



Credit: South Fork Wind

## Learning from the Experts Webinar Series

# Repurposing Offshore Expertise Lessons Learned from Oil



**Jim Bennett**

Bennett Energy and  
Environmental, LLC



**Ian Voparil, Ph.D.**

Energy Ocean, LLC

**November 19, 2025**

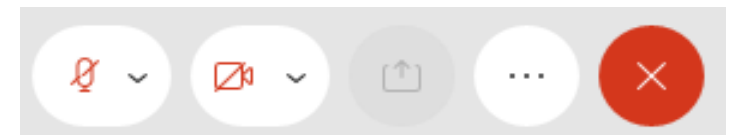
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# Learning from the Experts

This webinar series is hosted by NYSERDA's offshore wind team and features experts in offshore wind technologies, development practices, and related research.

**DISCLAIMER:**

The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not represent the views or opinions of NYSERDA or New York State.



**NYSERDA**





**Jim  
Bennett**

**Welcome!**



**Dr. Ian  
Voparil**

= 40+ years Federal OCS resource management

Environment – Oil & Gas – Offshore Wind

- Consultant: Burns & McDonnell, Coll. of Staten Island

Appointments

- Oceantic Network, Board of Trustees

- Offshore Wind Academy, Board of Advisors

- New York City Economic Development Council,

Wind Advisory Council

- 17 years in offshore oil and gas

- 4 years in offshore wind

- 1 year in electric utilities

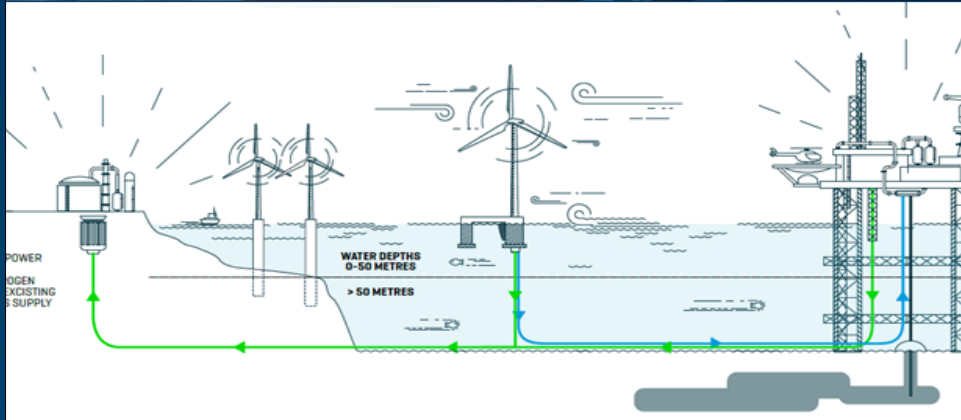
Appointments

- BOEM OCS Scientific Committee

- U.S. Oceans Research & Resources Advisory Panel

- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and

Medicine panelist



## Agenda Topics

- Technology and Engineering
- Policy Framework
- Regulatory Process
- Economics
- Stakeholders
- Safety

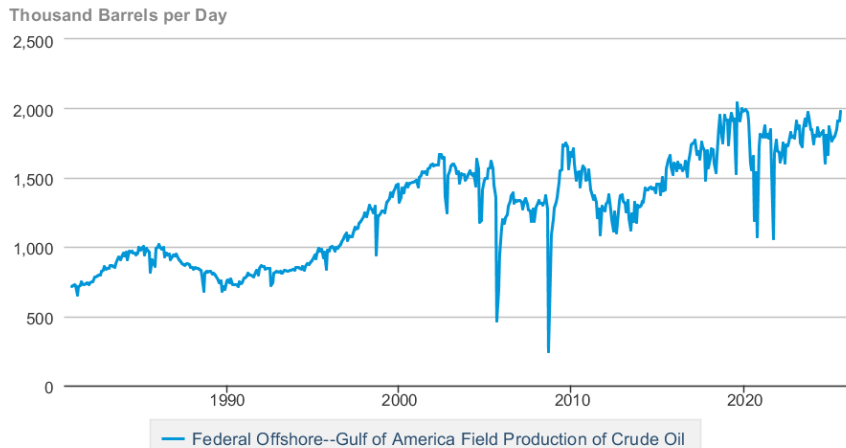
## Question and Answer

# Technology and Engineering



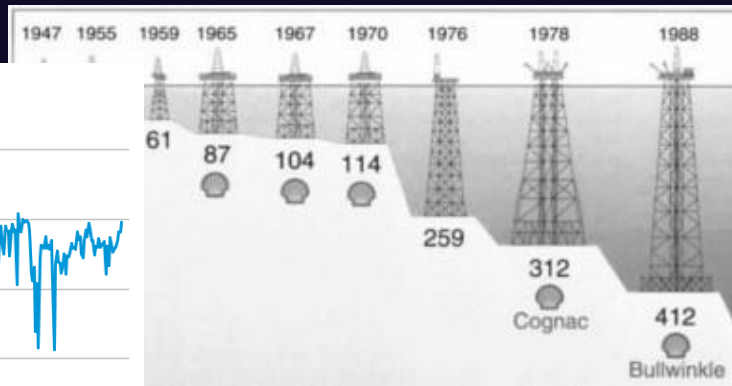
Source: officeroftthewatch.com

Federal Offshore--Gulf of America Field Production of Crude Oil

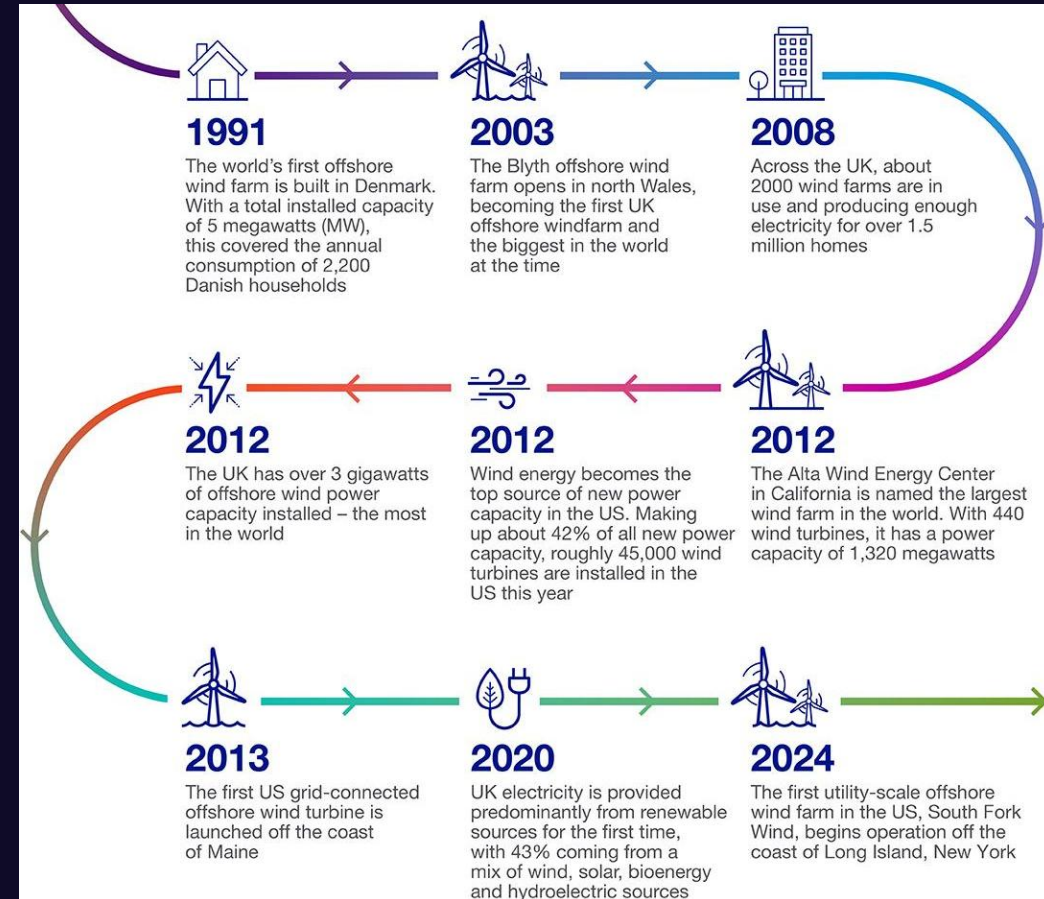


eia Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

Source: US EIA



Source: Shell



Source: National Grid

# Technology and Engineering

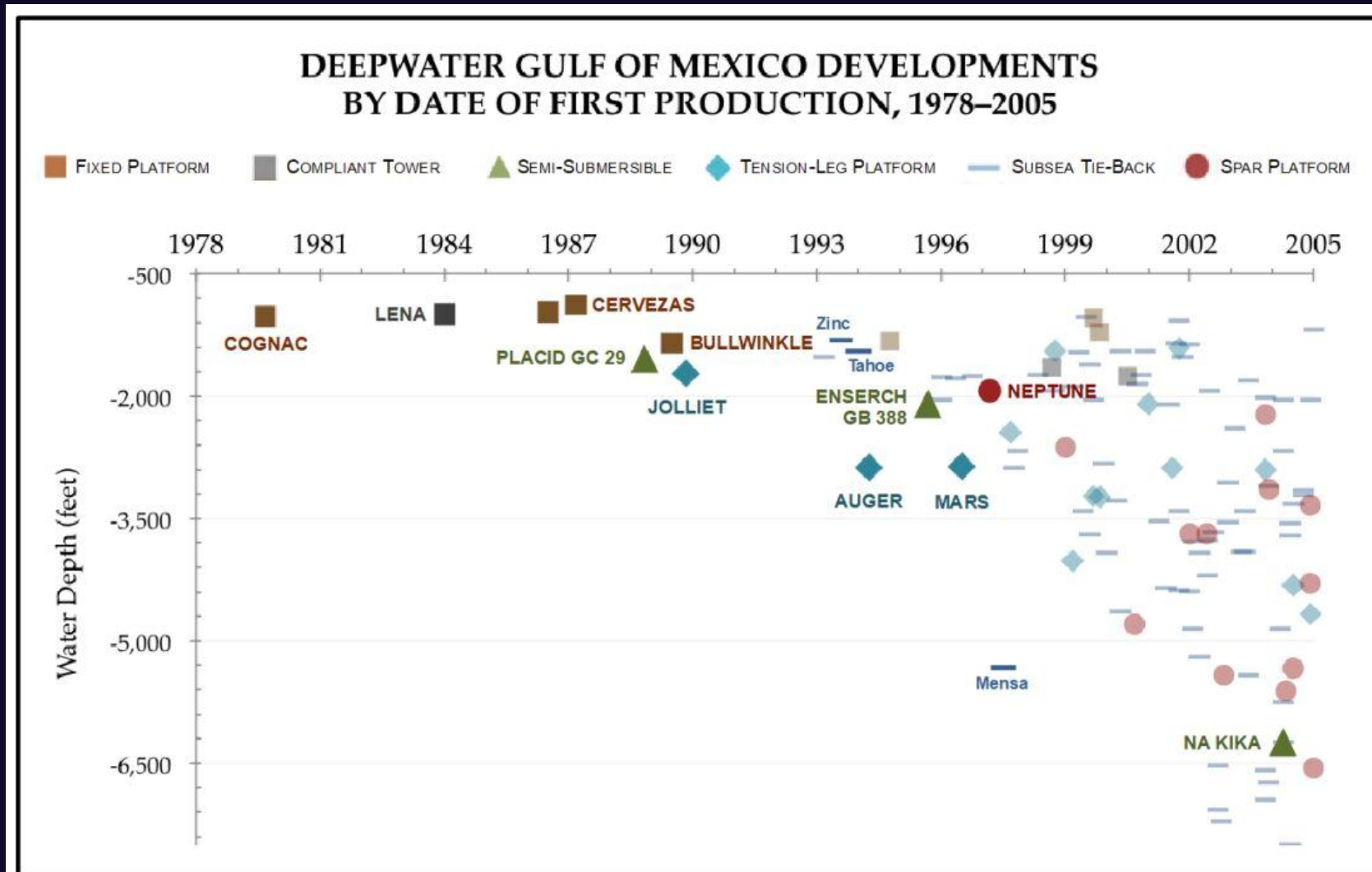


Figure 1.5. Selected deepwater Gulf developments by date of first production, 1978–2005

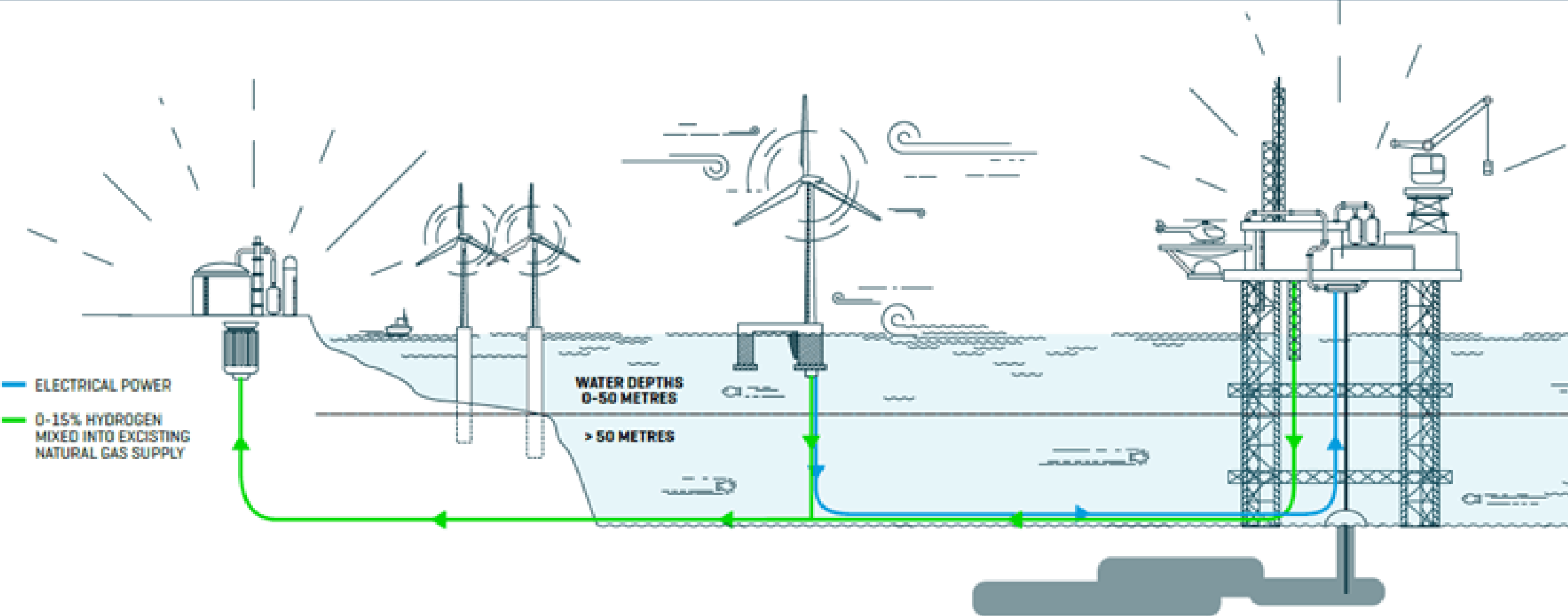
# Technology and Engineering

## Block Island Foundations



# Technology and Engineering

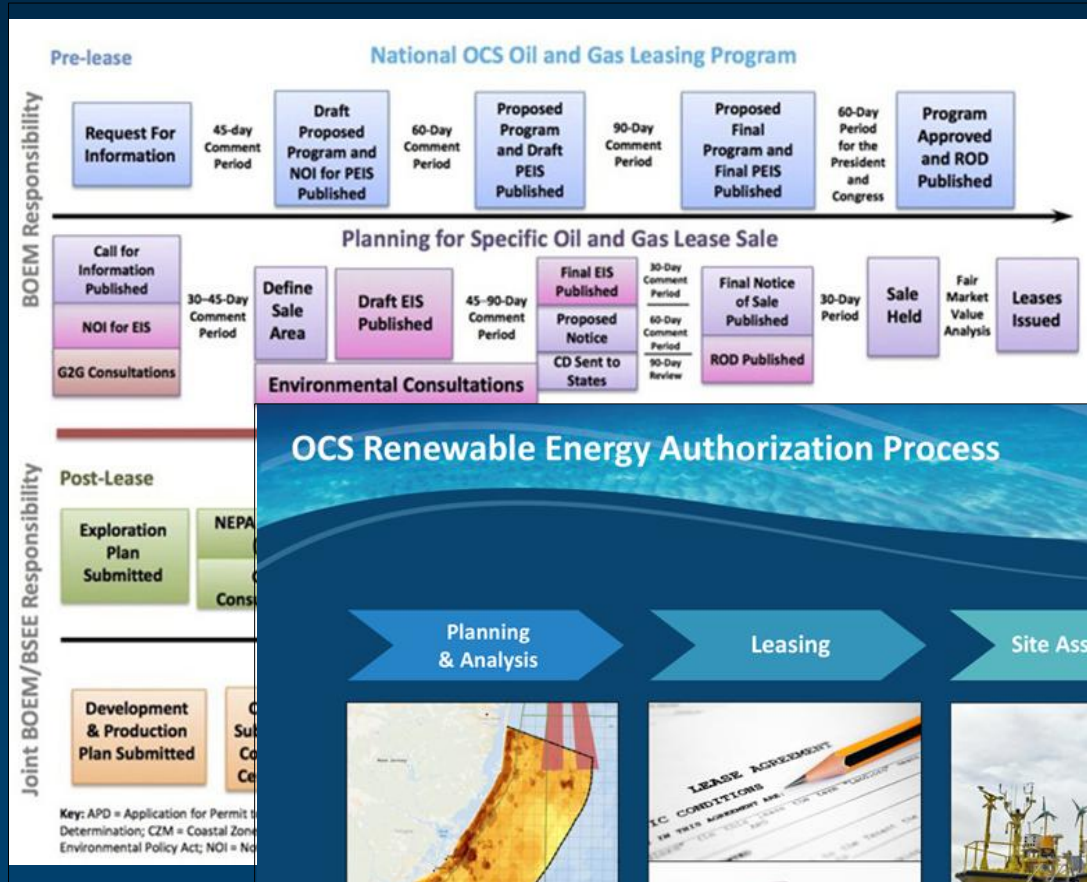
## Ocean Energy Industry Synergy and Integration



# Offshore Energy Policy: Shared Objectives

- Long-term energy security
- Affordability
- Job creation
- Innovation
- Economic growth
- Carbon emissions
- Energy Transition

# Regulatory Process

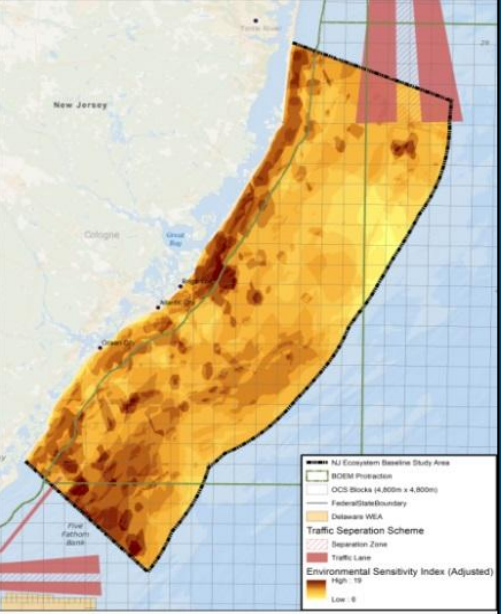


- Oil and Gas
- Offshore Wind



# OCS Renewable Energy Authorization Process

## Planning & Analysis



## Leasing



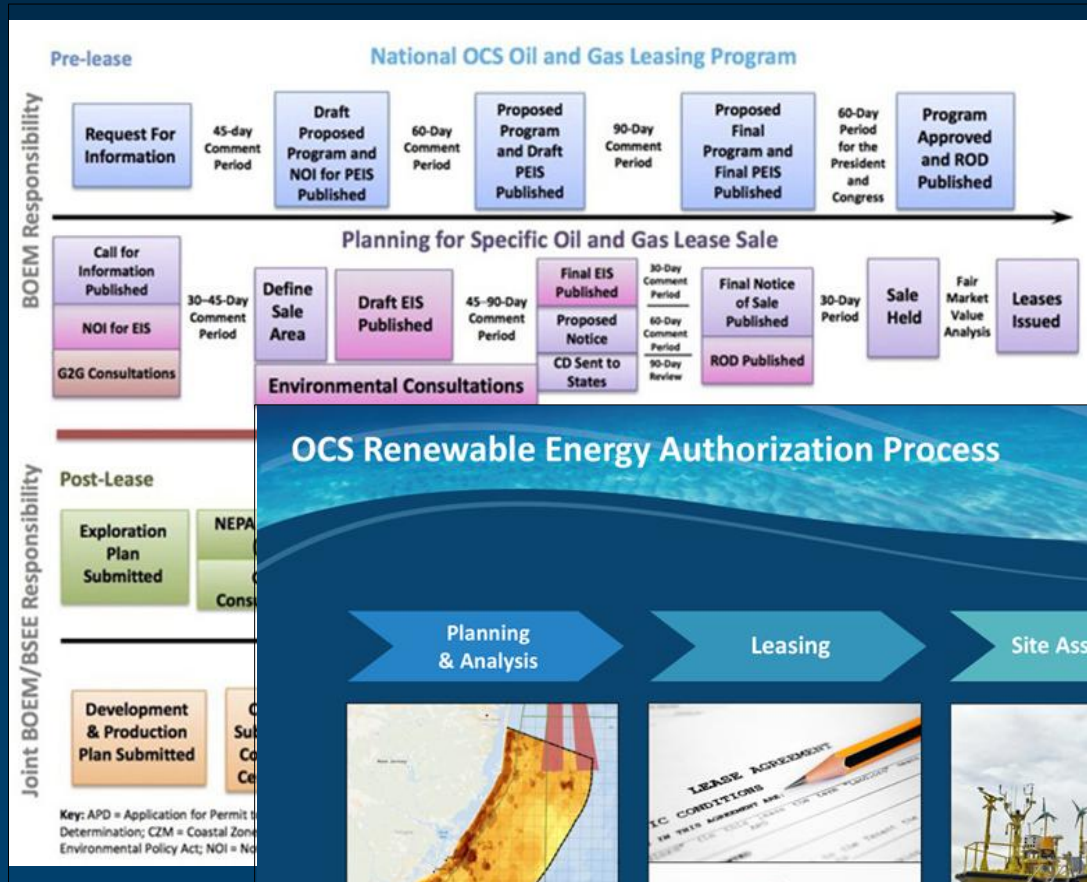
## Site Assessment



## Construction & Operations



# Regulatory Process



- Oil and Gas
- Offshore Wind
- Similarities
  - Reasonable Return
  - Public Review
- Differences
  - Auction Method
  - Contractual Status



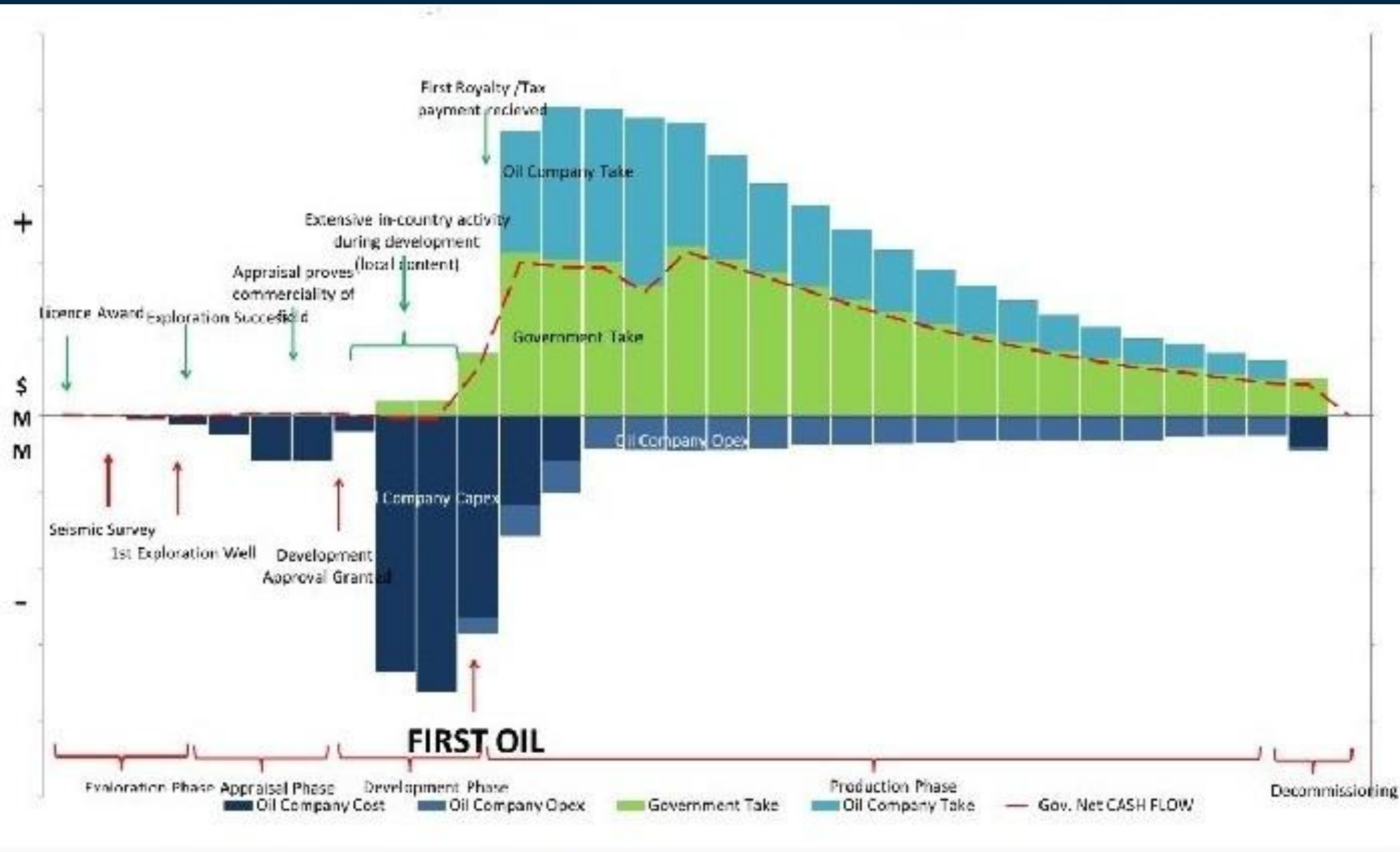


# Economics

- Project economics
- Lease Pricing
- Auction Process
- Distortions
- Revenue Sharing

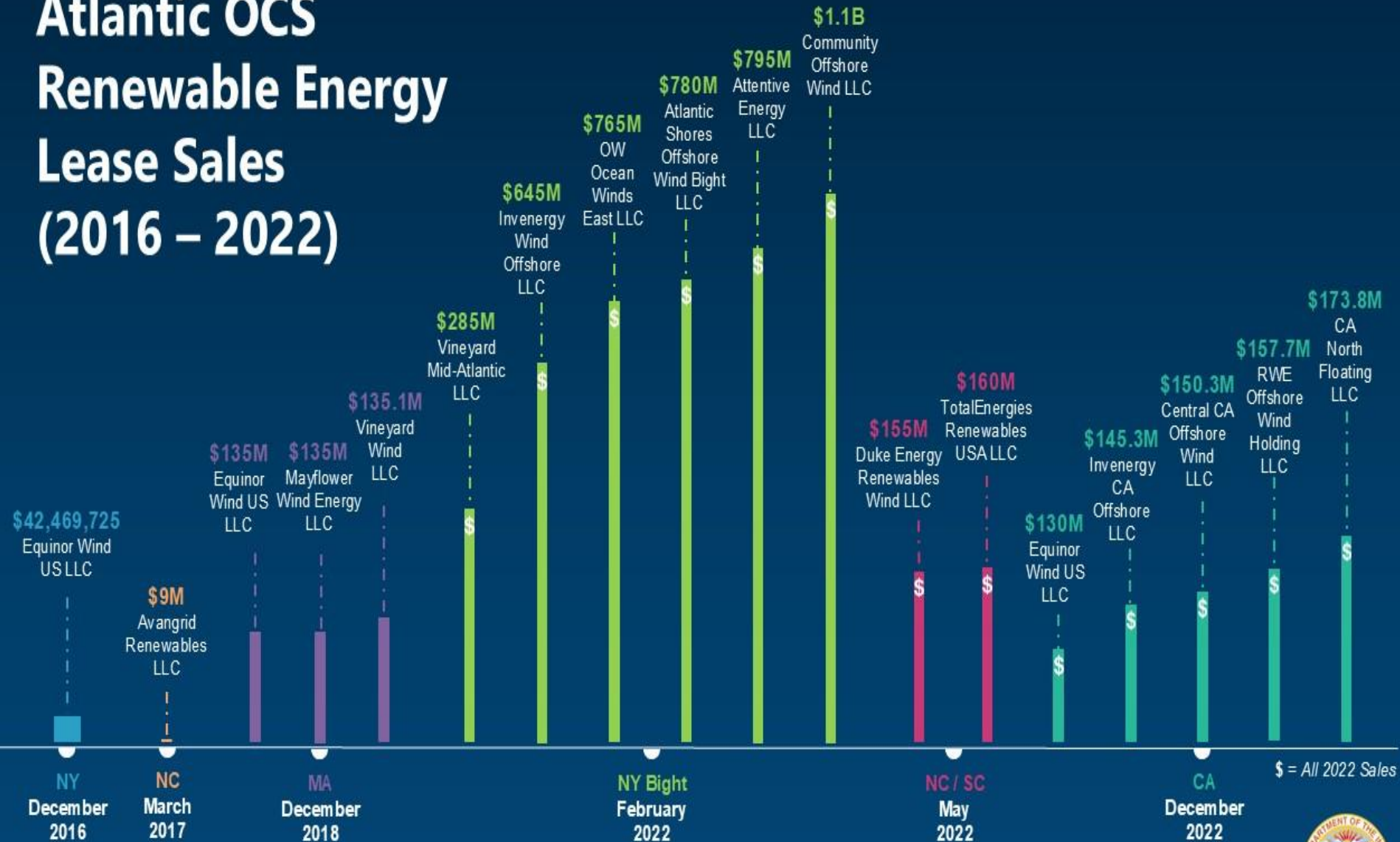
# Economics

## Project economics



Source: Akshay Jain on LinkedIn

# Atlantic OCS Renewable Energy Lease Sales (2016 – 2022)



## Economics

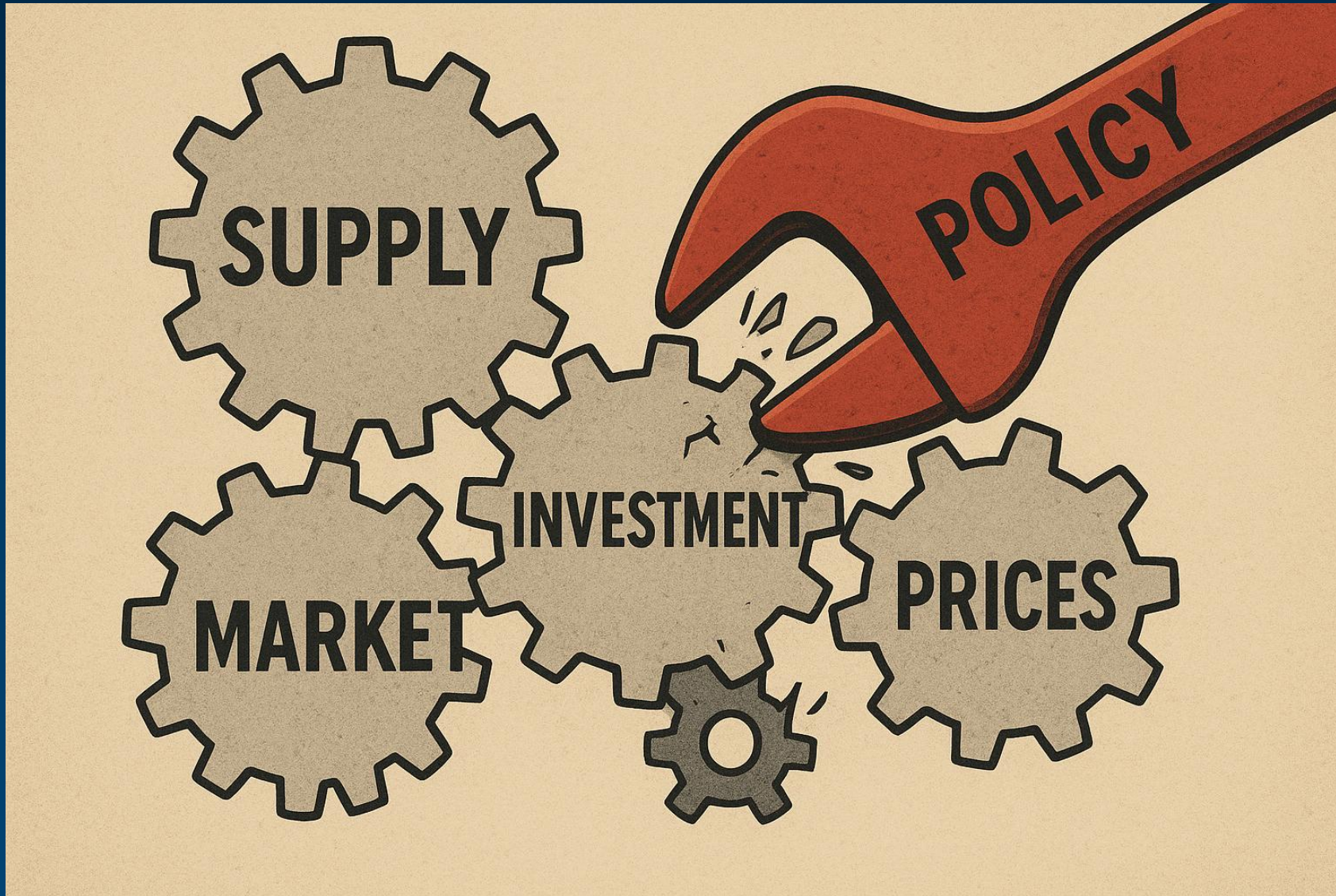
- Project economics
- Lease Pricing





# Economics

- Project economics
- Lease Pricing
- Auction Process

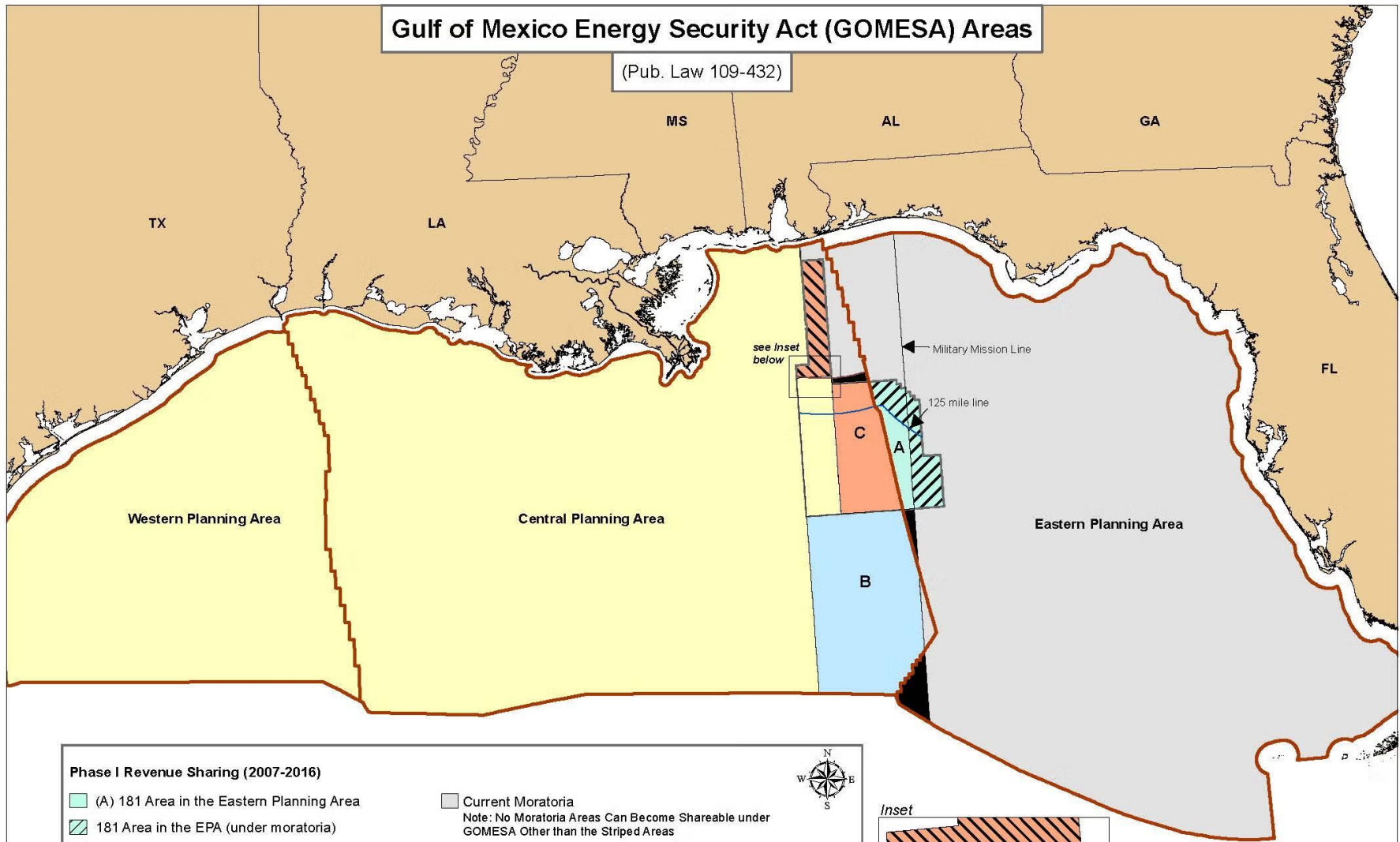


## Economics

- Project economics
- Lease Pricing
- Auction Process
- Distortions

# Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) Areas

(Pub. Law 109-432)



## Phase I Revenue Sharing (2007-2016)

- (A) 181 Area in the Eastern Planning Area
- 181 Area in the EPA (under moratoria)
- (B) 181 South Area

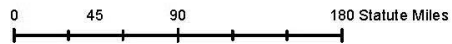
Current Moratoria  
 Note: No Moratoria Areas Can Become Shareable under GOMESA Other than the Striped Areas

Not Shareable under GOMESA  
 Note: These blocks do not fall within the 2002-2007 Planning Area or the 181 Area as defined by GOMESA.

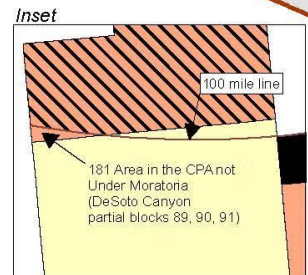
## Phase II Revenue Sharing (2017 and thereafter)

- All Phase I areas
- (C) 181 Area in the Central Planning Area (CPA)
- 181 Area in the CPA (under moratoria)
- 2002-2007 Planning Areas

2007-2012 Planning Area Limits



Scale: 1:5800000  
 Projection: Albers



U.S. Department of the Interior

The maritime boundaries and limits shown hereon as well as the division between planning areas, are for descriptive purposes only and do not prejudice or affect United States jurisdiction in any way.

# Economics

- Project economics
- Lease Pricing
- Auction Process
- Distortions
- Revenue Sharing

# Stakeholders

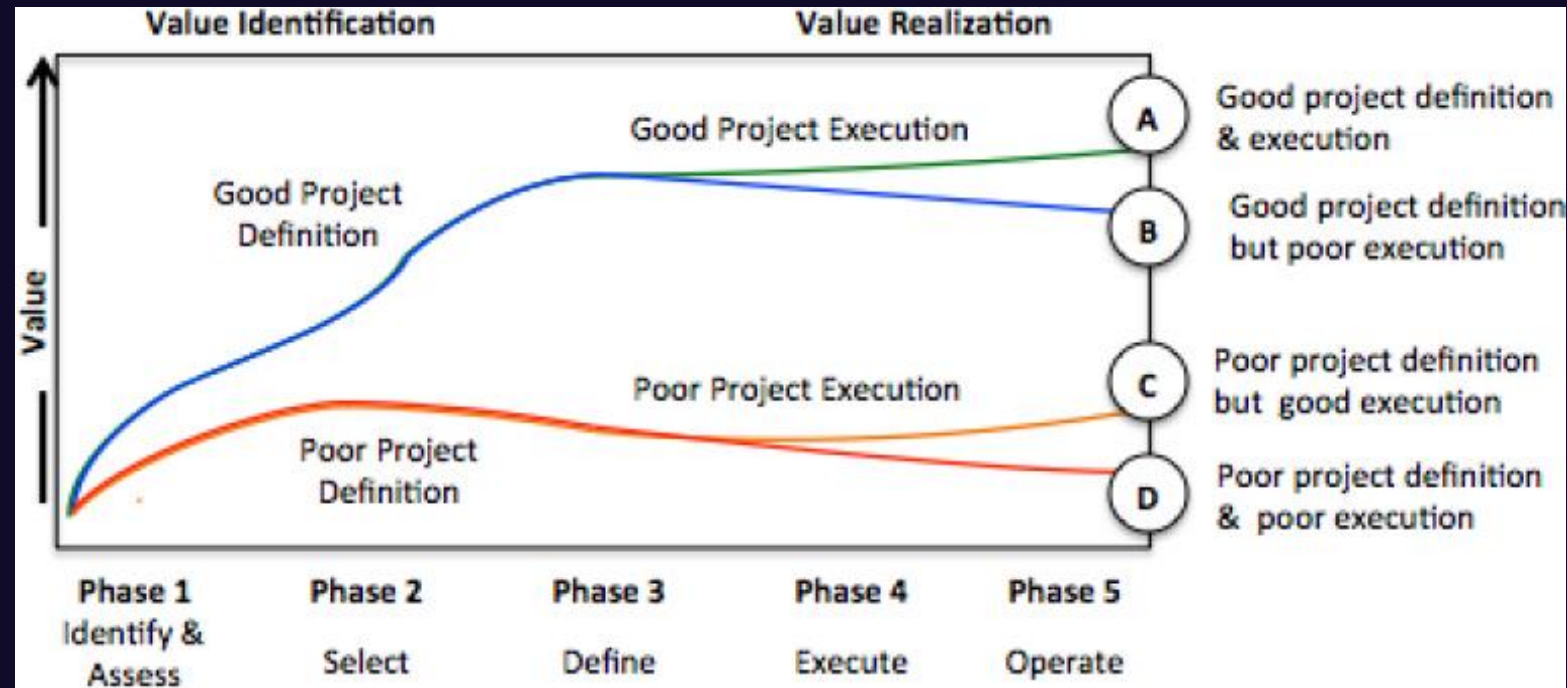


- Formality
- Information transfer
- Consultations
- Co-Development
- Non-technical risk
- Moving forward

# Stakeholders

Tell me - Show me – Involve me

Source: Most societies around the world



Source: Hutchinson and Wabeke (2006)

# Stakeholders

- Written Submissions/Public Comment Periods
- Public Hearings
- Town Hall Meetings
- Open Houses
- Workshops
- Intergovernmental State Task Force Meetings
- Advisory Committee Meetings
- Webinars/Virtual Consultations
- Listening Sessions
- Panel Presentations

# Safety

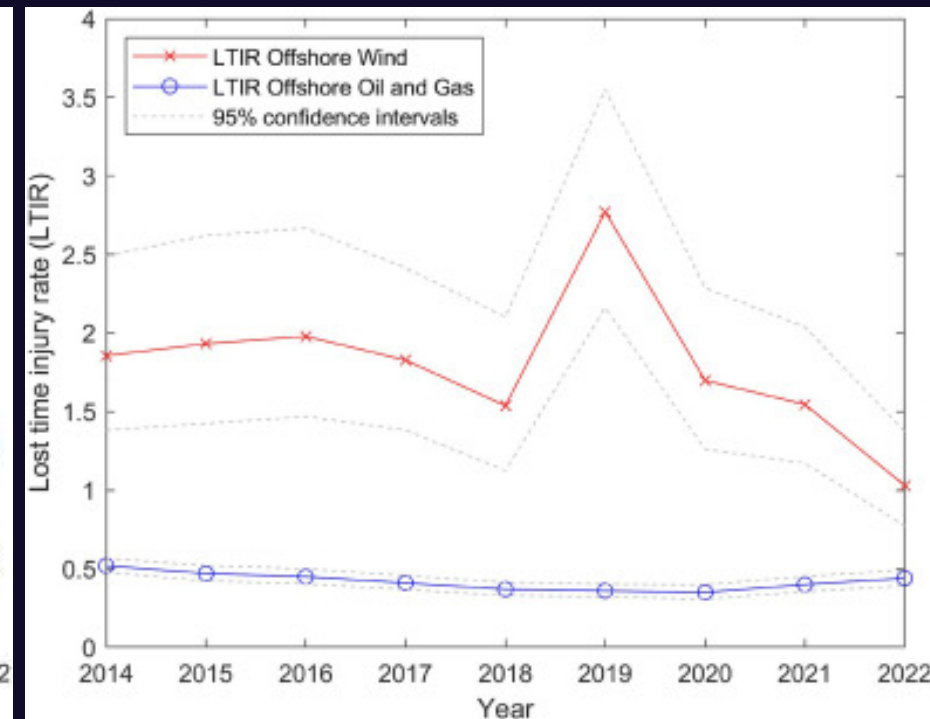
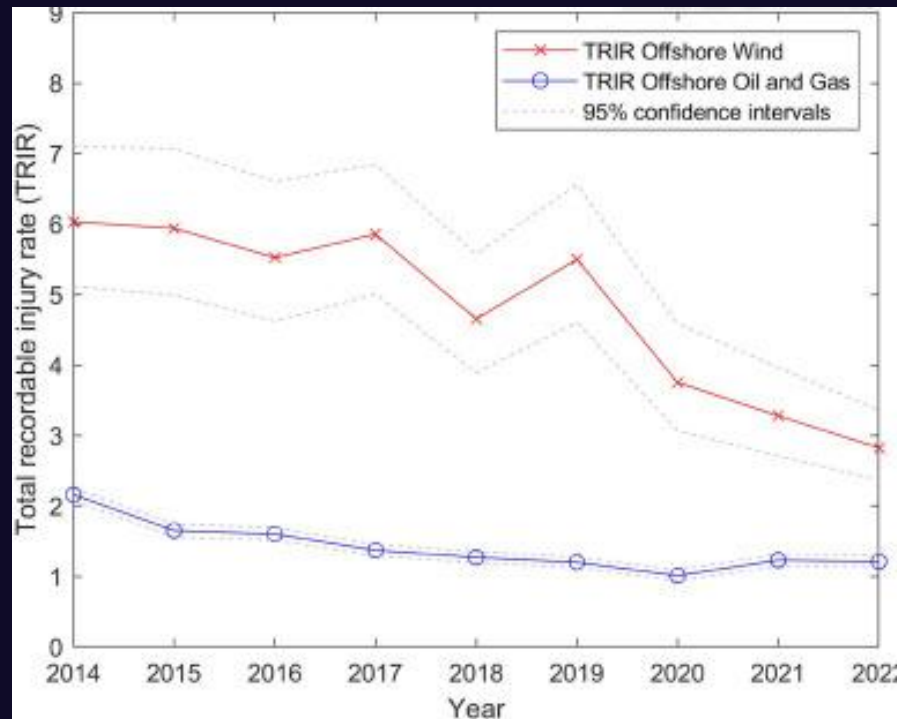
Which industry has better safety performance?

- Hazard Profile
- Safety History
- Maturity

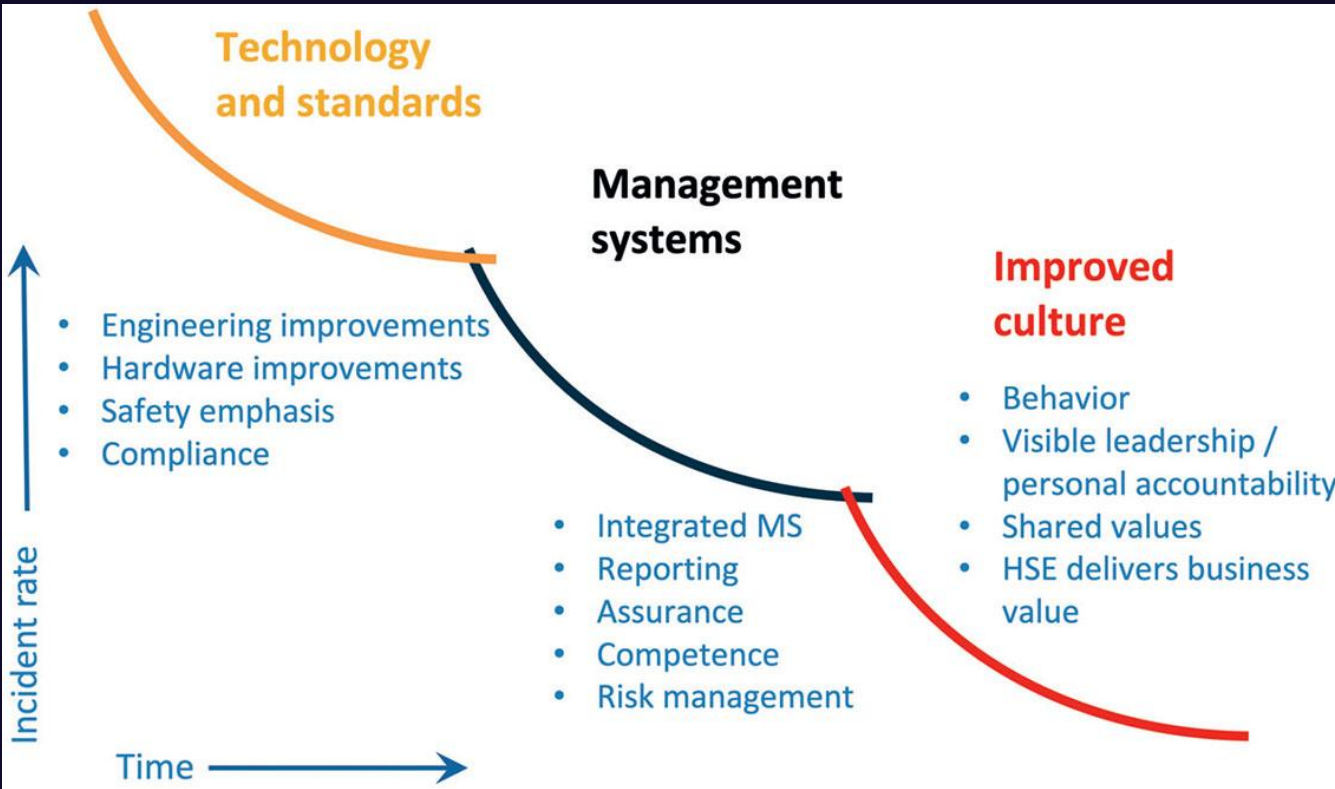
# Safety

Which industry has better safety performance?

- Hazard Profile
- Safety History
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# Safety



Source: IADC

# Safety

Source:  
NOAA  
NDBC

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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**Jim  
Bennett**

**[jim@bennettee.com](mailto:jim@bennettee.com)**



# Thank You!

**Dr. Ian  
Voparil**



**[ian@energyocean.net](mailto:ian@energyocean.net)**





# Coming Soon

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January 2026

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- Adopting New Technologies – Offshore Wind Around the World
- Emerging International Markets for Offshore Wind
- How Offshore Wind Contributes to Domestic Energy Security
- Navigational Safety and Offshore Wind

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