

# Supply Chain Considerations for Offshore Wind Energy in the United States

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**American Association of Port Authorities  
Offshore Wind Subcommittee**

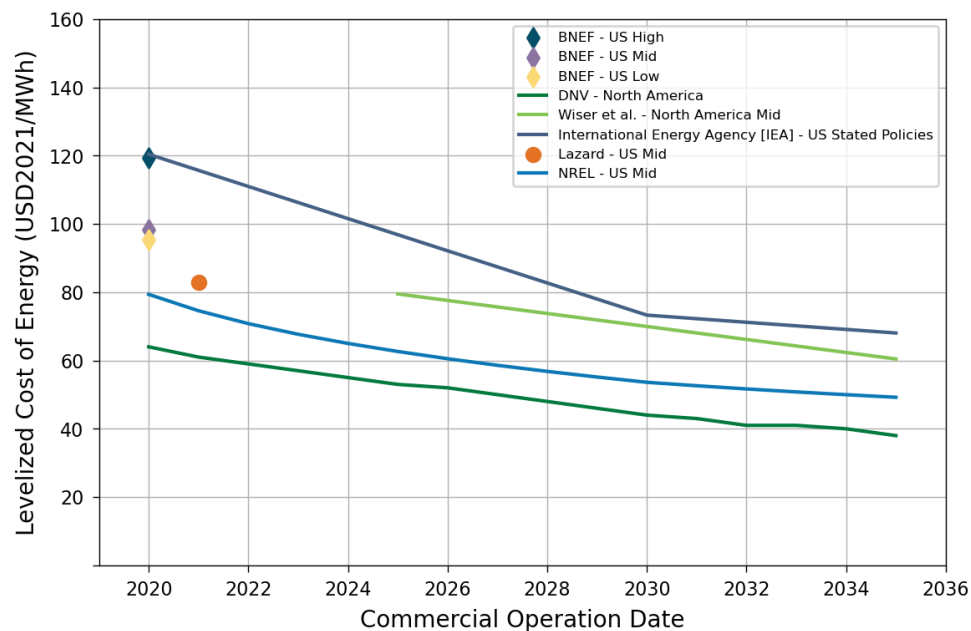
**June 28, 2023**

# Background and scope

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# The role of cost, supply chain, and infrastructure assessments in offshore wind planning

- Recent decreases in levelized cost of energy (LCOE) have contributed to expanded offshore wind deployment
- Expanding global pipelines mean that **supply chain and infrastructure constraints need to be considered along with LCOE**

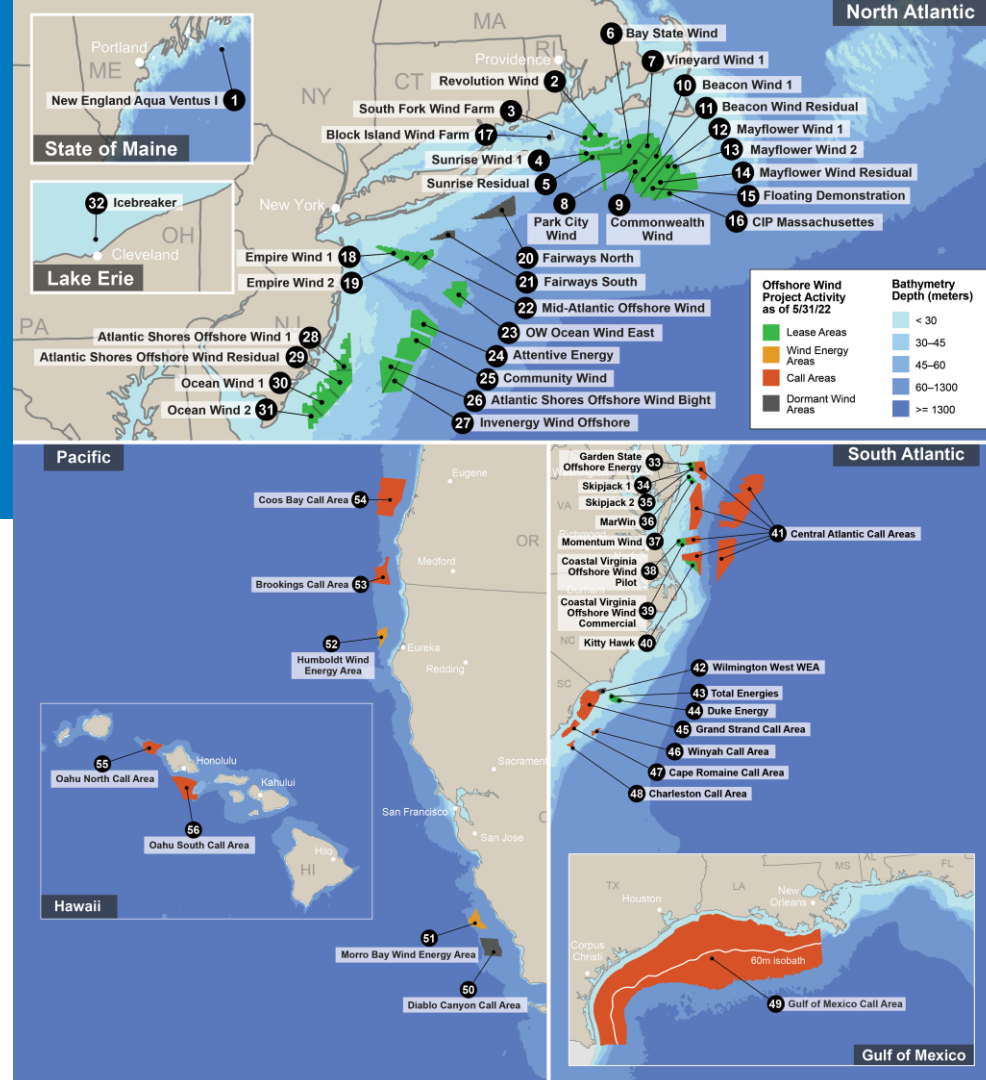


Historic and projected fixed-bottom offshore wind LCOE (Musial, et al 2022)

# U.S. Offshore Wind Industry Market as of May 31, 2022, Shows Strength in Essential Economic and Policy Areas, Indicating Accelerated Growth

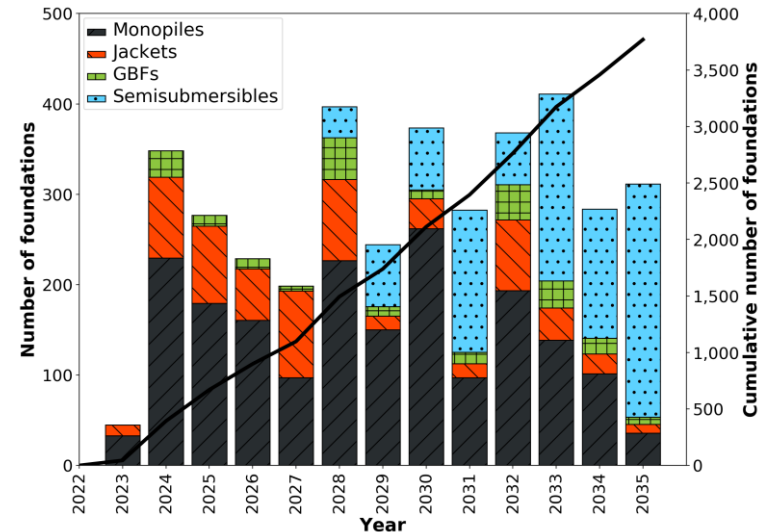
- U.S. Offshore Wind Target set in March 2021 for **30 gigawatts (GW) by 2030** with pathway to 110 GW by 2050
- **39,322 megawatts (MW) of policy commitments** from eight eastern states
- **40,083 MW estimated in total project pipeline**
- 42 MW installed

Source: [Musial et al. \(2022\)](#) – update coming in August 2023



# The Demand for a Domestic Offshore Wind Supply Chain in the United States

- Achieving the Biden Administration's 30 GW by 2030 offshore wind target will require over **2,000 wind turbines** to be installed in U.S. waters
  - Anticipated capital expenditures of over \$100 billion ([SLOW, 2021](#))
- Global supply chains are already **at or near capacity** to meet European demand
- Domestic manufacturing and installation infrastructure are **nascent and unprepared to meet the U.S. demand**



Annual and cumulative demand for fixed-bottom and floating foundations in the U.S. offshore wind industry. [Shields, et al \(2022\)](#)

Achieving sustainable offshore wind growth and maximizing the associated economic benefits requires near-term planning and investment to develop a domestic supply chain

# Envision a domestic supply chain by 2030



**Barriers**

**Gaps**

**Potential solutions**



**Manufacturing**

(Major components  
and supporting  
supply chain)



**Ports and vessels**



**Workforce**



**Equity**



# Key findings

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[A Supply Chain Road Map for Offshore Wind in the United States](#)

# Pathways to developing a domestic supply chain

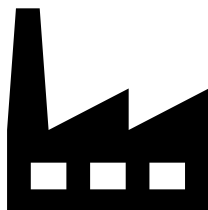
Short-term actions  
(2023-2024)



# Major barriers to supply chain development



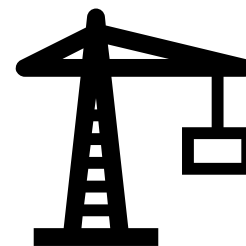
Investment risk



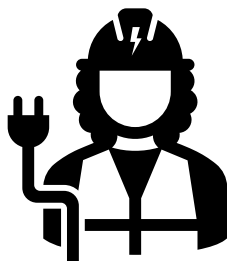
Siting and  
technology  
challenges



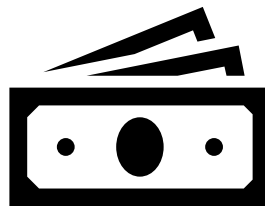
Limited  
supplier  
networks



Insufficient port and  
vessel infrastructure



Limited  
domestic  
workforce



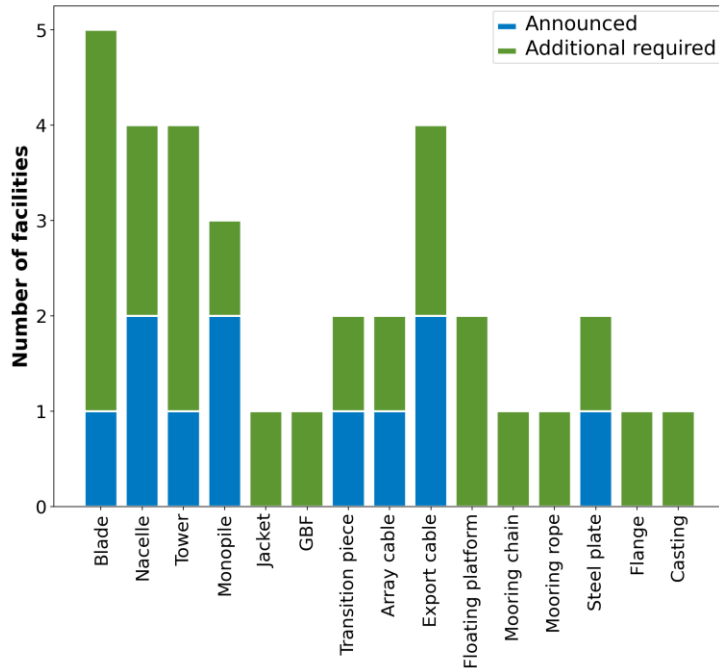
Cost  
competitiveness



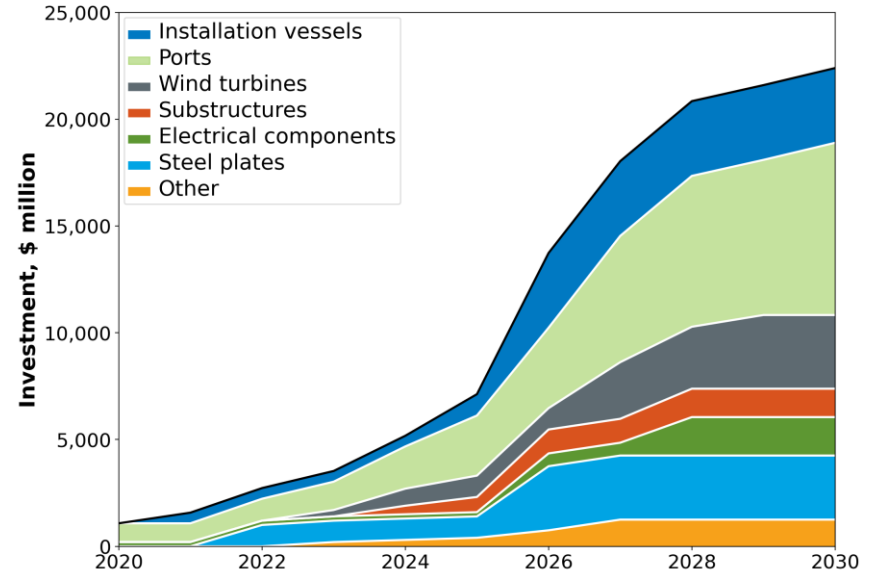
Incorporating  
equity and  
sustainability

# A domestic supply chain that can manufacture all major offshore wind components needed to install 4 – 6 GW per year could require \$22.4 billion and 6-9 years to develop

**A domestic offshore wind energy supply chain designed to meet the annual demand for major components in 2030 would require at least 34 new manufacturing facilities**

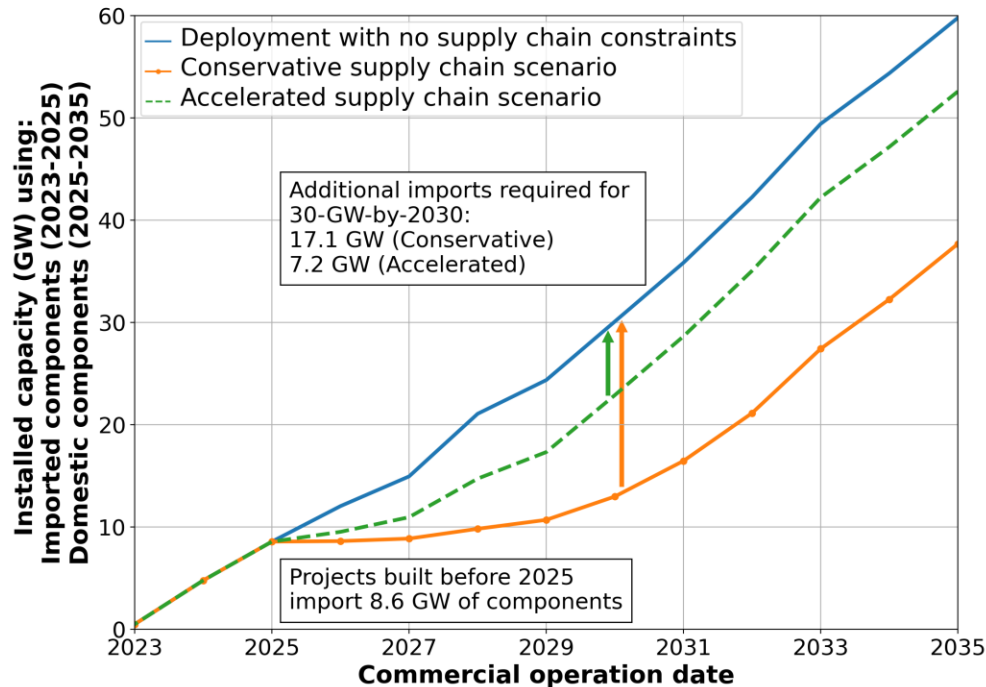


**A domestic offshore wind energy supply chain designed to meet the annual demand for major components in 2030 would require an investment of at least \$22.4 billion**



# The supply chain can become more self-reliant and cost competitive even as near-term projects import components

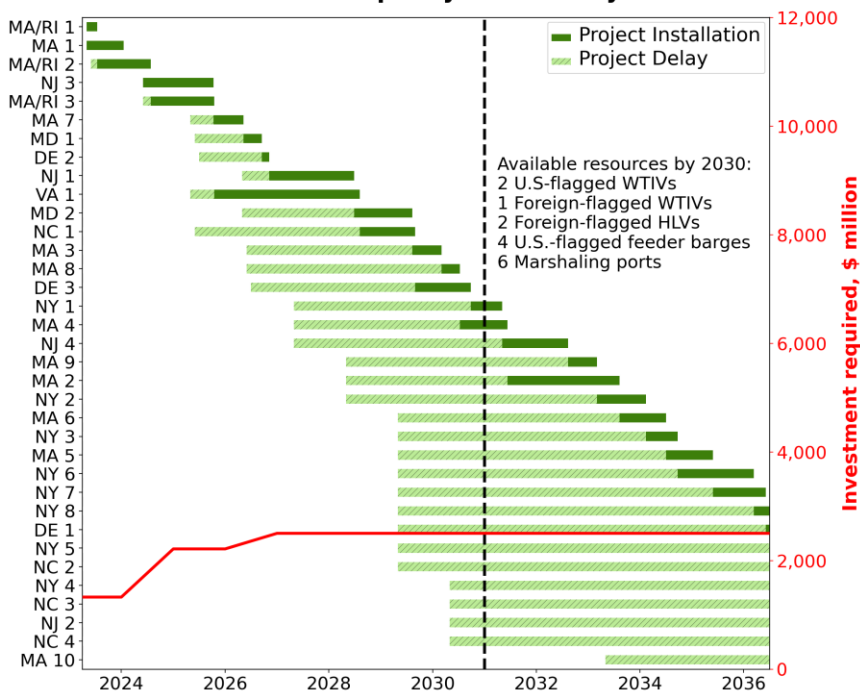
**Offshore wind projects will need to import components while the domestic supply chain develops. Global supply bottlenecks could limit deployment if U.S. projects cannot source a sufficient number of these components.**



# The offshore wind sector likely needs to invest around \$6 billion in marshalling ports and large installation vessels to deploy 30 GW by 2030

## Baseline scenario:

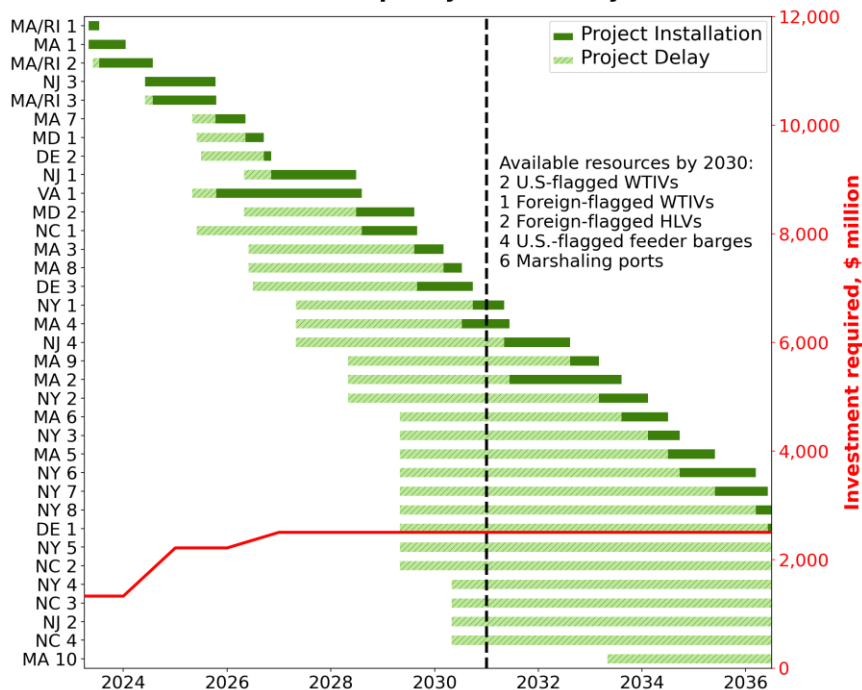
13.8 GW of fixed-bottom capacity installed by the end of 2030



# The offshore wind sector likely needs to invest around \$6 billion in marshalling ports and large installation vessels to deploy 30 GW by 2030

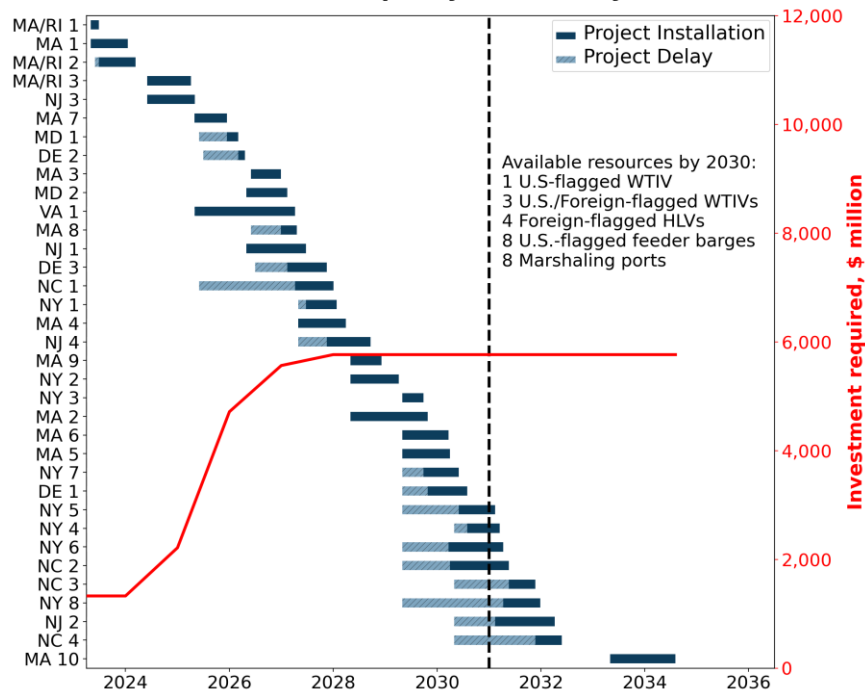
## Baseline scenario:

13.8 GW of fixed-bottom capacity installed by the end of 2030



## U.S. Feeder scenario:

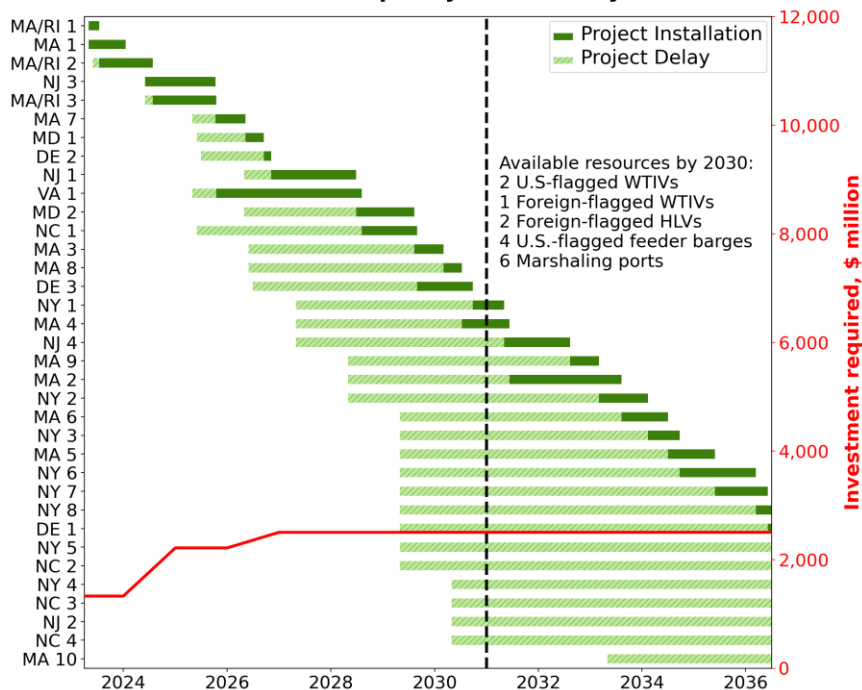
28.4 GW of fixed-bottom capacity installed by the end of 2030



# A significant number of additional vessels will be required for construction (survey, guard, cable-lay) and operation (crew transfer, service operation) activities

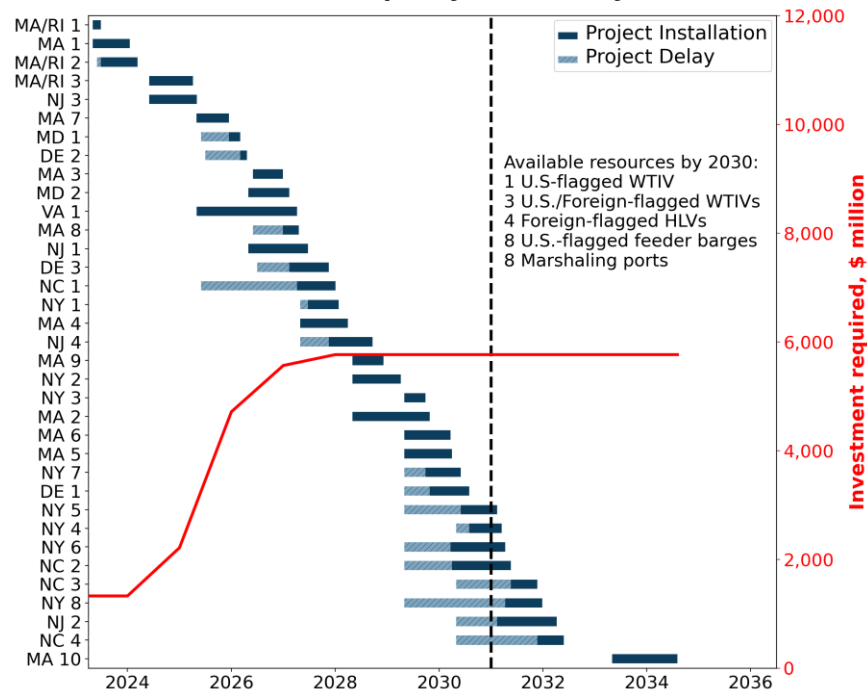
## Baseline scenario:

13.8 GW of fixed-bottom capacity installed by the end of 2030



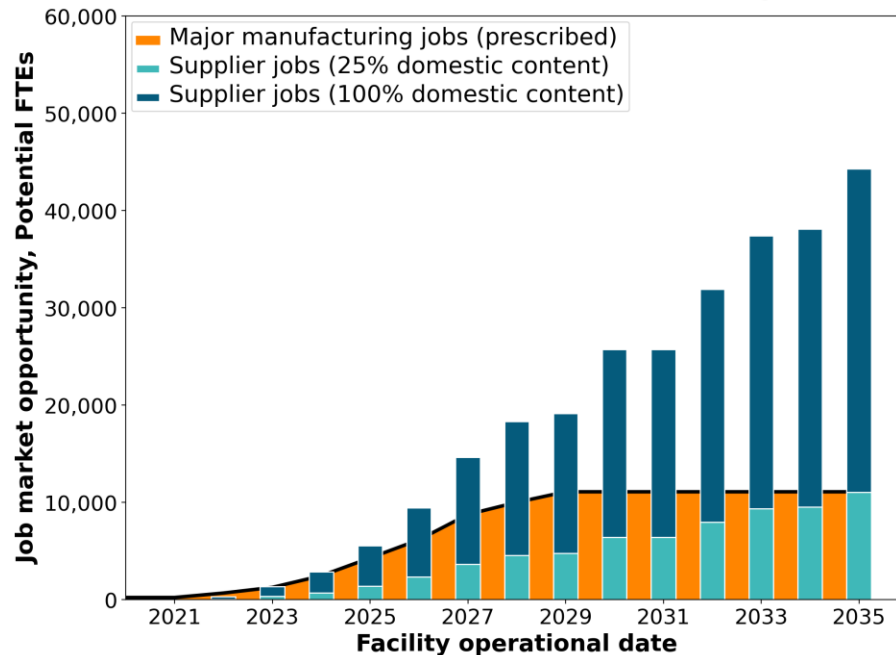
## U.S. Feeder scenario:

28.4 GW of fixed-bottom capacity installed by the end of 2030



# Manufacturing major components could require 10,000 direct jobs – but there is an opportunity space for up to 5 times as many jobs in the supporting supply chain

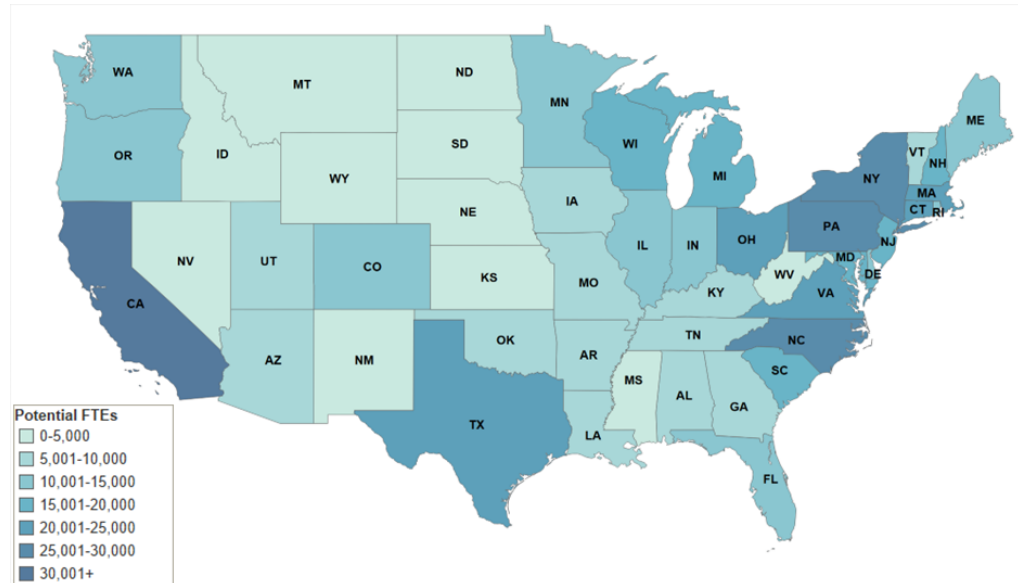
**An offshore wind supply chain could create a vast number of jobs, with a higher market opportunity in the supporting supply chain than in major manufacturing facilities**





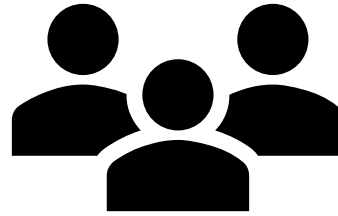
**Many states have existing capabilities that can fill the manufacturing demand. Regional coordination could create a more efficient supply chain with broad benefits**

**Job market opportunity space for major manufacturing and supporting supplier jobs by 2035**

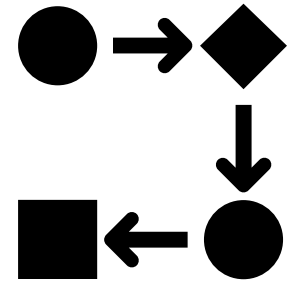


**Supply chain investments will directly impact vulnerable (port) communities.**

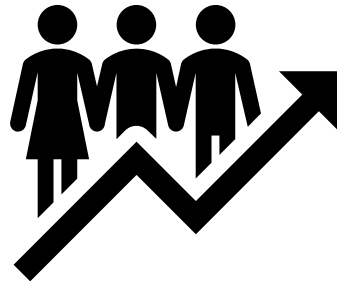
**Development should consider potential positive and negative impacts through a common framework of measurable indicators**



**Contextual**



**Procedural**



**Socioeconomic**



**Health, safety,  
environment**

# Extending analysis to the West Coast

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[West Coast Ports Strategy Study](#)

# West Coast Ports Strategy Study



Port investment



Deployment



Supply chain



Project cost



Energy justice

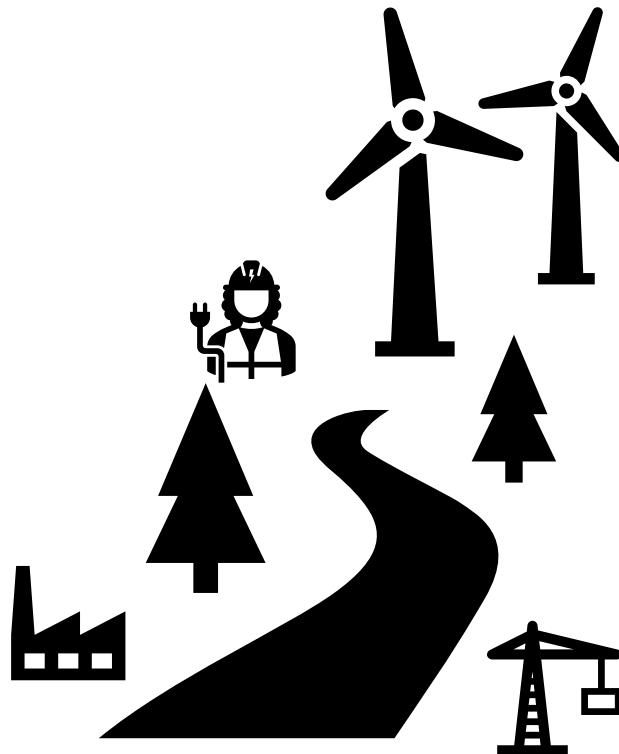
Gaps, challenges, and opportunities for developing a collaborative West Coast ports network

# Summary and next steps

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# Summary

- We identified key barriers, impacts, and pathways to achieving a domestic supply chain
- Coordination throughout the offshore wind sector is one of the most impactful ways to overcome barriers
  - Identify local strengths and resources
  - Define role for individual states and regions
  - Collaborate with existing businesses, including **ports and vessel operators**



# Thank you!

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