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NY Offshore Wind Alliance Director Weighs in on Port of Albany Wind Turbine Project

Commentary by NYOWA in the Albany Times Union lays out economic and environmental benefits of the nation's first tower manufacturing facility serving the global offshore wind industry

ALBANY, Nov. 19, 2022 — In a commentary published recently in the Albany Times Union, Fred Zalcman, the director of the New York Offshore Wind Alliance, advanced discussion on the potential of a pending clean energy project at the Port of Albany.

Titled "Old Problems Shouldn't Stall Clean Energy Progress," Zalcman explained that the opportunity the wind turbine manufacturing project would bring to the area is "massive," attracting "other marquee offshore wind-related investments, which will revitalize the Capital Region's ports and industrial base."

New York State leads the country in contracted offshore wind projects, now under development that will help the nation to attain the Biden administration goal to deploy over 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030, powering millions of homes with carbon-free electricity. Being out front on this substantial opportunity allows New Yorkers to also maximize the economic benefits that will stay in the state, Zalcman continued.

"As we make this transition," Zalcman said, "it will be imperative to ensure the economic benefits from this new industry are spread across New York, and not just concentrated downstate or out-of-state."

Comparing the state's current energy transition to the building of the Erie Canal, the 363-mile waterway connecting the Hudson River and the Great Lakes built in the early 1800s that allowed the new nation to become an economic powerhouse, Zalcman said, "We now have an opportunity to be front and center on a critical aspect of what will be a historic transformation in our energy system for decades to come."

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<u>The New York Offshore Wind Alliance (NYOWA)</u> is a diverse coalition of organizations with a shared interest in promoting the responsible development of offshore wind power for New York. NYOWA is a project of the Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY).