

# Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study

Jian Fu

Wind Energy Technologies Office

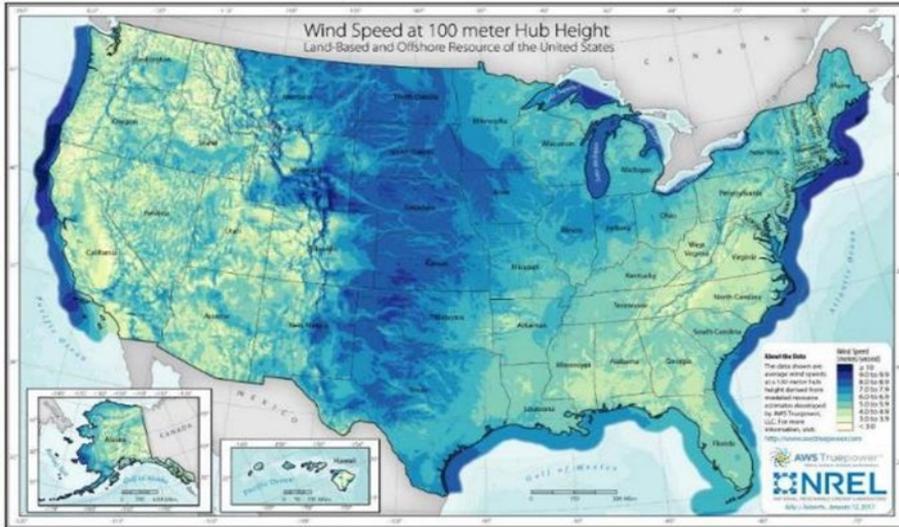
U.S. Department of Energy

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# U.S. Wind Energy

## U.S. Wind Resource is Vast

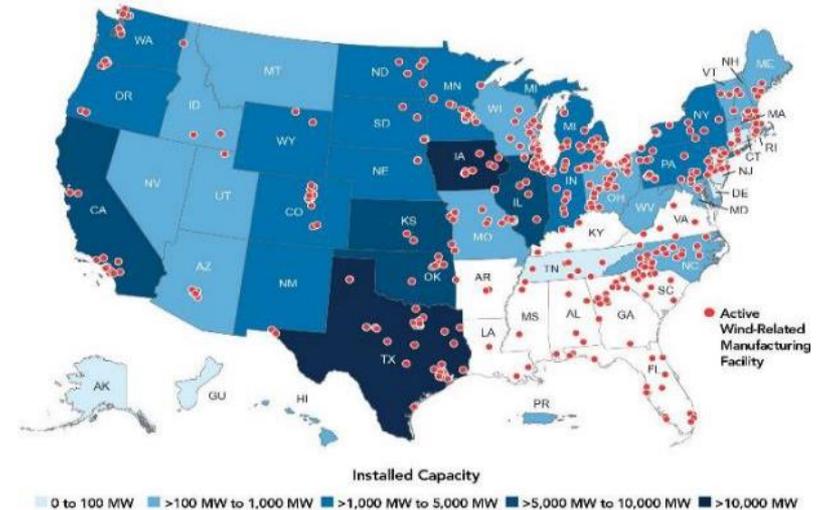


U.S. Land-Based and Offshore Wind Resources  
Annual Average Wind Speed at 100 Meters Above the Ground

### Key Challenges Remain

- Unsubsidized costs are still too high for some applications
- Many technical challenges remain especially for floating offshore
- Environmental and siting constraints
- Integration of large-scale power into the grid presents complexities

## U.S. Wind Energy Spurs Economic Growth



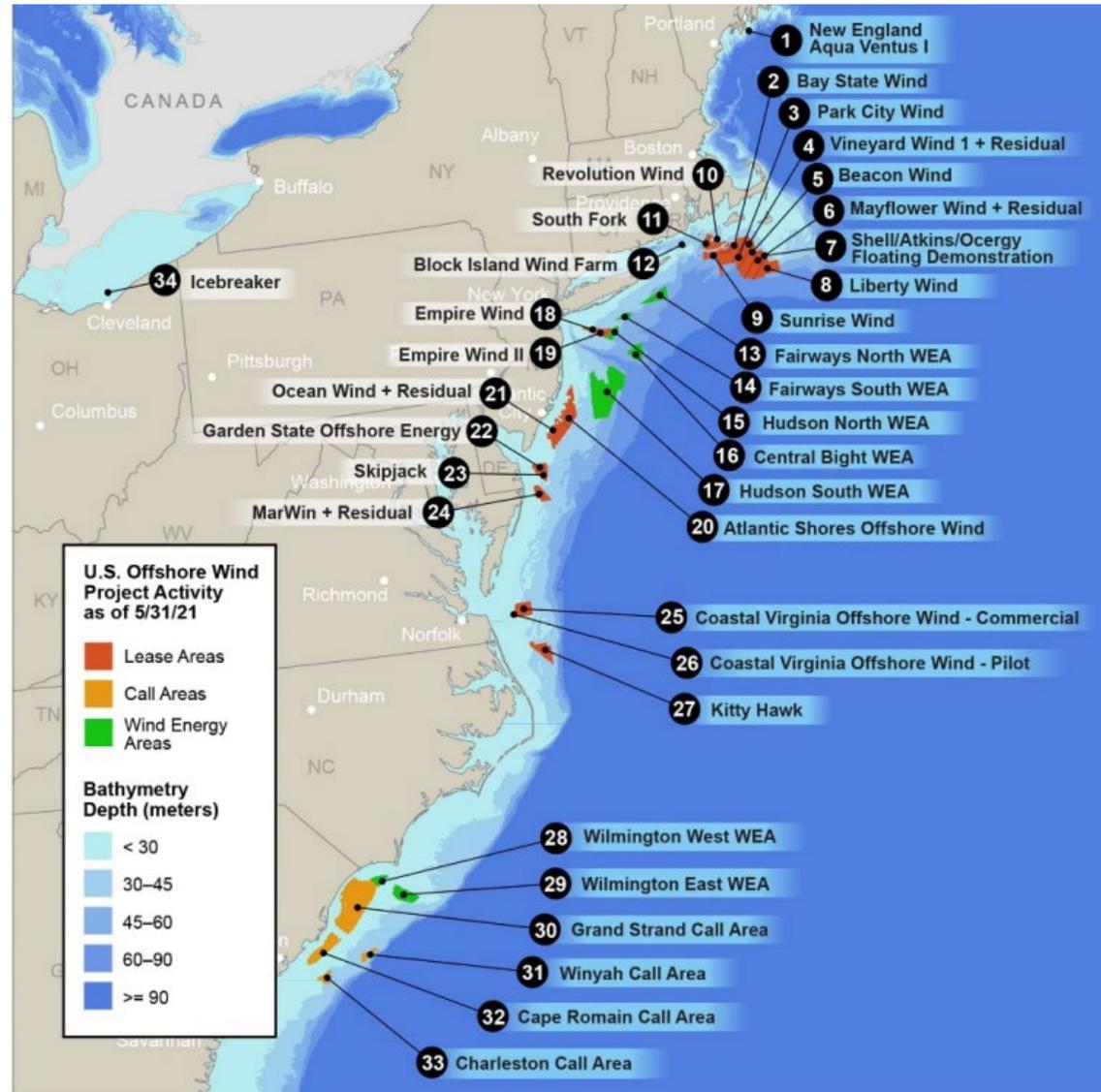
Wind Energy Deployment by State & Related Economic Centers  
and Manufacturing Facilities of the Domestic Supply Chain

### DOE Wind Energy R&D, by Sub-Program

- Land-Based (Utility-Scale) Wind
- Distributed Wind
- Offshore Wind
- Grid Systems Integration & Analysis

# Background for the DOE study

- Offshore wind deployment goals
- DOE's Offshore Wind Transmission Integration R&D RFI
- Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Literature Review and Gaps Analysis ([energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov))



Source: Offshore Wind Market Report: 2021 Edition

# What is the DOE study?

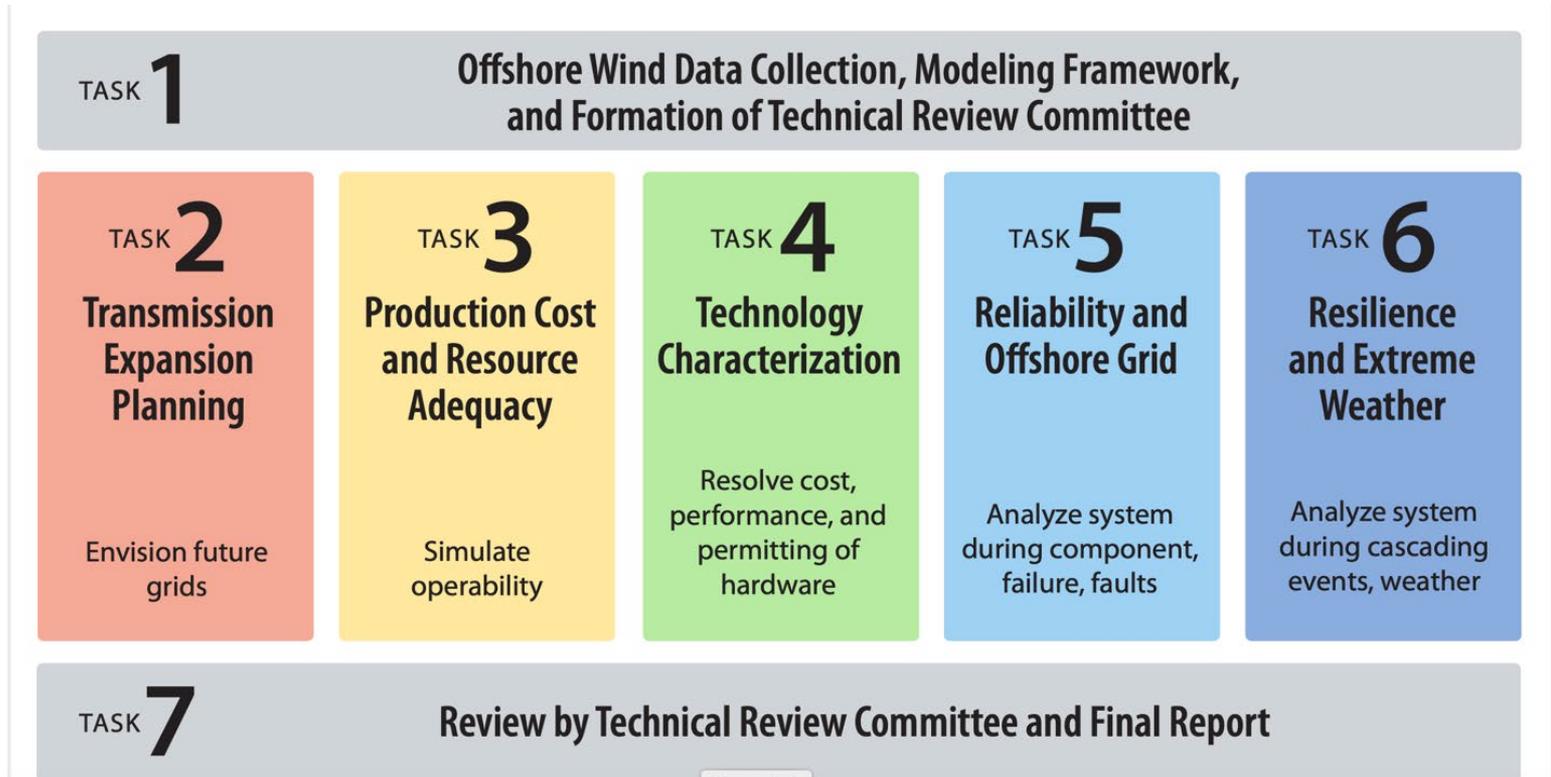
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- 2 year's study
- Alignment with state and federal offshore wind goals: near term (2030) and long term (2050)
- Integrated onshore and offshore planning
- Economic, reliability, and resilience analysis
- Considering environmental and community impacts
- Inter-states, inter-regional, from Maine to South Carolina

# Project Objective

- Identification of **scenarios, and pathways** of OSW deployment with **transmission topologies** (such as radial lines, shared backbones or a meshed network), sequencing, and build-out in the Atlantic for 2030 till 2050 that meet or exceed reliability and resilience criteria while considering **ocean co-use**.
- Quantification of impacts such as **economic, reliability, and resilience** of multiple OSW and transmission scenarios and pathways, including during periods of system stress under typical and extreme weather conditions.
- Characterization and comparison of **transmission technologies** for the different scenarios, including onshore and offshore substations and cabling, and tradeoffs and costs for high voltage alternating current (HVAC) and high voltage direct current (HVDC) scenarios.
- Identification of **a critical point** (either in time or in GW of OSW deployed) at which the benefits of a coordinated transmission framework will outweigh the benefits of radial generator lead lines (GLL).
- Collection of **data and models** that are readily useable by industry for accelerating their own planning studies.

# Project Tasks



Extensive iteration and feedback among tasks

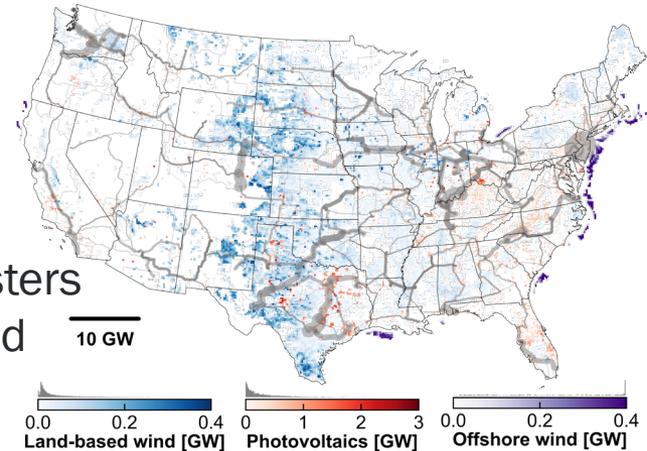
# Task 1: Data, model, and TRC

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- **Forming of technical review committee (TRC)**
- **TRC will likely have three focus areas:**
  1. Environmental, community, and Siting
  2. Technology
  3. Generation and Transmission Planning
- **TRC meetings:**
  - Kickoff meeting Dec. 8, 2021.
  - Plenary meetings on quarterly or bi-annual basis
  - Topic-specific meetings in between

# Task 2: Transmission Expansion Planning

- Use NREL Regional Energy Deployment System (ReEDS) model to explore the scenario space of a variety of transmission options through 2050, likely including but not limited to:
  - Business as usual, radial approach with generator lead lines, with and without corridor consolidation
  - Collector systems to consolidated OSW clusters
  - Regional backbones Inter-regional mesh grid
  - Larger land-based HVDC overlay
- At what critical point do the coordinated transmission builds become more important? Are there risks to overbuilding?



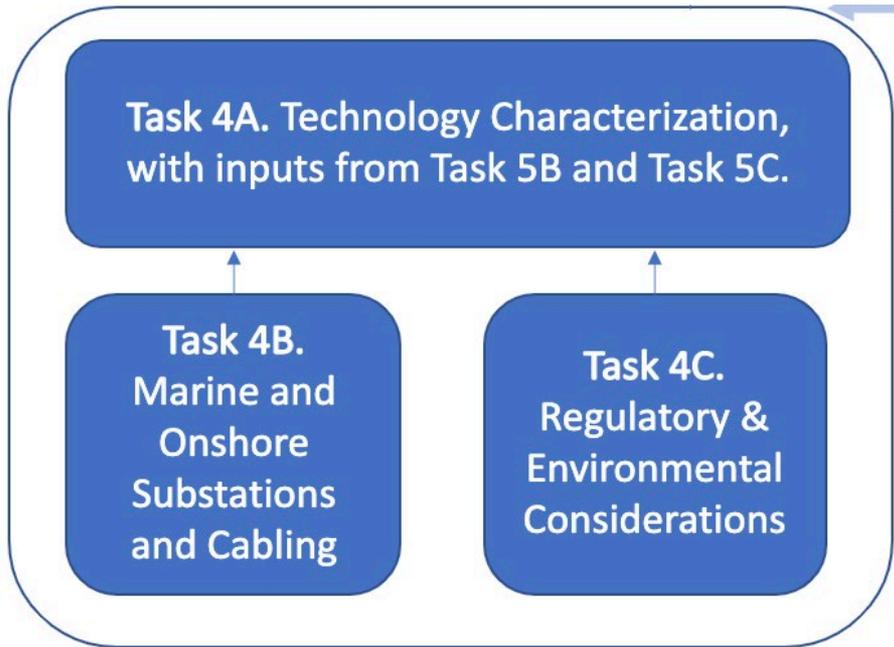
# Task 2: Transmission Expansion Planning

- Detailed transmission scenarios will be assembled using information from a variety of sources:
  - ReEDS model build trajectories
  - Stakeholder input: TRCs, project pipeline and queues
  - Data analysis
  - Initial results from production cost and resource adequacy
  - Initial results from technology characterization
- 2030 scenarios may focus more on stakeholder input, with 2050 considering models more

# Task 3: Production Cost and Resource Adequacy

- **Perform production cost modeling to simulate the operation of the 2030 and 2050 grids to inform:**
  - How does the transmission expansion impact the operation of the grid? How is it utilized, and how does that impact curtailment?
  - What time periods would be interesting to study in the reliability work (tasks 5 and 6)?
- **Perform resource adequacy modeling using NREL PRAS model to calculate reliability metrics and inform:**
  - What is the resource adequacy impact of offshore wind?
  - How does transmission topology affect that?

# Task 4: Technology Characterization



- Technology characterization of final transmission scenarios
- The following three OSW subsystems will be included along with environmental and regulatory considerations:
  - Delivery from platform to onshore substation,
  - Undersea cabling and installation, and
  - Marine substation design and hardware.
- We will screen for cable route areas and landing points that avoid sensitive areas, such as critical habitat, military sensitive areas, fisheries, and mitigate impacts to communities and key ocean users.
- Estimate capital costs for final transmission scenarios

# Task 5: Reliability and Offshore Grid

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## Objectives:

- Perform comprehensive reliability studies for several stressed transmission scenarios identified in Task 2 and 3 between years 2030 and 2050
- Evaluate different planned and meshed offshore transmission approaches from the reliability standpoint



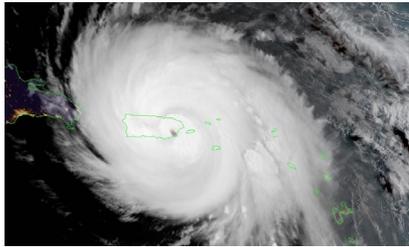
# Task 6: Extreme Event Analysis

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## Objectives:

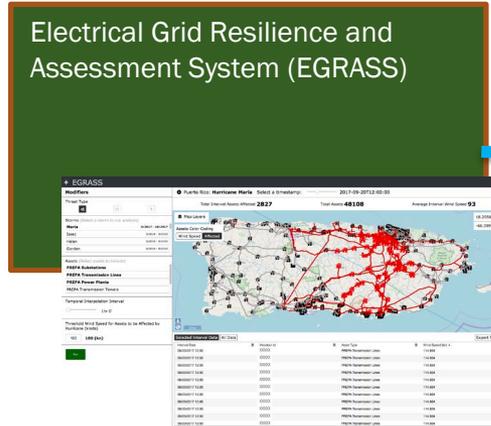
- Identify extreme weather events for further evaluation using PNNL's EGRASS tool
- Conduct analysis of system steady-state and dynamic behavior during extreme weather events using PNNL's DCAT tool.

# Task 6: Extreme Event Analysis



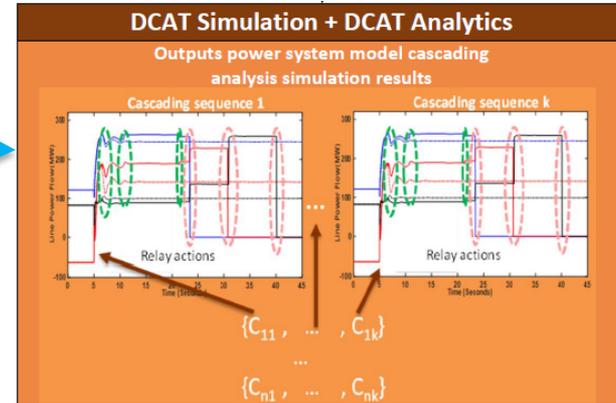
## Task 6.1

Electrical Grid Resilience and Assessment System (EGRASS)



Generate Monte Carlo outage sequences

## Task 6.2



Dynamic cascading grid simulations using Dynamic contingency Analysis Tool (DCAT)

Apply Resiliency Improvements

- Thousands of realistic dynamic cascading simulations
- Analytics in DCAT and EGRASS to derive recommendations for:
  - Transmission hardening; Protection coordination; Preventive operational actions; Voltage support; Asset management and investment prioritization

# Task 7: Review and Final Report

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- Additional runs if needed
- Review and approve final report

# Project Schedule

- **In Year 1 (November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022)**
  - Create a technical review committee (TRC) with a wide range of stakeholders and expertise
  - Establish **plausible onshore and offshore transmission expansion scenarios for 2030 and 2050**, that consider the impacts of cable routing, points of interconnection, landing points, and environmental and community impacts.
  - Identify any **critical point** at which the benefits of a **coordinated transmission framework will outweigh the benefits of generation lead line** approach and assess how transmission will evolve over the time.
  - Begin to evaluate system **operations, cost, and reliability** of the established, plausible scenarios
- **In Year 2 (November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2023)**
  - **Complete** production cost modeling, capital investment estimation, and reliability studies
  - Perform **stability analysis, transient fault behavior analysis, and resilience studies** for the onshore and offshore grid
  - Deliver the **final report**

# Questions?

Contact: [jian.fu@ee.doe.gov](mailto:jian.fu@ee.doe.gov)