionel Lemay National Ready Mixed Concrete Association



## **Commitment to Net-zero**



### **Technological Challenges**

- Expectation is concrete performs like it always has
- Hardened properties
  - Strength
  - Stiffness
  - Permeability
  - Shrinkage
  - Appearance
- Fluid properties
  - Setting time
  - Placeability
  - Finishability
  - Early age strength
- Measurement



# **Economic Challenges**

- Volume of material needed
- Overcoming manufacturing model concrete producer controls formulation
- Adding another material to the mix
  - Storage Silos are expensive
  - Permitting
  - NIMBY
- Regional availability vs national availability
- Consistent availability
- Construction schedules / cost may be impacted



## **Design and Construction Challenges**

- Prescriptive specifications
  - Even if new cement meets an ASTM specification (C 595 or C 1157) it may not be permitted in project specifications
- Different strength and durability characteristics not understood
- Additional contractor requirements
  - Placeability
  - Finishability
  - Early strength gain
  - Does not accept new product



#### www.nrmca.org/sustainability

www.concreteinnovations.com

#### www.buildwithstrength.com

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