# State of Play: U.S. Renewable Energy

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Founded in 2001, the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) is a national nonprofit organization that unites finance, policy and technology to accelerate the transition to a renewable energy economy.





### **Renewable Deployment in 2022 Can Reliably Power 8 Million Homes**

U.S. Renewable Energy Capacity, 2004 – 2022 (preliminary)





Source: BloombergNEF Capacity and Generation as of January 2023; Solar in GWdc, wind and other renewables in GWac



## **Energy Storage Deployment Reached Record Levels in 2022**

U.S. annual energy storage deployments across all market segments (MWh), 2016-2022 Q3





Source: ACP/Wood Mackenzie, Quarterly U.S. Energy Storage Monitor





## **Renewable Energy Investment Has Remained Strong**



Source: BloombergNEF, accessed January 2023; Investment types include asset finance and small-scale solar; Sectors include solar, wind (onshore and offshore), biomass, biofuel, geothermal, hydropower, and marine energy.



Hvdro Marine



## **Assessing the Underlying Health of the Sector** Historic Drivers for U.S. Renewable Energy Growth







### **Driver #1: Over a Decade of Improvements** in the Cost-Effectiveness of Solar and Wind Power

90% Reduction in Solar LCOE 2009-2021

### 72% Reduction in Onshore Wind LCOE 2009-2021

Unsubsidized Wind LCOE

\$169

\$148

\$101 \$99

3.0 4.0

\$92 \$95

\$48

6.0

\$50

5.0

\$95

\$45

7.0



Unsubsidized Solar PV LCOE

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## **Driver #1: Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison**

### Levelized Cost of Energy Comparison—Unsubsidized Analysis

Selected renewable energy generation technologies are cost-competitive with conventional generation technologies under certain circumstances





### lysis technologies under certain circumstances

			\$221		
	s	180			
\$156	5				
		\$196			
		\$20	04		
\$152					
	\$175	\$200	\$225	\$250	\$27

Source: Lazard 2021

### **Driver #2: Steady Demand from C&I Energy Consumers**

U.S. Corporate PPA Volumes, by Technology (MW), 2015 – 2022 Nov









### **Driver #2: Steady Demand for U.S. Residential Solar Installations**

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Annual U.S. Distributed Solar Installations (MW), 2010–2022 Q3





Source: Solar Market Insight Q4 2022

# Driver #3: 31 States + D.C. & P.R. Have Renewable or Clean Energy Standards

Has a renewable energy standard and is committed to 100% Has a renewable energy standard Working on a statewide commitment







Source: Environment North Carolina

## Driver #3: 18 States, DC and PR Seeking 100% Clean Energy

Clean Energy Laws	Clean Energ
<b>California</b> – 100% by 2045	Ari
<b>Hawaii</b> – 100% by 2045	Cole
<b>Illinois</b> – 100% by 2050	Conn
<b>Maine</b> – 100% by 2050	Mini
<b>New Mexico</b> – 100% by 2045	Ne
<b>New York</b> – 100% by 2040	Neb
<b>Puerto Rico</b> – 100% by 2050	New
<b>Rhode Island</b> – 100% by 2033	North
<b>Virginia</b> – 100% by 2050	Wise
<b>Washington</b> – 100% by 2045	
Washington, D.C. – 100% by 2032	



Five other states have net zero goals: LA, MD, MA, NE and NC

### y Executive Orders & Goals

- **zona** 100% by 2070
- orado 100% by 2050
- ecticut 100% by 2040
- **nesota** 100% by 2050
- **vada** 100% by 2050
- **braska** 100% by 2050
- **Jersey** 100% by 2050
- **Carolina** 100% by 2050
- **consin** 100% by 2050





### How Historic Drivers Fare in Today's Policy and Market Environment

**Over a decade of improvements in cost effectiveness** 

Supply chain and other issues are pushing up wind and solar costs, but costs remain competitive with competing generation sources, in which costs are also increasing.

Increasing demand from residential consumers, American companies, and investors

Annual residential and commercial solar installations and corporate PPAs are all growing and on track for another big year.

Aggressive state and local renewable standards in populous jurisdictions

State programs are still driving growth and targets are holding firm.

### A supportive tax platform

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provisions include historic new and expanded tax credits for renewable technologies (see next slide).





## **Key IRA Provisions for Renewable Deployment**

### New and expanded tax credits for renewable energy technology

- Full Value extension of the ITC (30%) and PTC (2.6c/kWh) for wind and solar for a decade Becomes tech-neutral after 2025 provided facilities generate zero GHG emissions
- **Establishment of a 30% ITC for stand-alone energy storage**
- > \$10B extension of Advanced Energy Project Credit (§48C) Expands to include facilities manufacturing clean energy technologies
- Creation of Advanced Manufacturing PTC (§45X) for solar, wind and battery components
- > Additive bonus credits for renewable projects

Using domestic content (10%), placed in energy communities (10%), or sited in low-income communities (10-20%)

- Direct pay credits for nonprofits, co-ops, tribes, and state & local governments Direct pay also available to all taxpayers for carbon capture, hydrogen, and advanced manufacturing credits
- > Transferable credits where no direct pay
- Renewable credits and depreciation benefits are exempted from 15% BTM provisions

### **Provisions to accelerate transmission buildout**

\$2B in direct loans for national interest transmission projects; \$760M in permitting & siting grants; \$100 million for modeling and analysis







## Forecasts for the Impact of the IRA

According to four independent analyses, the IRA provisions may result in:

- 65-95 GW of annual new-build utility-scale wind and solar (almost 3x U.S. record deployment)
- **40%** reduction in GHG emissions below 2005 levels by 2030 (67%-78% reduction from electricity sector)
- 1.2-1.7 million additional jobs in 2030
- Up to \$320 in annual savings per average household by 2030
- **But...** Unlocking the full benefits of IRA will require **doubling** the historic pace of transmission development in the U.S.







Sources: Energy Innovation, Princeton ZERO Lab Study, the Rhodium Group, RFF

# With Thanks



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