



Press Release

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***Port of Albany Selected as the First Offshore Wind Tower Manufacturing Site in the Nation
In Partnership between Marmen Inc, Welcon A/S and Equinor Wind***

Governor Cuomo announced in his [2021 State of the State](#) on Wednesday a historic offshore wind investment which included the selection of the Port of Albany as the first offshore wind tower manufacturing site in the nation. This major renewable energy and economic development project will further the Governor's green energy agenda, create hundreds of jobs and become a key part of the Governor's \$644 million statewide public and private port investments.

This project will transform the Port's 80-acre expansion site located in the Town of Bethlehem into a world class manufacturing facility and maritime operation. The project will also develop land in the Port's existing district and utilize recently improved maritime enhancements to support this endeavor.

Components of the project will include a new state-of-the-art wharf, a new bridge, new and improved internal roadways and more than 600,000 square feet of manufacturing space in four buildings. A joint venture between Marmen Inc. and Welcon A/S with partner Equinor Wind US LLC will lease the entirety of the project site where they will fabricate offshore wind towers.

The manufacturing operation will make use of the wharf and quayside facilities for load out of their products onto transport and installation vessels. The products will be shipped via the Hudson River maritime transportation network to offshore wind development sites in the ocean. This project will have capacity to supply New York State projects and other offshore wind projects along the Eastern Seaboard.

Construction is expected to begin in 2022. The construction of the facilities and development of the site is expected to create 500 jobs. Once complete, the project will create 300 full-time employees in well-paying manufacturing jobs.

The project partnership is committed to supporting local workforce development, training and recruitment programs that will be directly accessible to the nearby environmental justice community in the City of Albany's South End. The development of this site will serve as a positive economic anchor to the future of the historically underserved South End.

Marmen Inc, Welcon A/S, Equinor and the Port of Albany bring together nearly a century of safe, reliable and experienced maritime administration capabilities together with a world leader in offshore wind development and a proven wind tower manufacturing team that has global experience. This partnership will make substantial investment to develop this offshore wind manufacturing hub in the heart of New York State along the Hudson River that is within a day's shipping to the wind energy area development site in the Atlantic Ocean. The total project investment is expected to be more than \$350 million.

Albany Port District Commission Chairperson Georgette Steffens said, “Thank you to Governor Cuomo and NYSERDA for the announcement today about offshore wind. This is the future in renewable energy and the Port of Albany is thrilled to play a role in bringing the first of its kind wind tower manufacturing operation to New York and the U.S. Congratulations to our partners at Equinor and Marmen and Welcon. The Port of Albany is ready to move the project plans forward and create new construction and permanent manufacturing jobs for the region.”

NYSERDA Acting President & CEO Doreen Harris said, “Governor Cuomo’s investment in the development of the state’s offshore wind industry will be showcased front and center at the Port of Albany with a world class offshore wind tower manufacturing facility that will serve New York and the Northeast region. Congratulations to the Port of Albany, Marmen Inc, Welcon A/S, and Equinor team on this truly groundbreaking announcement that will provide significant economic activity and job creation benefiting communities throughout the Capital Region.”

Senator Neil Breslin said, “I am pleased to hear that the Port of Albany will be selected as New York State’s first offshore wind tower manufacturing site. This project allows Albany to be on the forefront of this growing industry in the country. Thank you to Governor Cuomo, NYSERDA, and the many community advocates who have invested and supported this ambitious green energy plan.”

Assemblyman John McDonald said, “The Port of Albany is going to be home to the nation's first offshore wind tower manufacturing site making it a leader in the future of sustainable energy production. Under this proposal the Port of Albany will become a key port in the offshore wind industry, supporting manufacturing, construction and operations for decades, and providing Upstate New York with long-term, high paying jobs.

Offshore wind is a critical tool to support the sustainable energy goals envisioned by New York’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) to empower every New Yorker to fight climate change at home, at work, and in their communities.

Thank you to Governor Andrew Cuomo, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, the Port of Albany and all of the partners who brought this important project to fruition.”

Assemblywoman Pat Fahy said, “Offshore wind will rapidly become a centerpiece of New York State’s energy infrastructure in the years to come, and this will cement the Capital Region as the nation’s first real hub for offshore wind energy infrastructure. In addition to helping New York achieve its ambitious energy efficiency and carbon emission goals set forth under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, this project will create 500, good-paying long-term jobs for Capital Region residents at a time when they are sorely needed. I commend Governor Cuomo for his continued leadership on the transcendent threat of climate change, and the Port of Albany for their vision and investment in the clean energy grid of tomorrow.”

Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan said “I am proud to learn the Port of Albany will be home to New York State’s first wind tower manufacturing site – a project I have tirelessly advocated for over the past fourteen-plus months. This transformative investment will create new jobs in Albany’s South End and help New York State lead the nation in the development of emerging wind technology. I thank Governor Cuomo and NYSERDA for selecting the Port of Albany, and congratulate the entire Port team on their efforts.”

Town of Bethlehem Supervisor David VanLuven said, “the Town of Bethlehem has strongly supported the Port of Albany’s expansion as advancing our community’s commitment to economic development, renewable energy, and real actions to address climate change. I look forward to working with the Port, Marman Inc, Welcon A/S, and Equinor to create jobs, support local environmental justice initiatives, and advance development of our region’s green economy.”

Executive Director of the Albany Housing Authority Chiquita D'Arbeau said, "This announcement is very exciting for our region and we look forward to the opportunities this will create for our community. Developing world class green energy products in our region is very exciting for the future. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Port of Albany and all partners to develop training, hiring and other opportunities right here in our neighborhoods"

About the Port of Albany

The Port of Albany, New York is a year-round, 24-hour facility that spans over 400 acres on the Albany and Rensselaer sides of the Hudson River. The Port of Albany has been in existence for nearly 90 years and has a track record of operating with integrity, public transparency and is a significant contributor to the economy of the Capital Region in New York State. The Port of Albany provides over \$800 million in annual economic impact to Upstate NY and employs over 5,000 people directly and indirectly.