

Navigating Uncertainty

**Expectations for
Clean Energy Finance
(2026-2029)**



ACORE



ACORE is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit organization that unites finance, policy and technology to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

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Executive Summary

At a time of significant geopolitical volatility, the U.S. power sector remains an essential catalyst of economic growth, with 2026 investment volumes expected to increase year-over-year. As U.S. electricity demand rapidly increases through 2030, investment is flowing to the generation technologies available to power homes and businesses most quickly, reliably, and affordably.

However, capital providers and developers (referred to as “project sponsors” in this report) are confronting an evolving set of factors affecting the financing and development of projects, including new tax credit requirements and deadlines, a shifting tariff environment, lengthy and uncertain permitting processes, and costly interconnection queue delays. Such challenges threaten to hinder the scale and speed of investments available to finance domestic energy needs.

To assess sentiments on the clean energy market specifically and determine how stakeholders are operating in the current environment, ACORE conducted surveys and interviews of capital providers and project sponsors in February 2026. The survey results in this report represent the near- and mid-term outlooks for companies in the clean energy sector.

Our findings show that despite declining attractiveness of the United States as a venue for clean energy investment compared to previous years, surveyed project sponsors and capital providers **plan to develop and finance more American clean**



energy projects in 2026 than they did in 2025. Notably, of the capital providers that invested over \$1 billion in the sector in 2025, 69% plan to increase investments in 2026. For project sponsors, 83% intend to maintain or increase development of U.S. clean energy projects in 2026, and no surveyed project sponsor with annual revenues of \$100 million or more planned to decrease development.

However, policy and investment uncertainty clouds the trajectory post-2026, with capital providers and sponsors facing additional roadblocks to financing and developing clean energy infrastructure.

► **Most Capital Providers Plan to Increase Investments in U.S. Clean Energy in 2026**

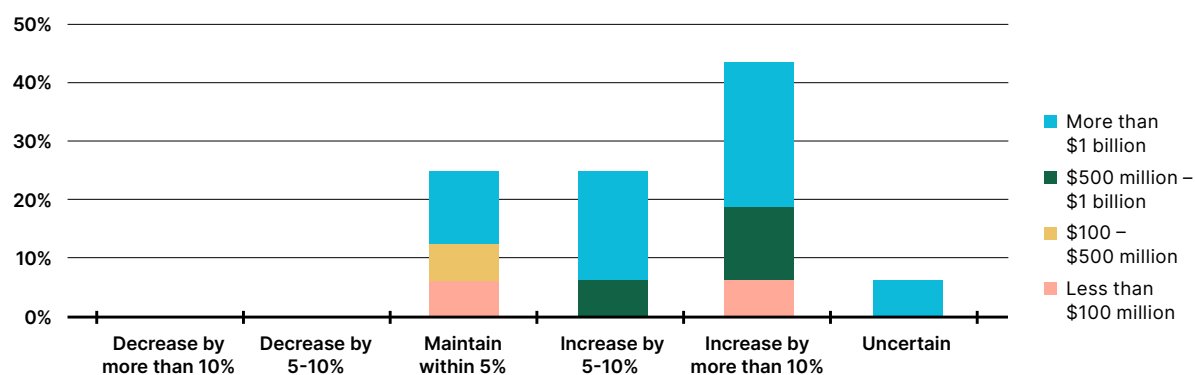


Figure 1. Planned Investment Change in U.S. Clean Energy, Grouped by Annual U.S. Clean Energy Investment, 2026 compared to 2025

► **More Project Sponsors Plan to Increase Development of U.S. Clean Energy in 2026 than Plan to Decrease**

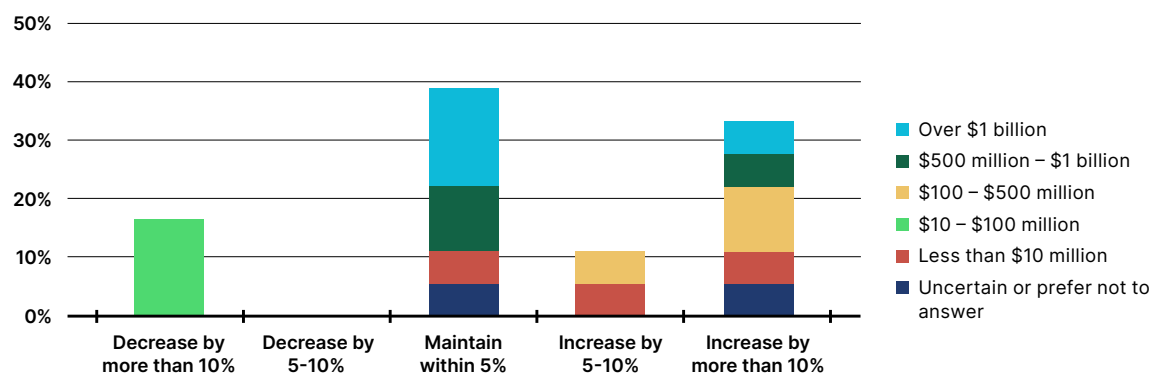


Figure 2. Planned Development Change of U.S. Clean Energy, Grouped by Annual Revenue, 2026 compared to 2025

Project sponsors and capital providers largely identify “federal regulatory and policy risks” and “interconnection uncertainty and costs” as the top risks facing clean energy investments. Among project sponsors, 64% cite policy risks first, and all respondents list interconnection uncertainty as a top three risk. Capital providers also consider transmission constraints to be a major risk, with 62% ranking it as either the first or second biggest risk for their clean energy portfolio in 2026.

Capital providers continue to view utility-scale solar and energy storage as the two most attractive technologies for investment, as they did in ACORE’s previous surveys conducted in December 2024. Capital providers also anticipate long-duration energy storage and geothermal to have the largest pipeline of bankable projects in five years, among a list of clean firm technologies that are drawing increased interest.

► **Federal Policy and Interconnection Queue Uncertainty Top Capital Provider and Project Sponsor Concerns**

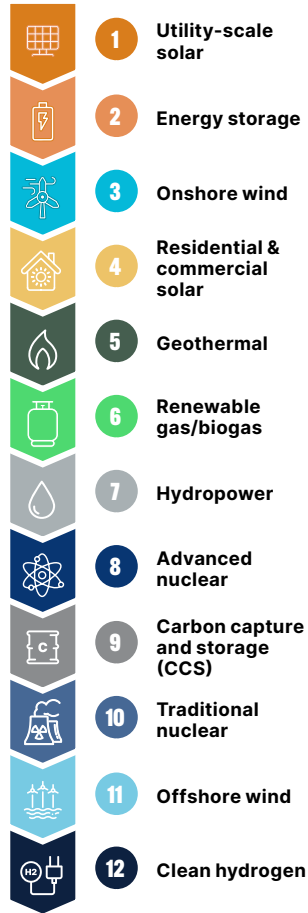
Ranking	Project Sponsors	Capital Providers
1	Interconnection queue uncertainty and costs	Federal regulatory and policy risks
2	Federal regulatory and policy risks	Interconnection queue uncertainty and costs
3	Transmission constraints	Transmission constraints
4	Supply chain constraints & FEOC material assistance cost ratio compliance	Supply chain constraints & FEOC material assistance cost ratio compliance
5	Community and local opposition	Community and local opposition
6	Workforce and labor availability	Workforce and labor availability

Table 1. Ranking of Risks to Developing or Financing U.S. Clean Energy Projects, by Weighted Average



► **Utility-Scale Solar and Energy Storage Are the Most Attractive Investment Opportunities Among Clean Generation Technologies**

Table 2. Capital Provider Attractiveness Ranking of U.S. Clean Energy over Next Three Years, by Weighted Average



► **Capital Providers Anticipate Long-Duration Energy Storage and Geothermal to Have the Greatest Number of Viable Projects in Five Years among Emerging or Clean Firm Technologies**

Ranking	Tech
1	Long-Duration Energy Storage
2	Geothermal
3	Small Modular Nuclear
4	Natural Gas with Carbon Capture and Storage
5	Traditional Nuclear

Table 3. Capital Provider Ranking of Emerging or Clean Firm Technologies Based on which Will Have the Biggest Pipeline of Bankable Projects in Five Years



Clean energy offtake agreements remain critical to project success according to both capital providers and developers, as projects with merchant exposure that sell power directly into the wholesale market have more difficulty attracting low-cost capital.

A majority of both capital providers and project sponsors identify 10-25% as the highest level of merchant exposure under which clean energy projects can remain viable and likely to achieve commercial operation.

► **Majority of Sponsors and Capital Providers View 10-25% Merchant Exposure as Maximum for Projects to Remain Viable**

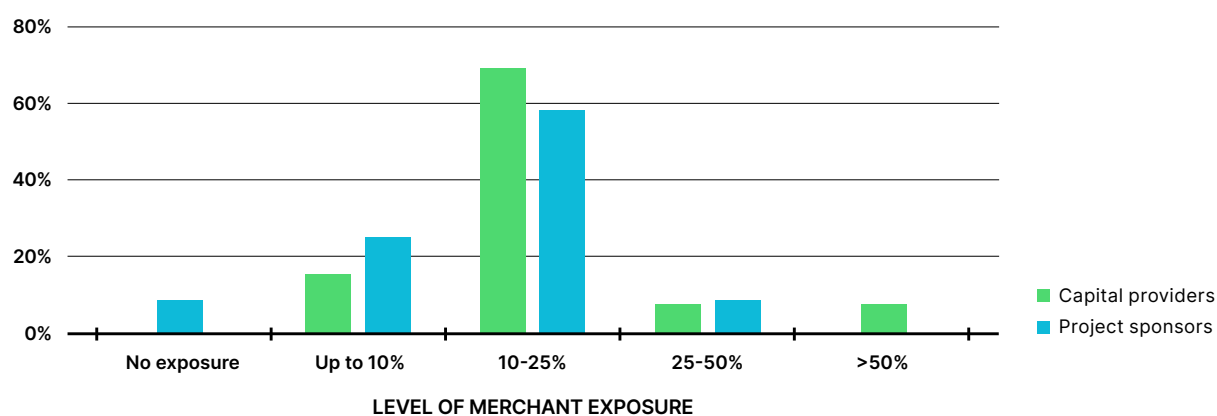


Figure 3. Level of Merchant Exposure under Which Project Sponsors and Capital Providers Expect Projects to Remain Viable

The survey also examined 2026 capital stack expectations for solar, wind, and battery energy storage systems (BESS).¹ While most capital providers anticipate an increase in bridge loan availability compared to last year, project sponsors are mainly focused on the growth of asset-level M&A. Almost all capital providers expect project-level senior debt to either increase or remain at the same level for clean energy projects. A sentiment gap exists regarding tax credit investments (tax equity and transferability): most project sponsors generally expect a decrease or no change in availability this year, while most capital providers expect an increase.

¹ See the Appendix for more information on typical project finance structures

► **Capital Providers Expect Bridge Loans, Hybrid Tax Equity, and Other Financing Sources to Increase in 2026 for Generation Plus Storage Projects**

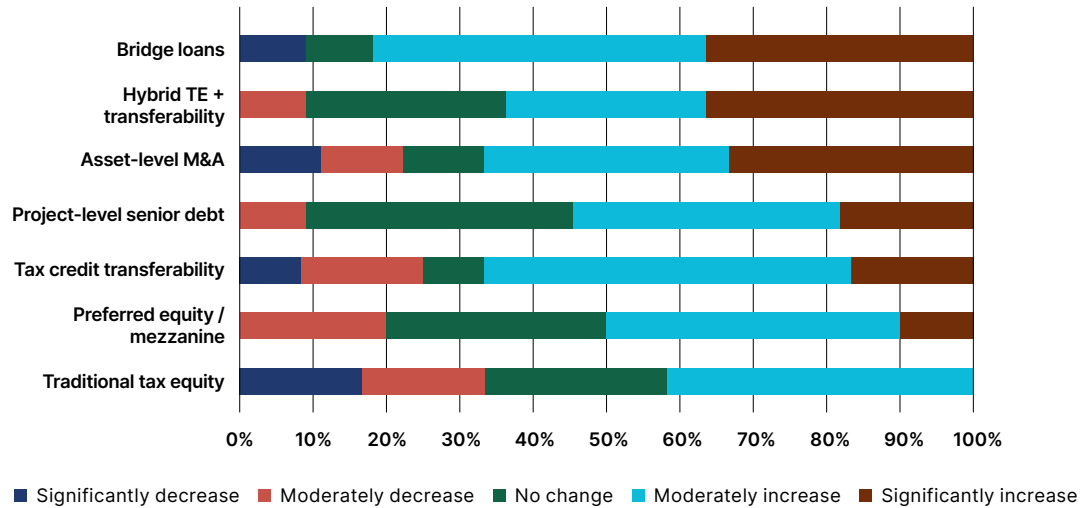


Figure 4. Change in Availability of Project Finance for Clean Energy Generation Plus Storage Projects in 2026 Compared to 2025 Expected by Capital Providers

► **Most Project Sponsors Expect Asset-level M&A to Increase in 2026 for Generation Plus Storage Projects**

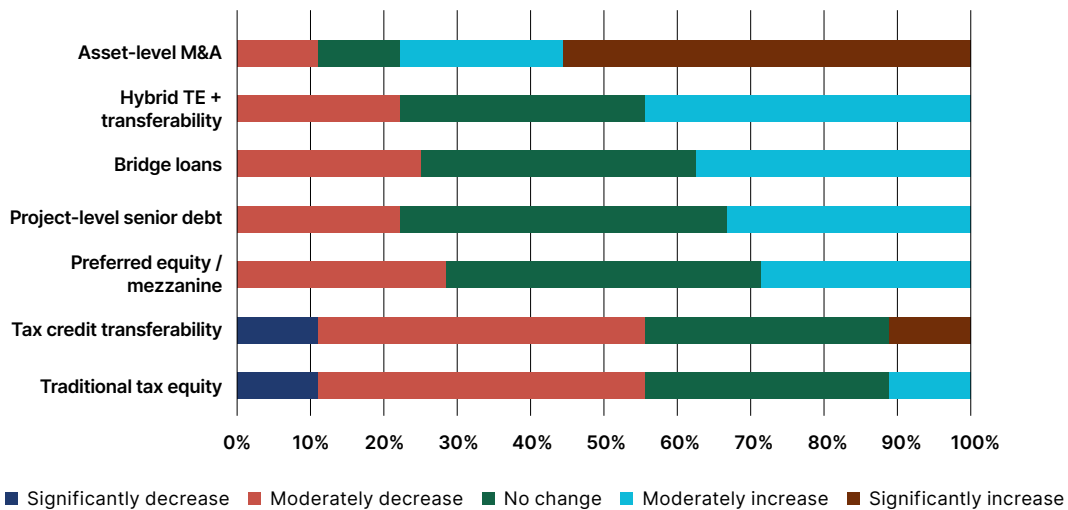


Figure 5. Change in Availability of Project Finance for Clean Energy Generation Plus Storage Projects in 2026 Compared to 2025 Expected by Project Sponsors

ACORE also assessed stakeholder perspectives on which financing sources will make up the largest share of clean energy capital stacks for new utility-scale clean energy projects in 2027 and 2028. **Project sponsors anticipate that project-level debt will be the largest component of the capital stack for new utility-scale clean energy projects in out-years, by weighted average, while capital providers coalesced around transferability.**

► **Stakeholders Expect Project-Level Debt, Transferability, and Pref Equity to be Large Part of Capital Stack for New Utility-Scale Clean Energy Projects by 2027-2028**

Project Sponsors		Capital Providers		
Ranking	Financing Source	Weighted Average	Financing Source	Weighted Average
1	Project-Level Debt	5.09	Transferability	6
2	Preferred Equity / Mezzanine	4.64	Traditional Tax Equity (i.e., for standalone storage and hybrid projects)	5.43
3	Hyperscaler/Data Center-Driven Direct Equity	4.45	Project-Level Debt	5.36
4	Transferability	4	Preferred Equity / Mezzanine	3.5
5	Alternative Capital (Infrastructure, Private credit, Family Offices, Etc.)	3.64	Hyperscaler/Data Center-Driven Direct Equity	2.79
6	Traditional Tax Equity (i.e., for standalone storage and hybrid projects)	3.55	Asset-Level M&A	2.79
7	Asset-Level M&A	2.64	Alternative Capital (Infrastructure, Private credit, Family Offices, Etc.)	2.14

Table 4. Ranking of Financing Sources by 2027-2028, by Expected Share of Clean Energy Capital Stack

Harnessing investment to the clean energy sector over the next three years will enable project sponsors to build the critical energy infrastructure the U.S. needs. The results in this paper show a sector adept at navigating risks but in need of policy certainty and predictability to drive growth at the rate needed to meet rising demand.

Introduction

2026 Market Landscape

As heightened geopolitical volatility reshapes global markets, the U.S. energy sector remains a primary engine of economic growth, sustaining strong investment volumes through 2025 and into 2026. Rapidly increasing demand growth has been central in driving continued investment into the sector, with electricity demand projected to grow 5.7% annually through 2030.²

According to an analysis by ACORE and S&P Global in April 2026, solar, battery storage, wind, and natural gas are projected to see the highest levels of investment this year, with solar expected to see a year-over-year increase to \$53 billion. Battery storage is forecast to see the second-most investment with \$22 billion, with wind at \$20 billion. Investment in natural gas is projected to double from 2025 levels to \$16 billion.³

US Generation Investment by Technology

USD Billion

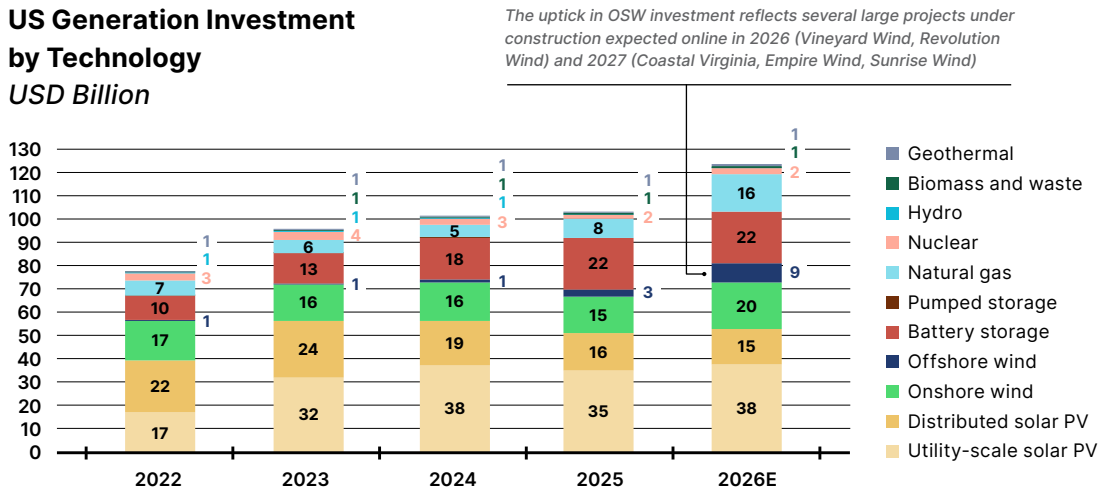


Figure 6. Investment in U.S. Electricity by Technology, 2022-2026, S&P Global and ACORE

² John D. Wilson, Sophie Meyer, Zach Zimmerman, and Rob Gramlich, *Power Demand Forecasts Revised Up for Third Year Running, Led by Data Centers*, Grid Strategies, November 2025, <https://gridstrategiesllc.com/wp-content/uploads/Grid-Strategies-National-Load-Growth-Report-2025.pdf>.

³ 2025 Clean Energy Investment Trends, ACORE and S&P Global, April 2026, <https://acore.org/resources/clean-energy-investment-trends-sp-global-energy-report-produced-for-acore/>



Tax credit investments, i.e., tax equity and transferable tax credit financings, grew approximately 10% in 2025 compared to 2024, to approximately \$45-50 billion. For new solar and wind projects, tax equity now accounts for roughly 45% of the capital stack.⁴

This report examines key trends affecting investment in U.S. energy and presents the results of surveys that ACORE conducted in February 2026 of capital providers and project sponsors, assessing their views on the market this year, and how they expect investment to evolve over the next three years.

Factors Influencing Clean Energy Financing

Demand Growth

The U.S. faces electricity demand growth at levels not seen in decades, driving investments in generation projects that can serve these energy needs. Recent analysis projects electricity usage to grow by 5.7% annually through 2030, and peak demand is anticipated to increase by 166 GW over this period according to utility forecasts — the equivalent of 15 times the peak load of New York City.⁵ Proposed data centers could require 106 GW of power by 2035, up from roughly 25 GW in 2024.⁶ PJM and ERCOT in particular are expected to see the highest deployments of data center facilities through 2027, heightening the need for development and expansion of electricity infrastructure in those regions.⁷

⁴ Ibid.

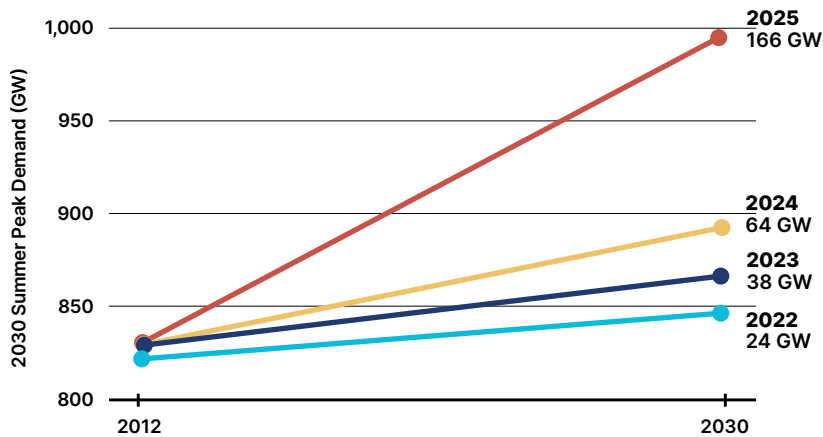
⁵ Grid Strategies, *Power Demand Forecasts Revised Up for Third Year Running, Led by Data Centers*.

⁶ BloombergNEF, *AI and the Power Grid: Where the Rubber Meets the Road*, December 1, 2025, <https://about.bnef.com/insights/clean-energy/ai-and-the-power-grid-where-the-rubber-meets-the-road/>.

⁷ U.S. Energy Information Administration, "Today in Energy: Fossil generation could rise with faster-than-expected growth in data center power demand," March 12, 2026, <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=67344>.

5-year Nationwide Summer Peak Growth

Aggregate of Forecasts Submitted to FERC in 2022-2025



Post FERC 714 Adjustments: SPP: SPP, 2025 Integrated Transmission Planning Assessment Report, Draft v. 0.3 (October 6, 2025).



Figure 7. 5-Year Nationwide Summer Peak Growth, Grid Strategies

Beyond data centers, the growth of manufacturing, mining, and oil and gas projects will contribute to greater electricity consumption. General electrification across society will also drive the need for more power, and the potential for lingering high oil prices in 2026 could drive greater adoption of technologies that rely on electricity as an input.

As grid operators and other stakeholders confront the need to meet new demand, electricity generation projects that can come online rapidly are essential. Solar, batteries, and wind all have average development timelines of under two years, making these technologies relatively quick to build. Combined cycle natural gas on average takes four years to develop, while coal and nuclear face longer timelines.⁸ While natural gas capacity additions are set to grow through the remainder of the decade, gas turbines are backordered, establishing a physical constraint on the possible level of deployments through 2030. Unplanned natural gas plants are not expected to come online until the 2030s.⁹ In response to customer demand, gas turbine manufacturers are increasing output, but the cost of a new gas turbine is expected to reach \$600 per kilowatt by the end of 2027, a 195% increase over 2019 levels.¹⁰

Utility-scale solar and land-based wind have, on average, the lowest levelized cost of electricity (LCOE) of any generation technology, making them highly competitive

⁸ Solar Energy Industries Association, "We Need Solar and Storage to Address the Energy Emergency," February 2025, <https://seia.org/blog/we-need-solar-and-storage-to-address-the-energy-emergency/>.

⁹ Sam Newell, Wonjun Chang, and Paige Vincent, *A Wide Array of Resources is Needed to Meet Growing U.S. Energy Demand*, The Brattle Group, prepared for ConservAmerica, February 2025, <https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/A-Wide-Array-of-Resources-is-Needed-to-Meet-Growing-US-Energy-Demand.pdf>.

¹⁰ Wood Mackenzie, "Gas turbine prices soar 195% as market faces supply-demand crisis," April 1, 2026, <https://www.woodmac.com/press-releases/gas-turbine-prices-soar-195-as-market-faces-supply-demand-crisis/>.

options for investment.¹¹ Batteries are also experiencing a dramatic fall in costs, and the LCOE of 4-hour utility-scale batteries in the U.S. fell 32% year-over-year to reach \$89/MWh by the end of 2025.¹²

Federal Regulatory and Policy Risks

Permitting

Inefficient permitting processes have raised costs and slowed the deployment of new projects in the U.S. for decades, with over \$1 trillion in infrastructure investments across the mining, pipeline, transmission, transportation, energy generation and manufacturing sectors currently awaiting federal permits.¹³ For electricity generation and transmission, the average wait time for new projects to receive permits was between five and six years in 2025.¹⁴ At a project level, uncertainty over when permits will be received and the prospect of litigation after the permit is received can lead to heightened project costs.

Federal actions undertaken in 2025 delaying or stopping the federal approvals of wind and solar projects have introduced new levels of uncertainty for both new and operating projects.¹⁵ Introducing political risk into the approvals of large infrastructure projects could also make financing more difficult for conventional technologies, with investors examining the prospect that future administrations may face pressure to take adverse actions against fossil fuel infrastructure.

Tax

2026 presents a transition year in the tax credit market, with new solar and wind projects only eligible to earn the technology-neutral investment tax credit (ITC) or production tax credit (PTC) if they either begin physical work of a significant nature by July 4, 2026, or achieve commercial operations by the end of 2027. Other technologies, such as energy storage, will continue to be eligible for the technology-neutral tax credits through 2035, and other clean energy tax credits, such as the 45X Advanced Manufacturing PTC, the 45U Zero-Emission Nuclear Power PTC, and the 45Q Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration, remain in place.¹⁶

11 Lazard, *Levelized Cost of Energy+ V18.0*, June 2025, <https://www.lazard.com/research-insights/levelized-cost-of-energyplus/>.

12 BloombergNEF, "Levelized Cost of Electricity Update 2026," February 18, 2026, <https://www.bnef.com/insights/38631>.

13 Bob Sternfels, et al., "Unlocking US federal permitting: A sustainable growth imperative," *McKinsey & Company*, July 28, 2025, https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/unlocking-us-federal-permitting-a-sustainable-growth-imperative#.

14 Ibid.

15 See: ACORE, "ACORE Statement on Interior's Clean Energy Review Process," July 17, 2025, <https://acore.org/news/acore-statement-on-interiors-clean-energy-review-process/> and ACORE, "ACORE Statement on the Department of Interior's Action to Halt Fully Permitted Offshore Wind Construction Projects," December 23, 2025, <https://acore.org/news/acore-statement-on-the-department-of-interiors-action-to-halt-fully-permitted-offshore-wind-construction-projects/>.

16 ACORE, *ACORE Summary and Analysis: IRS Notice 2026-15*, February 2026, https://acore.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Feb.-2026_ACORE_FEOC-Guidance_Summary-and-Analysis.pdf.

Project participants also confront new foreign entity of concern (FEOC) requirements for tax credit-eligible energy projects beginning construction in 2026, with the prospect of inadvertent noncompliance putting tens of millions of dollars at risk for major projects. The Department of the Treasury and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released interim guidance for determining compliance with restrictions on material assistance from prohibited foreign entities in February 2026.¹⁷ This round of guidance did not address certain issues for investor compliance with the FEOC rules, and Treasury and the IRS are expected to release additional guidance later this year. Uncertainty related to FEOC tax credit guidance will continue to affect capital flow as investors bear additional risks.

Trade

Energy projects involve multi-year development timelines, and uncertainty over prices of key inputs can have material effects on financing and total project costs. In the past year, a host of authorities have been used to implement both country-wide and sector-specific tariffs, with final determinations for many still outstanding. Following the Supreme Court decision to overturn the tariffs issued under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1977, the administration announced the implementation of Section 122 tariffs, a time-limited authority that enables the U.S. to impose tariffs of up to 15%. Recent changes to existing Section 232 tariffs on aluminum, steel, and copper as well as ongoing investigations by the Commerce Department and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative into critical inputs for clean energy projects, spanning solar, wind, batteries, grid components, and others will also have impacts in 2026. The uncertainty over the final determinations of these tariff investigations and whether a project will be able to source necessary components, and, if so, at what price point, can introduce significant risk into a project.

Interconnection Queue Uncertainty and Costs

Interconnection queues across the country have grown considerably over the past few years, raising costs and slowing deployments of projects across all technology classes. As of the end of 2025, the 2.13 terawatts of generation and storage capacity in the interconnection queues represented 1.6x the total operating capacity on the grid.¹⁸

¹⁷ Internal Revenue Service, "Treasury, IRS provide guidance for certain energy tax credits regarding material assistance provided by prohibited foreign entities under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill," February 12, 2026, <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/treasury-irs-provide-guidance-for-certain-energy-tax-credits-regarding-material-assistance-provided-by-prohibited-foreign-entities-under-the-one-big-beautiful-bill>.

¹⁸ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, *2025 State of the Markets Report* (March 2026), Figures 16 and 35 available at: <https://ferc.gov/news-events/news/report-3-state-markets-report-2025>

Without securing an interconnection agreement, the project cannot move forward. The uncertainty over both when a project will obtain an agreement, and the network upgrade costs the project will be assessed to interconnect, carry increased costs and risks. For instance, projects in PJM that became operational in 2025 spent an average of eight years between their initial interconnection application and their commercial operation date, primarily due to the lengthy interconnection process.¹⁹ Because of the continued uncertainty over the final costs to interconnect, projects often must join the queues as a means of cost discovery, which adds to lengthy queues and further slows the process.²⁰

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission required a first set of queue reforms in Order No. 2023, issued almost three years ago, but lengthy wait times and high and uncertain costs have persisted. Moreover, recent queue prioritization measures implemented by PJM, MISO, and SPP have created additional uncertainty for the remaining projects in the queues.²¹ While further non-discriminatory interconnection queue reforms are a critical step to address long wait times and increasing costs, project sponsors must navigate a shifting environment in the interim. Furthermore, there are risks that some interconnection initiatives, including expedited review pathways, may be implemented in ways that disadvantage certain resources.²²

Transmission Constraints

Generation projects of all technology types face risks from heightened transmission constraints. While U.S. electricity use is forecast to grow by 32% by 2030,²³ the buildout of transmission lines has slowed, especially interregional higher voltage lines that produce the greatest benefits.²⁴ After building around 5,000 miles of transmission in 2013, the U.S. has added fewer miles in each year since.²⁵ In 2025, only two miles of transmission above 500 kilovolts from a single project were constructed, and 400 miles of 345 kV and above,²⁶ compared to an average of 942 new miles of these higher voltage lines from 2015–2019, and even further down from an average of 1,781

19 Abigail Weeks, Sarah Toth Kotwis, Katie Siegner, and Chaz Teplin, "PJM's Speed to Power Problem and How to Fix It," RMI, November 4, 2025, <https://rmi.org/pjms-speed-to-power-problem-and-how-to-fix-it/>.

20 See for example, Commissioners Rosner's and Commissioner Chang's Joint Concurrence, Order Denying Complaint, RWE Clean Energy, LLC v. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., Docket No. EL26-7-000 (March 19, 2026), available at: <https://ferc.gov/news-events/news/e-6-commissioner-rosners-and-commissioner-changs-joint-concurrence-order-denying>.

21 Houtan Moaveni, Lauren Campbell, Richard Seide, and Rob Gramlich, *Interconnection Queue Rationing Reforms*, Grid Strategies LLC, prepared for ACORE, November 2025, available at: <https://acore.org/resources/interconnection-queue-rationing-reforms/>.

22 Elise Caplan, ACORE Protest of PJM's Proposed Expedited Interconnection Track, ACORE, March 20, 2026, <https://acore.org/resources/acore-protest-of-pjms-proposed-expedited-interconnection-track/>.

23 Grid Strategies, *Power Demand Forecasts Revised Up for Third Year Running*, Led by Data Centers.

24 Trieu Mai, et al., "What can we learn from US national transmission studies?" *Joule* 10, no. 2 (2026): 3, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joule.2026.102339>.

25 Data from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Energy Infrastructure Reports, available at <https://www.ferc.gov/staff-reports-and-papers>.

26 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, *Energy Infrastructure Update for December 2025*, April 9, 2026, <https://cms.ferc.gov/media/energy-infrastructure-update-december-2025-0>.

new miles from 2010-2014.²⁷ In comparison, China has pursued a massive buildout of its transmission system (see Figure 8).²⁸ Limited transmission and congestion on existing lines prevent the optimal transfer of electricity, preventing cheaper sources from reaching areas facing high demand and costs and increasing the risk of power outages, passing along additional burdens to the ratepayer. For project developers, insufficient transmission infrastructure and slow adoption of advanced transmission technologies (ATTs) can impact their ability to site projects in efficient locations or lead to increased curtailments after projects become operational.

► **Chinese Transmission Buildout Outpaces U.S.**

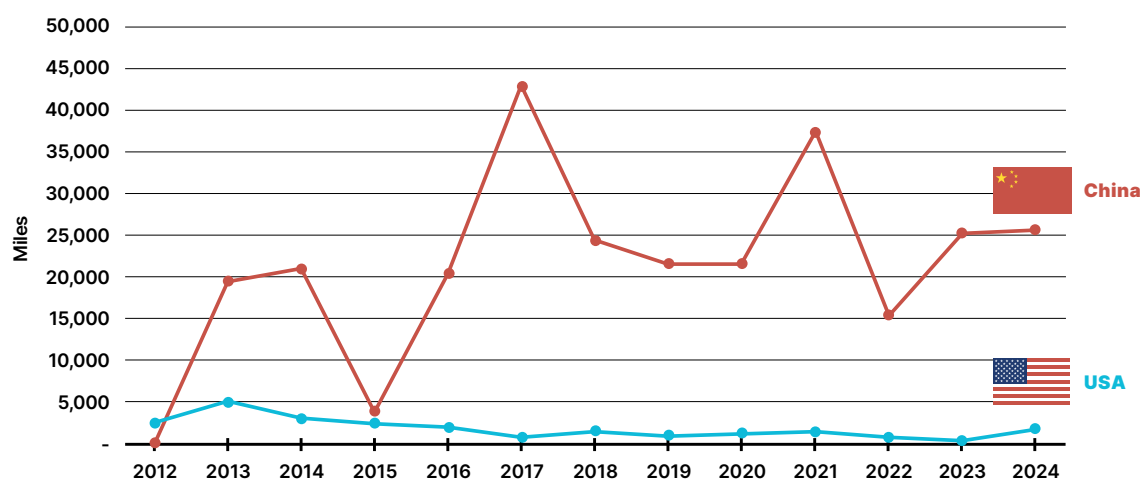


Figure 8. Annual Transmission Buildout, U.S. vs China, Data from FERC and CEIC

Market Response

With the looming July 4 cliff for wind and solar projects to begin construction to qualify for the technology-neutral credits, many project sponsors have accelerated construction to begin “physical work of a significant nature” to qualify for the safe harbor associated with the credits and enter operations within four years. Many tax equity investors continue to focus on financing projects that will qualify for the technology-neutral tax credits, including energy storage, but in the coming years, capital stacks for solar and wind projects will shift to account for the loss of capital from tax credit investments.

27 Nathan Shreve, Zach Zimmerman, Gretchen Kershaw, Rob Gramlich, Fewer New Miles, Grid Strategies LLC, July 2025, https://gridstrategiesllc.com/wp-content/uploads/ACEG_Grid-Strategies_Fewer-New-Miles-2025_Rev-1.pdf.

28 Data for Chinese transmission buildout from CEIC, “China Length of Electricity Transmission Circuit: 220kV and above,” <https://www.ceicdata.com/en/china/length-of-electricity-transmission-circuit/cn-length-of-electricity-transmission-circuit-220kv-and-above>.

Project participants also face new due diligence requirements from the introduction of FEOC rules, as capital providers must ensure that the project can comply with the tax guidance.

In 2026, capital providers are still expected to finance new generation and storage at a significant scale. As the U.S. faces intensifying demand electricity growth through the rest of the decade and beyond, catalyzing capital from participants across the financial sector will be essential to building the energy infrastructure that the country needs to ensure national and energy security and bolster the economy. One of the greatest impediments to continued capital disbursements at the rate and scale they are needed is any uncertainty that lowers investor confidence that they will earn their required return.



Survey Results

Introduction

In February 2026, ACORE surveyed the opinions of senior professionals representing companies that actively develop or provide capital to clean energy projects. The surveys assess respondents' experiences in the market over the past year and their expectations for project finance and development over the next three years.

The responses outlined in this section reflect the perspectives of professionals representing 36 companies. ACORE also conducted interviews with survey respondents, with quotes included on an anonymized basis. A complete profile of survey respondents appears in the Appendix.

- 81% of capital providers surveyed invest \$500 million or more annually in the U.S. clean energy sector;
- 95% of project sponsors developed at least 100 MW of clean energy capacity over the past three years; and
- The majority of respondents occupy a senior role at their companies as a CEO, President, Managing Director, Partner, or similar title.

The survey results illustrate a robust set of findings, including:

60%

of **project sponsors** with over \$100 million in annual revenues **plan to increase development of U.S. clean energy in 2026**

69%

of **capital providers** that invest over \$1 billion annually in the U.S. clean energy sector **plan to increase investments in 2026**

- **“Federal regulatory and policy uncertainty” and “interconnection queue costs and uncertainty”** top the ranking of **most significant risks** facing companies, over supply chain constraints, transmission constraints, community opposition, and workforce availability
- **All surveyed capital providers are seeing more investment activity in ITC projects versus PTC projects this year**
- **Project sponsors identify ERCOT as the most attractive power market for development**, whereas **capital providers rank MISO at the top for investment**
- **Offtake agreements remain vital to enabling financing, and most capital providers and project sponsors view projects with over 25% merchant exposure as largely unviable**

Market Outlook

The majority of surveyed capital providers and project sponsors plan to increase their development and financing of U.S. clean energy in 2026 compared to 2025. None of the capital providers indicate plans to decrease investment, with 44% planning to increase investment by 10% or more (see Figure 9). Among capital providers that invested over \$1 billion in the sector in 2025, 69% plan to increase investments in 2026. For project sponsors, 83% intend to maintain or increase development of U.S. clean energy in 2026 (see Figure 10). No project sponsor with annual revenues of at least \$100 million plans to decrease development.

“Over the past year, we had a dynamic where developers that were capitalized well enough to do so brought as many projects forward as they could to either put a stake in the ground to qualify for Section 48 tax credits, or to secure a four-year construction window, or to get ahead of the FEOC material assistance requirements, meaning there are more good projects to invest in now than there likely would have been absent the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA).”

– Banking Institution

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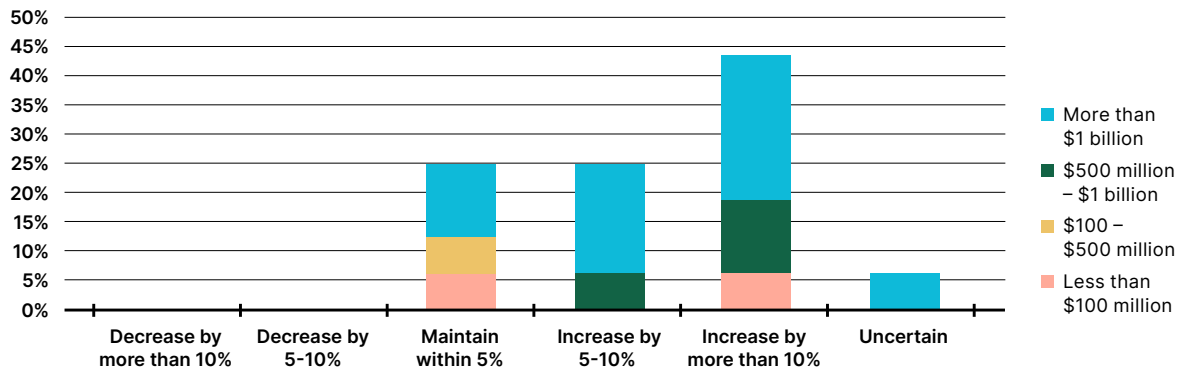


Figure 9. Planned Investment Change in U.S. Clean Energy, Grouped by Annual U.S. Clean Energy Investment, 2026 compared to 2025

► **More Project Sponsors Plan To Increase Development of U.S. Clean Energy in 2026 than Plan to Decrease**

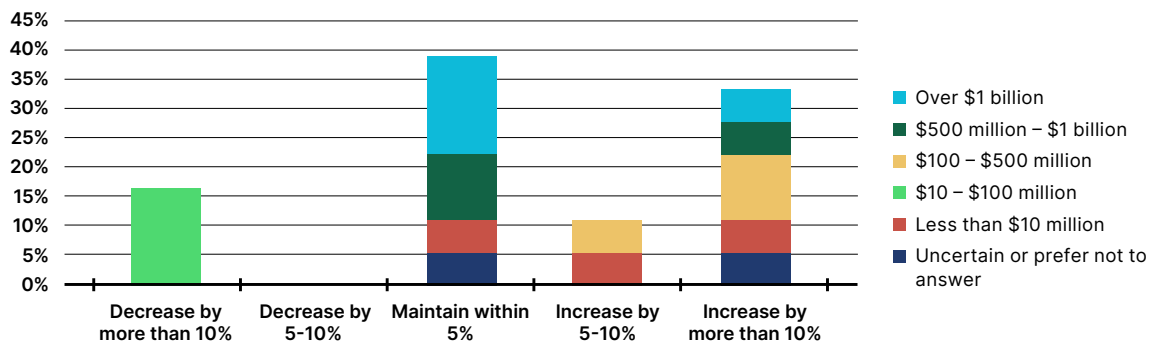
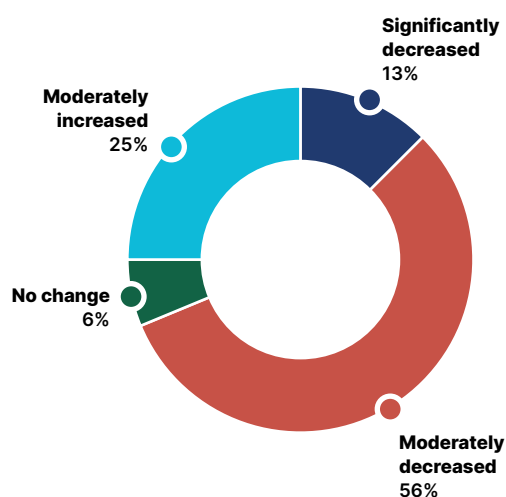


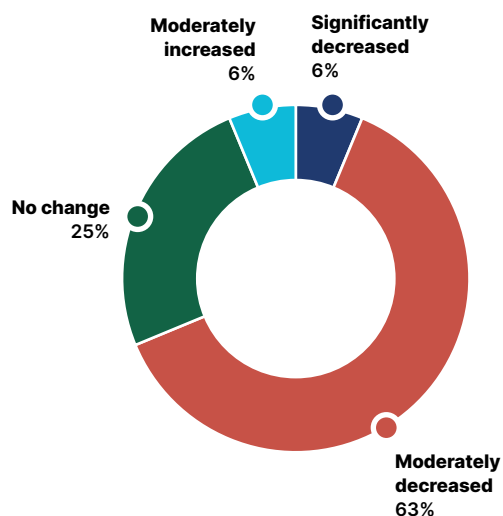
Figure 10. Planned Development Change of U.S. Clean Energy, Grouped by Annual Revenue, 2026 compared to 2025

While most capital providers are planning to increase their investments in the U.S. clean energy sector, 69% view the sector as losing attractiveness compared to clean energy sectors in other leading countries over the past year (see Figure 11). Most capital providers anticipate this trend to continue over the next three years, with 63% expecting the attractiveness of the domestic clean energy sector to moderately decrease compared to international competitors (see Figure 12). When comparing clean energy to other asset classes that their companies invest in, 56% expect clean energy to become less attractive over the next three years, while 31% expect no change (see Figure 13).



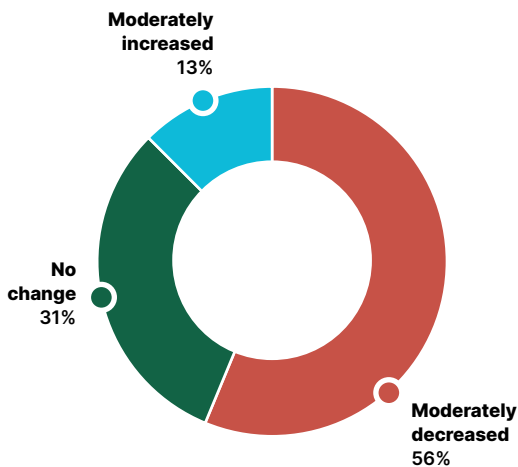
► **Majority of Capital Providers Assess That the U.S. Has Lost Attractiveness for Clean Energy Investment Over Last Year**

Figure 11. Capital Provider Perspectives on Change in Attractiveness of U.S. Clean Energy Over the Past Year, Compared to Other Leading Countries



► **Majority of Capital Providers Believe That the U.S. Will Continue to Lose Attractiveness as a Venue for Clean Energy Investment Over the Next Three Years**

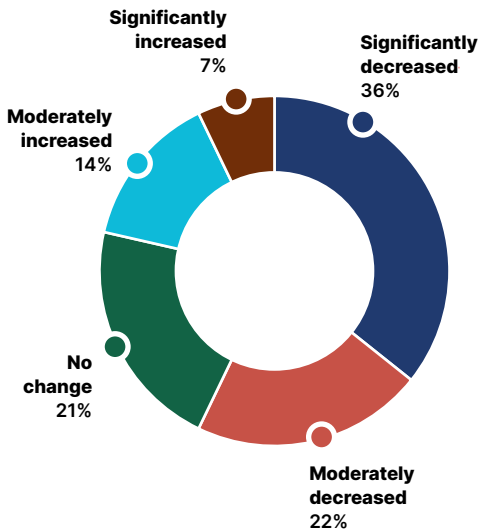
Figure 12. Capital Provider Perspectives on Expected Change in Attractiveness of U.S. Clean Energy Over the Next Three Years, Compared to Other Leading Countries



► **Slight Majority of Capital Providers Anticipate That U.S. Clean Energy Will Become Moderately Less Attractive Compared to Other Asset Classes in Next Three Years**

Figure 13. Capital Provider Perspectives on Expected Change in Attractiveness of U.S. Clean Energy Over the Next Three Years, Compared to Other Asset Classes

Project sponsor perspectives on the attractiveness of the U.S. market differ more than capital provider perspectives. Fifty-seven percent of project sponsors who operate globally indicate that the U.S. decreased in attractiveness over the past year, compared to other countries where they operate, while 21% assess that it became more attractive (see Figure 15).



► **Majority of Project Sponsors Share View That the U.S. Market for Clean Energy Development Became Less Attractive in Last Year**

Figure 14. Project Sponsor Perspectives on Change in Attractiveness of U.S. Market for Clean Energy Development Over the Past Year, Compared to Other Countries in Which they Operate

“Regulatory and policy uncertainty at multiple levels has led to nervousness among European limited partners, private equity investors, and infrastructure investors to invest in U.S. infrastructure. While the U.S. is a brilliant place to invest with sound market fundamentals, the uncertainty is too great.”

– *Multinational Project Sponsor*

Risk Environment

Project sponsors and capital providers navigate a complicated risk environment when developing and financing energy infrastructure projects. Facing market dynamics such as constrained transmission lines and lengthy interconnection queues, as well as local opposition and workforce constraints, project participants must decide how to mitigate risks at multiple stages of multi-year project development cycles. Added to these market risks, sponsors and capital providers confront uncertainty in the federal policy environment, clouding future revenues and making financing more difficult.

Among project sponsors, 68% view their risk profile as increasing in 2026 (see Figure 15). However, only project sponsors with under \$100 million in annual revenue view their risk profiles as significantly increasing. For project sponsors with over \$100 million in revenue, 60% expect a moderate increase to their risk profiles.

► Most Sponsors Anticipate a Higher Risk Profile in 2026

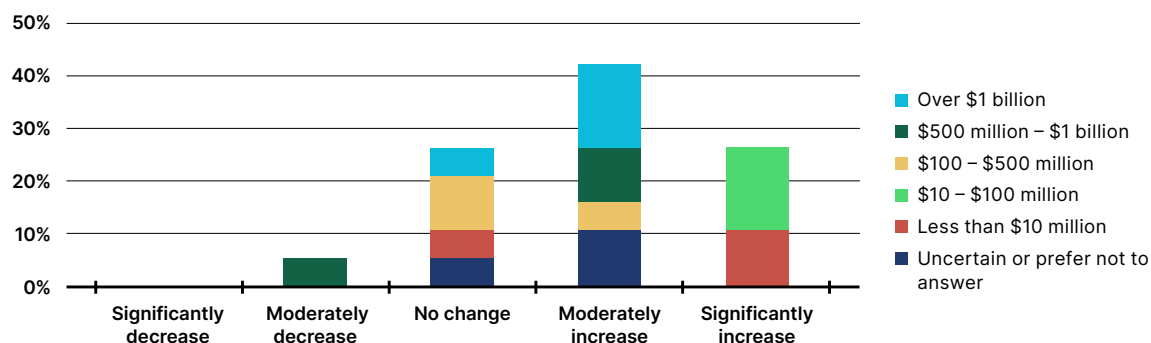


Figure 15. Anticipated Change in Risk Profile for U.S. Clean Energy Project Sponsors, Grouped by Annual Revenue, 2026 Compared to 2025

Capital providers and project sponsors were asked to rank six categories of risks facing clean energy projects. Both groups identify “federal regulatory and policy risks” and “interconnection uncertainty and costs” as the top two risks they face in 2026. Among surveyed project sponsors, 64% cite federal regulatory and policy risks as the top risk they face in 2026, but all respondents list interconnection uncertainty as a top three risk, giving it a slightly higher weighted average, as seen in Table 5. Capital providers also consider transmission constraints to be a major risk, with 62% listing it as a top two risk to their clean energy portfolio in 2026.

► **Federal Policy and Interconnection Queue Uncertainty Top Capital Provider and Project Sponsor Concerns**

	Project Sponsors		Capital Providers	
Ranking	Risk	Weighted Average	Risk	Weighted Average
1	Interconnection queue uncertainty and costs	5.07	Federal regulatory and policy risks	4.77
2	Federal regulatory and policy risks	5	Interconnection queue uncertainty and costs	4.54
3	Transmission constraints	3.5	Transmission constraints	4.46
4	Supply chain constraints & FEOC material assistance cost ratio compliance	3.43	Supply chain constraints & FEOC material assistance cost ratio compliance	3.85
5	Community and local opposition	2.36	Community and local opposition	1.77
6	Workforce and labor availability	1.64	Workforce and labor availability	1.62

Table 5. Ranking of Risks to Developing or Financing U.S. Clean Energy Projects, by Weighted Average

“Uncertainty, particularly for smaller-sized developers, increases the cost of capital and makes companies more tentative, so processes that need to move quickly tend to move slower. As projects proceed through the multi-year process of utility-scale development, uncertainty creates process friction at inopportune times. When you need to move your project through certain stages of the development lifecycle, the money flows slower and is more expensive, the decisions come slower, and it erodes your margins.”

– *Project Sponsor*

“Uncertainty impacts not just specific asset classes or technologies that are in or out of favor at any given time, but it impacts energy and infrastructure investment, economy wide.”

– *Banking Institution*

Project Finance Outlook

ACORE surveyed capital providers and developers regarding their perspectives about the market's availability of capital stacks for (1) standalone solar or wind, (2) standalone storage, and (3) clean energy generation-plus-storage projects in 2026 compared to 2025, along with their expectations for projects that start construction in 2027 or 2028 (see charts on page 25).

While most capital providers anticipate an increase in bridge loan availability compared to last year, project sponsors are mainly focused on the growth of asset-level M&A. A sentiment gap exists regarding tax credit investments: most project sponsors generally expect a decrease or no change in availability this year, while most capital providers expect an increase. Besides M&A, project sponsors generally anticipate lower growth than capital providers in the market availability of financing sources across all three project types in 2026.

Tax Credit Investment: More than half of capital providers anticipate hybrid structures (combining tax equity with transferability) to see a moderate or significant increase this year across all technologies. However, most respondents expect the availability of traditional tax equity (without transferability) to either decrease or not to change. Capital providers see a particular increase in transferability for BESS, where 67% expect growth in this financing type.

Fewer than half of project sponsors expect an increase in tax credit investment for 2026. For generation-plus-storage projects, one third of sponsors see a decrease in available financing, while an equal share expects availability to remain unchanged.

Equity and M&A: Across all three project categories, over three-quarters of project sponsors anticipate asset-level M&A to increase in 2026, and for standalone storage and generation-plus-storage projects, 56% of sponsors anticipate a significant increase in asset-level M&A. Capital providers share a similar view, with 66% anticipating that asset-level M&A will increase for standalone storage and generation-plus-storage projects. About half of capital providers also see growth in preferred equity ("pref equity"), which sits between senior debt and common equity in a project's capital stack.

Debt: Across all three categories, the highest percentage of capital providers anticipate that bridge loans — short-term financing that allows for continued project development until larger sources of capital like tax equity come in — would increase in 2026. Almost all capital providers expect project-level senior debt to either increase or remain at the same level across the project categories, with no respondents anticipating a significant decrease. For standalone BESS projects, 64% of capital

providers foresee an increase in debt availability, while 55% expect an increase for generation-plus-storage projects. Among project sponsors, responses indicate an expectation of little or moderate change in debt availability. For generation-plus-storage projects, 44% of sponsors anticipate no change in debt availability, while 33% project a moderate increase.

“If a project is seeking to sell tax credits, it’s relying on tax credit insurance, unless it is a hybrid tax equity deal where the bank is wrapping the credit for the transferee or the sponsor is investment-grade. The tax credit insurance market is now tightening. Prices have gone up and are now in the 3-4% of insured value range, meaning that if you want to insure a \$100 million tax credit transfer, you need to pay \$3-4 million. Many large projects are having a hard time finding enough insurers to build up the stack. The supply of capital and the number of the corporates willing to buy tax credits is still growing, but the new constraint that is going to start to impact the market this year will be the more limited availability of tax credit insurance.”

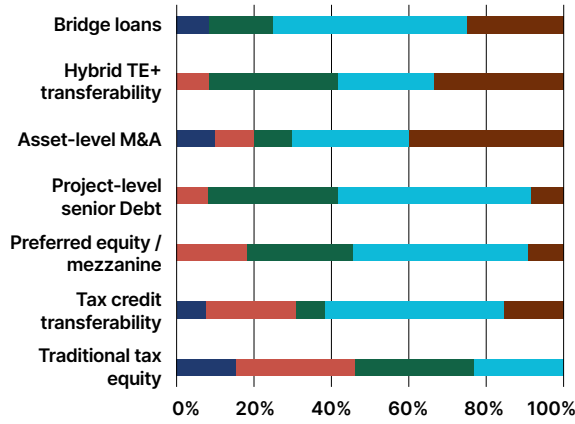
– Banking Institution



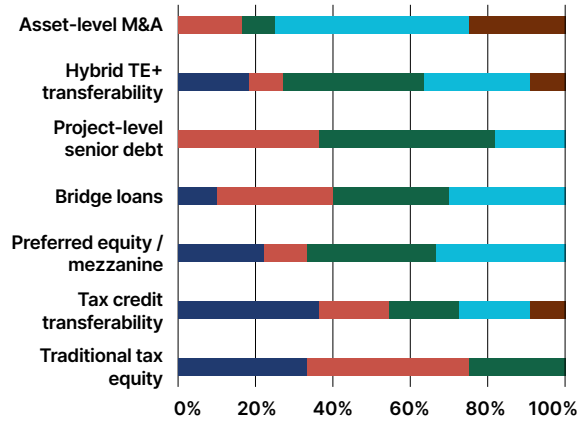
CAPITAL PROVIDERS

PROJECT SPONSORS

Standalone Solar or Wind

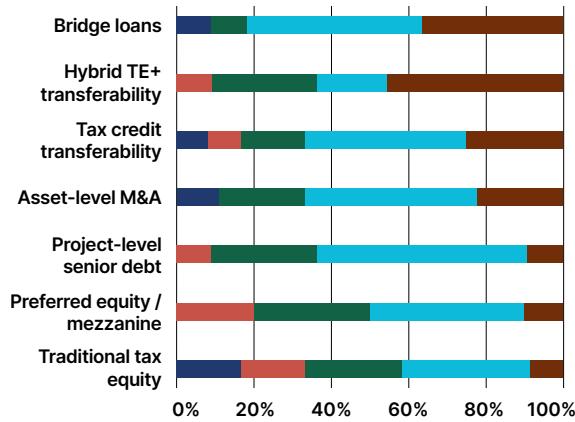


Standalone Solar or Wind

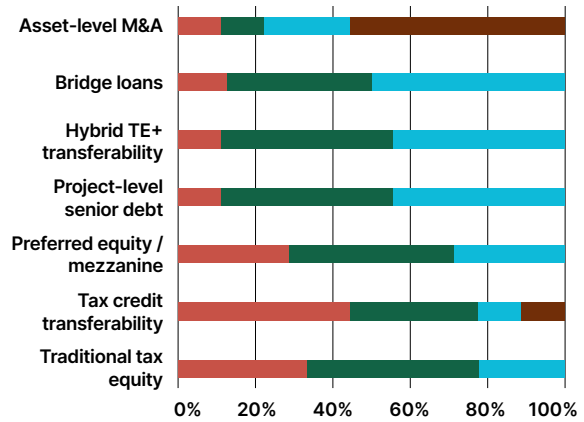


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Standalone Storage (BESS)

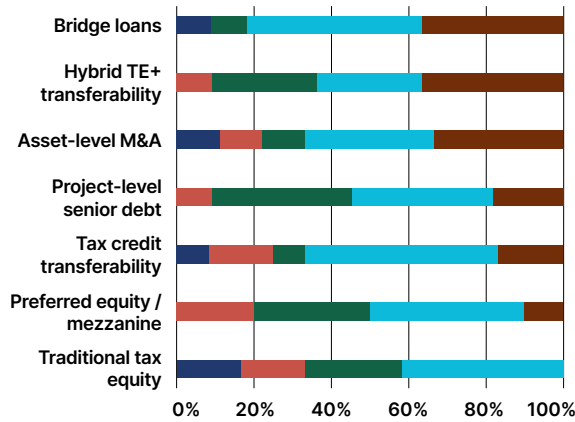


Standalone Storage (BESS)



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Generation Plus Storage



Generation Plus Storage

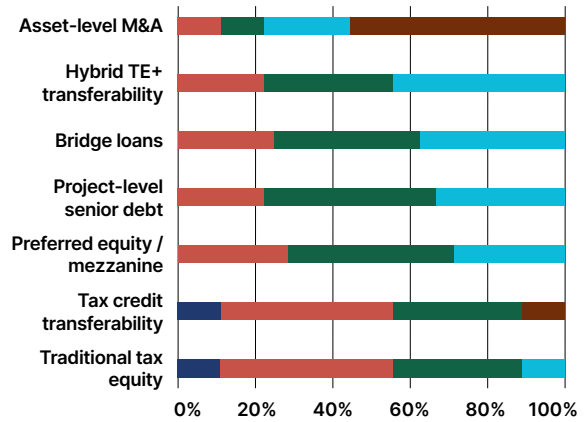


Figure 16. Expected Change in Availability of Project Finance Sources in 2026 Compared to 2025

Looking beyond 2026, the capital stacks for new utility-scale clean energy projects will evolve, as standalone wind and solar projects that start construction after July 4, 2026 will not be able to receive the technology-neutral credits, while BESS and hybrid projects that include BESS face steeper FEOC compliance to be eligible for tax credits. However, there will also be a pipeline of safe harbored solar and wind projects over the next few years that will continue to involve tax credit financing.

To assess industry perspectives on this forthcoming shift, ACORE asked project sponsors and capital providers to rank sources of capital by their expected share of the capital stack by 2027-2028. Project sponsors anticipate that project-level debt will be the largest component of the capital stack for new utility-scale clean energy projects, by weighted average, while capital providers coalesce around transferability.

“We still have a fair amount of runway before we see a meaningful shift in capital stacks, but eventually the current approach will no longer hold unless tax credits are restored. Project sponsors will have to focus on projects with strong production profiles that can secure rich PPAs in order to raise sufficient debt capital absent the value of tax credits.”

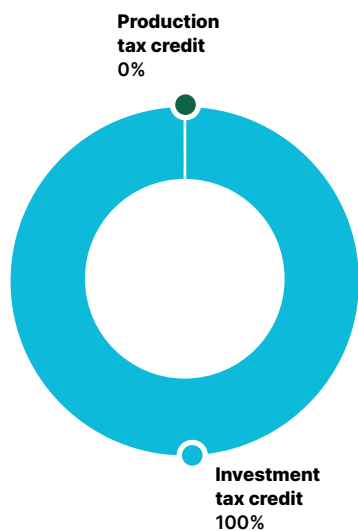
– *Banking Institution*

► **Project-Level Debt, Transferability, and Pref Equity Expected to be Large Part of Capital Stack for New Utility-Scale Clean Energy Projects by 2027-2028**

Ranking	Capital Providers	Project Sponsors
1	Transferability	Project-Level Debt
2	Traditional Tax Equity (i.e., for standalone storage and hybrid projects)	Preferred Equity / Mezzanine
3	Project-Level Debt	Hyperscaler/Data Center-Driven Direct Equity
4	Preferred Equity / Mezzanine	Transferability
5	Hyperscaler/Data Center-Driven Direct Equity	Alternative Capital (Infrastructure, Private credit, Family Offices, Etc.)
6	Asset-Level M&A	Traditional Tax Equity (i.e., for standalone storage and hybrid projects)
7	Alternative Capital (Infrastructure, Private credit, Family Offices, Etc.)	Asset-Level M&A

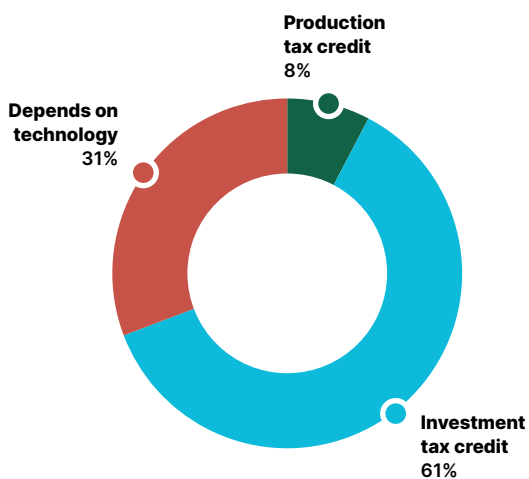
Table 6. Ranking of Financing Sources by 2027-2028, by Expected Share of Clean Energy Capital Stack

Under the technology-neutral tax credit regime, qualifying projects can select between the PTC or ITC. All capital providers surveyed responded that they have seen more investment activity in ITC projects for projects starting construction in 2026. While most project sponsors prioritized the ITC, a minority (31%) shared that it was dependent on energy technology. One clean energy investor stated that “as costs increase, the ITC becomes more attractive than the PTC.”



► **All Capital Providers See More Investment Activity in ITC Projects**

Figure 17. Which Tax Incentive Structure Is Seeing the Most Investment Activity for Projects Starting Construction in 2026



► **Majority of Project Sponsors Prefer the ITC, with a Segment Viewing it as Technology-Dependent**

Figure 18. Project Sponsor Preferences on Federal Tax Incentive Structure for Projects Starting Construction in 2026

With the passage of OBBBA, new FEOC restrictions were put in place for the technology-neutral ITC and PTC. When asked about the ways that the OBBBA FEOC rules are influencing underwriting and due diligence processes in 2026, 79% of capital providers cite that they face increased due diligence intensity, while half are taking

a wait-and-see approach until the Treasury Department releases further guidance (see Table 7). Among project sponsors, 75% cite an increased due diligence burden, whereas only 25% respond that FEOC restrictions would have “minimal” impact on their project financing (see Table 8).

► **Capital Providers Cite Increased Due Diligence Intensity as Biggest Influence of 2026 FEOC Guidance on Underwriting Process**

Impact of FEOC on Underwriting and Due Diligence Process for New Transactions	Percentage
Increased due diligence intensity (including increased documentation requirements, certifications, etc. from prospective counterparties)	79%
Structural risk mitigation (parent-company guarantees, larger tax insurance policies, specific FEOC indemnities)	57%
Restrictive capital allocation (avoiding certain technologies/structures)	50%
Pricing for risk (adding a “compliance premium” to interest rates or requiring higher internal rates of return)	14%
Wait-and-see approach (until further Treasury guidance is released)	50%

Table 7. Capital Provider Perspectives on How FEOC Has Primarily Influenced Underwriting and Due Diligence Processes for New Transactions

► **Project Sponsors View Increased Due Diligence Burden as Biggest Impact from FEOC on Project Financing**

Impact of FEOC on Project Financing and Bankability	Percentage
Increased due diligence burden	75%
Higher transaction/capital costs	58%
Restricted investor pool	42%
Increased costs/concerns about certifications for sourcing materials and equipment	67%
Minimal impact	25%

Table 8. Project Sponsor Perspectives on How FEOC Has Primarily Influenced Project Financing and Bankability

Offtake

Clean energy offtake contracts, generally in the form of power purchase agreements (PPAs) between project developers and utilities or other purchasers of electricity, remain critical to project success according to both capital providers and developers. PPAs provide a level of revenue certainty that merchant projects do not have, reducing risk for capital providers and enabling project financing. A majority of capital providers identify 10-25% as the highest level of merchant exposure under which clean energy projects can remain viable and likely to achieve commercial operation. Project sponsors are even more pessimistic on the viability of merchant projects than capital providers, with 58% concurring with the 10-25% threshold and 33% responding that their projects must have less than 10% exposure.

► Majority of Sponsors and Capital Providers View 10-25% Merchant Exposure as Maximum for Projects to Remain Viable

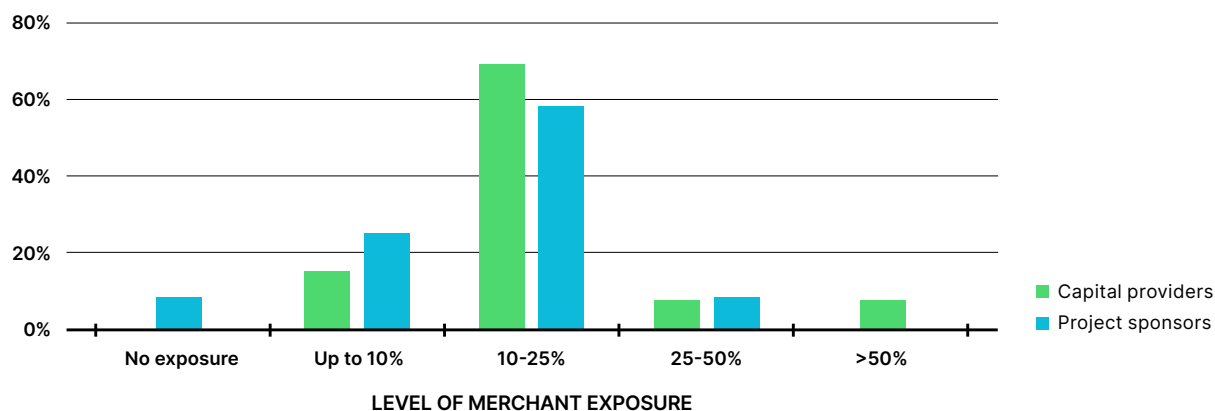


Figure 19. Level of Merchant Exposure under Which Project Sponsors and Capital Providers Expect Projects to Remain Viable

Given responses that projects with merchant exposure exceeding 25% are unviable, a sponsor's ability to secure an offtake agreement is critical for project success. Forty-six percent of project sponsors anticipate no change in the difficulty in signing PPAs with voluntary offtakers in 2026 compared to 2025, with 38% expecting that it will be moderately easier. In text responses, project sponsors identify increasing demand among energy buyers as a key driver of the PPA market.

► **Project Sponsors Anticipate Minimal or Moderate Change in Ability to Secure PPAs in 2026**

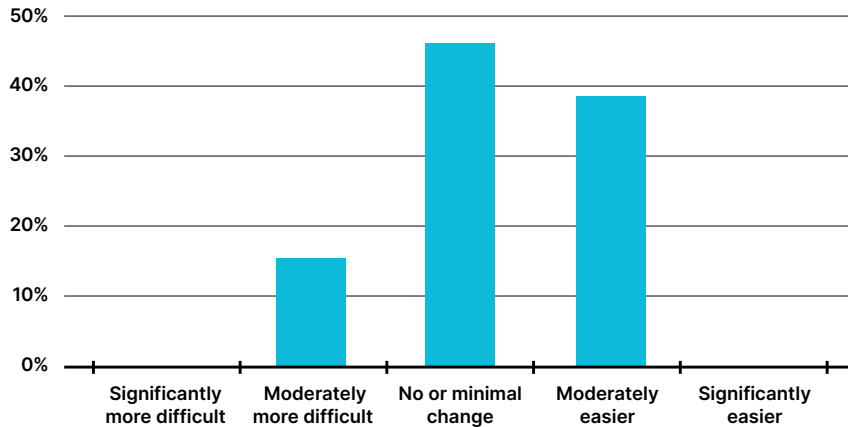


Figure 20. Project Sponsor Expectations on Ability to Secure PPAs with Voluntary Offtakers, 2026 vs. 2025

Respondents emphasized the value of data center demand as a boon to the offtake market. Seventy-five percent of sponsors describe data center location as a “moderately important” factor in siting decisions.



“Offtake contracts are critically important — they are what makes projects underwriteable. They directly tie to the cost of capital because of the impact on debt service coverage ratios. Timing makes a lot of difference, and many developers are delaying, in this environment, the execution of their PPAs to as close to financial close as the situation allows.”

– Project Sponsor

“The lowest cost capital is going to be capital that doesn’t like merchant risk, so we will contract that revenue for as long a period as we can.”

– Project Sponsor

“The changes to the GHG Protocol’s guidance and the rising complexity of contracting around interconnection are making clean energy procurement more difficult.”

– Project Sponsor

► **Most Developers Consider Data Center Location to be Moderately Important when Siting Projects**

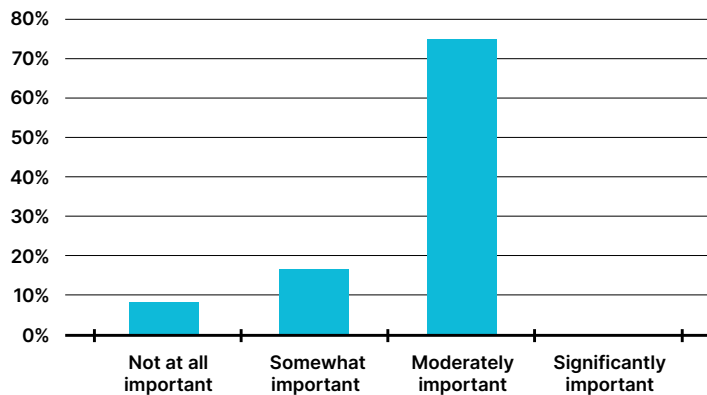


Figure 21. Level of Importance Project Sponsors Ascribe to Data Center Location in Project Siting Decisions

Asset Classes and Regions

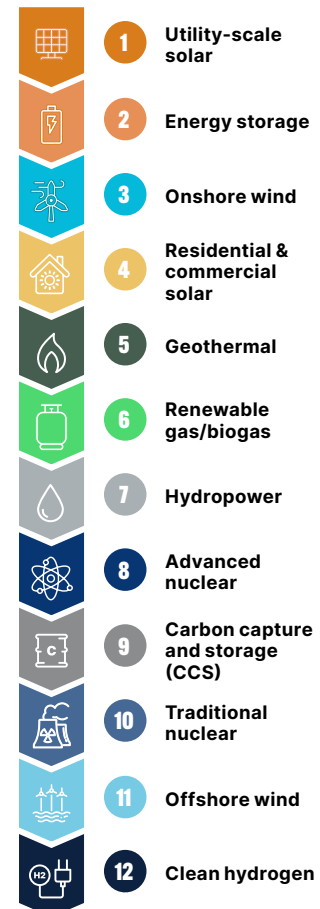
When surveyed on the attractiveness of different clean energy sectors for investment in the next three years, every capital provider ranked either utility-scale solar or energy storage as their first choice. In ACORE’s previous surveys conducted in December 2024, offshore wind ranked as the sixth most attractive; offshore wind has now fallen to the 11th ranking, the greatest change in any clean energy technology.

Many of the capital providers are evaluating other energy sectors, with a majority examining both combined cycle natural gas and peaker plants for investment over the next three years (see Figure 23). Notably, none of the capital providers indicate that they are considering coal investments in the near term.²⁹

²⁹ Surveys closed prior to the beginning of the Iran War on February 28, and any subsequent adjustments to investment plans are not reflected here.

► **Utility-Scale Solar and Energy Storage Are the Most Attractive Investment Opportunities Among Clean Generation Technologies**

Table 9. Capital Provider Attractiveness Ranking of U.S. Clean Energy over Next Three Years, by Weighted Average



► **Majority of Capital Providers Evaluating Natural Gas Investments; None Considering New Coal Investments**

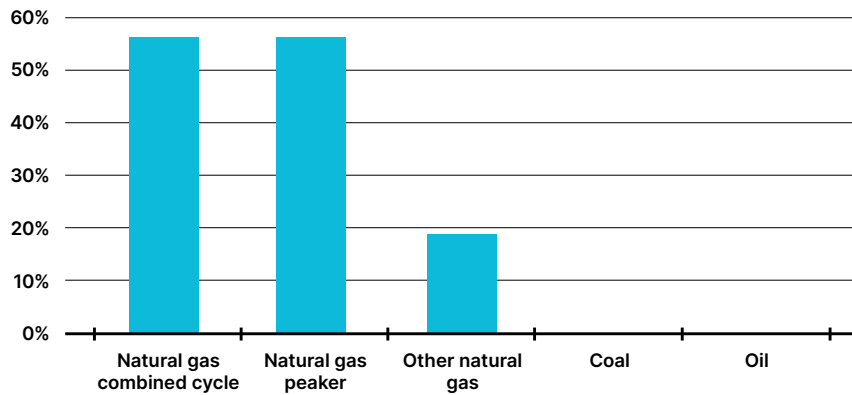


Figure 22. Other Sectors Capital Providers Evaluating for Investment in the Next Three Years

Capital providers anticipate that long-duration energy storage (LDES) will have the largest pipeline of bankable projects in five years, by weighted average, among emerging and clean firm technologies (see Table 10). Fifty-seven percent of capital providers selected LDES as their first choice, with 21% selecting geothermal.

Project sponsors and capital providers were also surveyed on a set of transmission technologies that have market potential and would benefit their businesses. The highest percentage of project sponsors identify storage as a transmission asset (SATA) as the technology that would be the most beneficial if widely adopted by utilities. Correspondingly, most capital providers foresee SATA as having significant market potential over the next three years.

► **Capital Providers Anticipate Long-Duration Energy Storage and Geothermal to Have the Greatest Number of Viable Projects in Five Years among Emerging or Clean Firm Technologies**

Ranking Tech

1	Long-Duration Energy Storage
2	Geothermal
3	Small Modular Nuclear
4	Natural Gas with Carbon Capture and Storage
5	Traditional Nuclear

Table 10. Capital Providers Ranking of Emerging or Clean Firm Technologies Based on Which Will Have the Biggest Pipeline of Bankable Projects in Five Years

► **Most Project Sponsors Identify Storage as a Transmission Asset as Having Potential Benefit to Their Business**

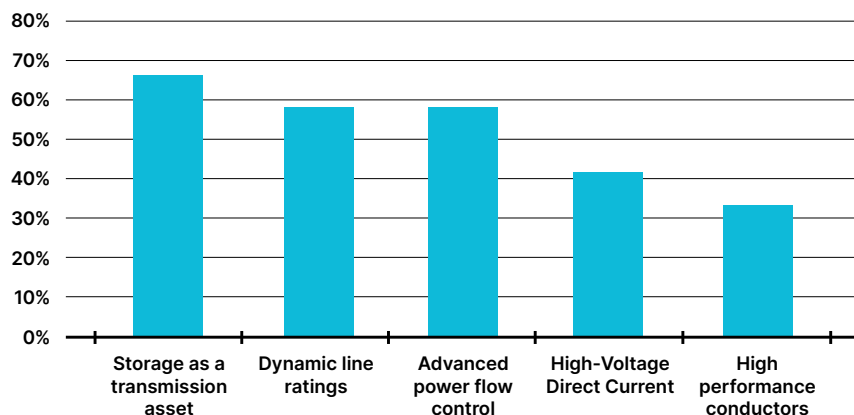


Figure 23. Project Sponsor Perspectives on Which Transmission Technologies would be Most Beneficial to Their Businesses if Adopted Widely by Utilities

► **Most Capital Providers Identify Storage as a Transmission Asset as Having Significant U.S. Market Potential Over the Next Three Years**

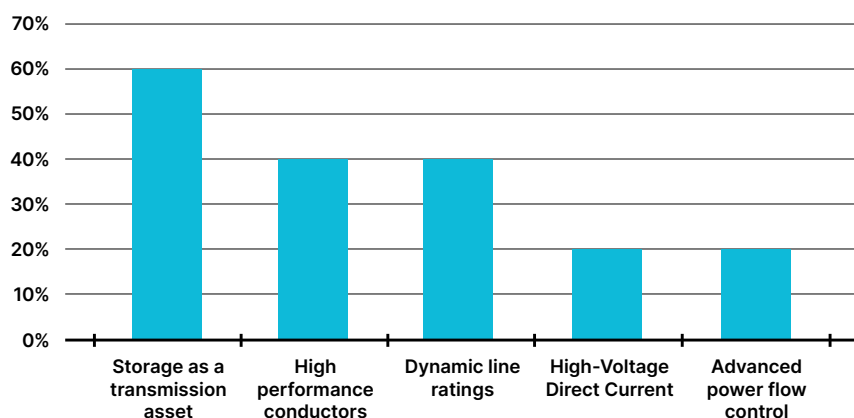


Figure 24. Capital Provider Perspectives on Which Transmission Technologies Have Significant U.S. Market Potential over the Next Three Years

Capital providers and project sponsors differ in their perspectives on which U.S. regions are most attractive for clean energy investment or development, although both groups identify MISO and PJM in the top three. Developers find ERCOT to be relatively more attractive than capital providers, placing the region first, whereas capital providers rank it as fourth, by weighted average. Both capital providers and project sponsors find the non-RTO Southeast to be the least attractive for investment or development.

► **Both Capital Providers and Project Sponsors View MISO and PJM as Attractive Regions for Further Investment or Development**

Ranking	Capital Providers	Project Sponsors
1	MISO	ERCOT
2	PJM	MISO
3	CAISO	PJM
4	ERCOT	CAISO
5	Non-RTO West	SPP
6	ISO-NE	ISO-NE
7	NYISO	NYISO
8	SPP	Non-RTO West
9	Non-RTO Southeast	Non-RTO Southeast

Table 11. Ranking of U.S. Regions for Clean Energy Investment or Deployment over the Next Three Years, by Weighted Average

“ERCOT remains attractive because of several key factors. With more data centers coming to Texas, there will be load growth. Texas understands, because of its recent history, that it needs to strengthen its transmission network, and its grid is decent and will improve. When you combine those factors with their great solar resources, you have a potentially attractive market.”

– Project Sponsor

“PJM and MISO are the top two regions in terms of growth, but ERCOT and CAISO are still where the largest concentration of volume continues to be. PJM and MISO have less buildout, especially of solar, and the projects we’re seeing in those power markets have much less basis risk than what we’ve seen in ERCOT and SPP. We’re also increasingly seeing projects in bilateral markets, like the Southeast, Northwest, Arizona, and New Mexico. The development really is everywhere, but the growth and attractiveness of PJM and MISO stand out.”

– Banking Institution



Conclusion

The survey results show that capital providers plan to invest more in clean energy in 2026 and project sponsors intend to develop more projects, helping meet the urgent need for more electrons. The financing landscape of 2026 sees many sponsors focused on starting construction of their solar and wind projects as quickly as possible to demonstrate significant physical work by the July 4 deadline, particularly larger developers who can use their resources to accelerate project timelines. Correspondingly, capital providers foresee an increase in bridge loans in 2026, a key step to enabling the faster, more efficient buildout of projects before the entrance of larger financing sources. Both sponsors and capital providers are also navigating new FEOC provisions and experiencing an increase in due diligence intensity.

Looking beyond 2026, there will continue to be significant development and investment activity around the pipeline of safe harbored solar and wind projects that started construction prior to July 4, 2026. However, new solar and wind projects that are not safe harbored will confront a substantially different financing environment, as tax financing made up roughly 45% of the capital stack for clean energy projects in 2025.³⁰ These projects will rely on other sources of capital, such as traditional non-recourse project debt financing and direct equity from data center companies.

³⁰ Keith Martin, "Cost Of Capital: 2026 Outlook," Norton Rose Fulbright, January 29, 2026, <https://www.projectfinance.law/publications/cost-of-capital-2026-outlook>.

For BESS and clean energy generation that includes BESS, most capital providers anticipated that hybrid tax equity and direct transferability would increase in 2026. BESS projects will remain eligible for the full tax credit through 2032 but must meet increasing material assistance thresholds that limit the amount of equipment produced by prohibited foreign entities under FEOC restrictions. Domestic or “friendshored” supply chains must scale to enable BESS projects to generate tax credits, while international costs of batteries continue to fall. Faced with these dynamics, sponsors will face decisions on whether to source equipment that would allow BESS projects to pursue tax credits or forego the tax credits and seek to either balance sheet finance or use a mix of equity and debt.

Since its inception, the clean energy industry has steadily evolved, with the financing landscape shifting to accommodate new market realities, such as changing project economics and new ways to monetize tax credits. Project sponsors and capital providers continue to develop and finance new clean energy projects even amid changing headwinds. However, as electricity demand grows and the U.S. seeks dominance in emerging power-intensive sectors, the country needs as much capacity as possible. Establishing technology-agnostic policy and regulatory certainty will enable capital to flow to the domestic energy sector and meet these needs.

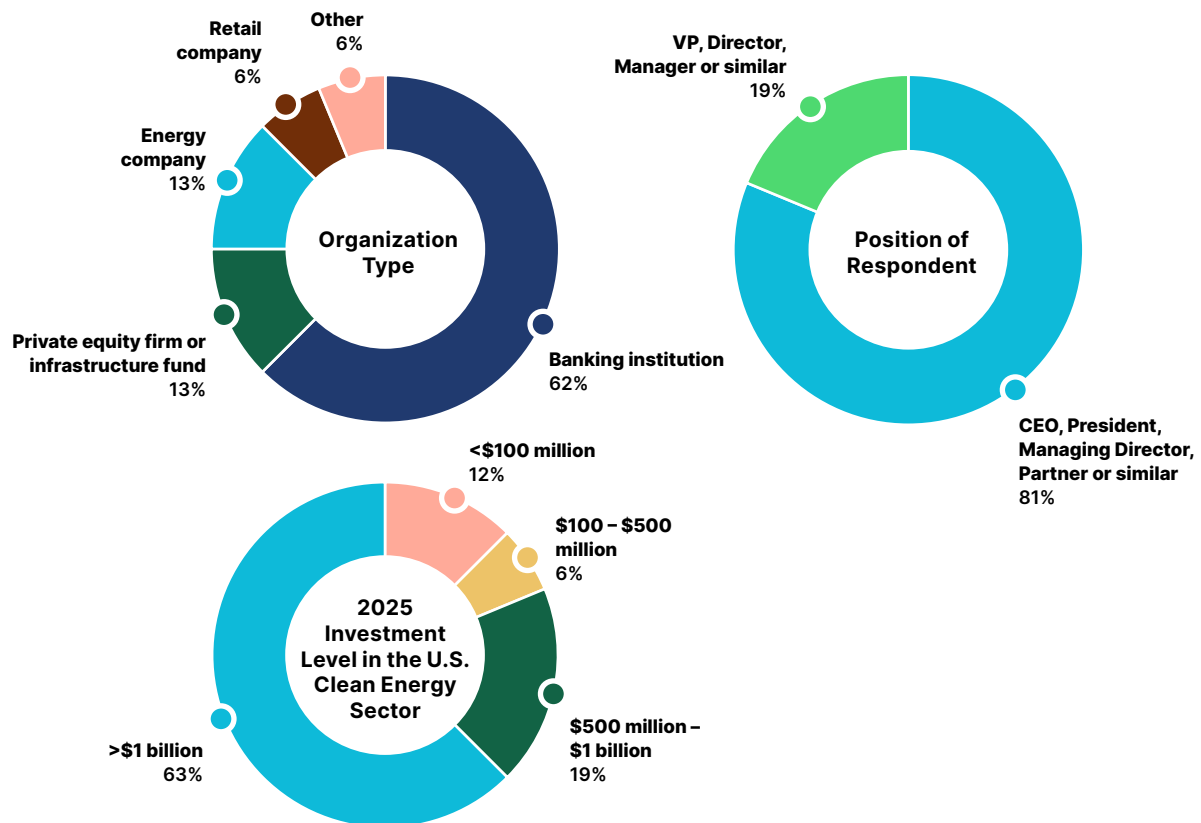
Appendix

Survey Methodology

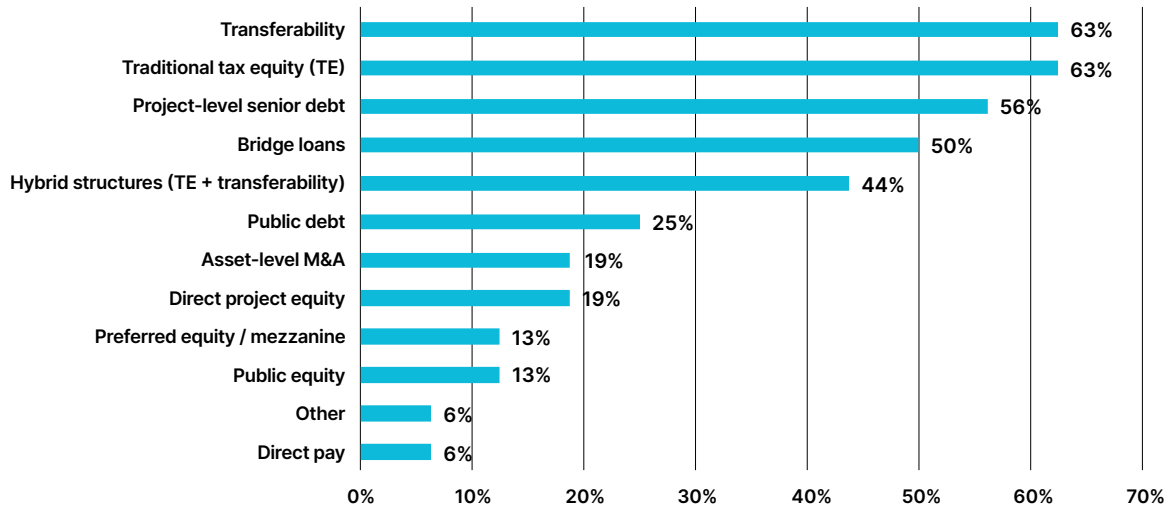
ACORE conducted two online, anonymous surveys in February 2026 targeting select professionals from companies active in the U.S. clean energy sector that: (1) finance or invest in clean projects, technologies, or companies and (2) actively develop clean energy. Surveyed professionals represent both ACORE member and non-member companies. ACORE compiled the findings of this report via online surveys, interviews, and secondary online research. ACORE contacted over 100 financial institutions and more than 100 development companies, surveying 16 capital providers and 20 project sponsors. Interview quotes have been lightly edited for clarity.

Profile of Respondents

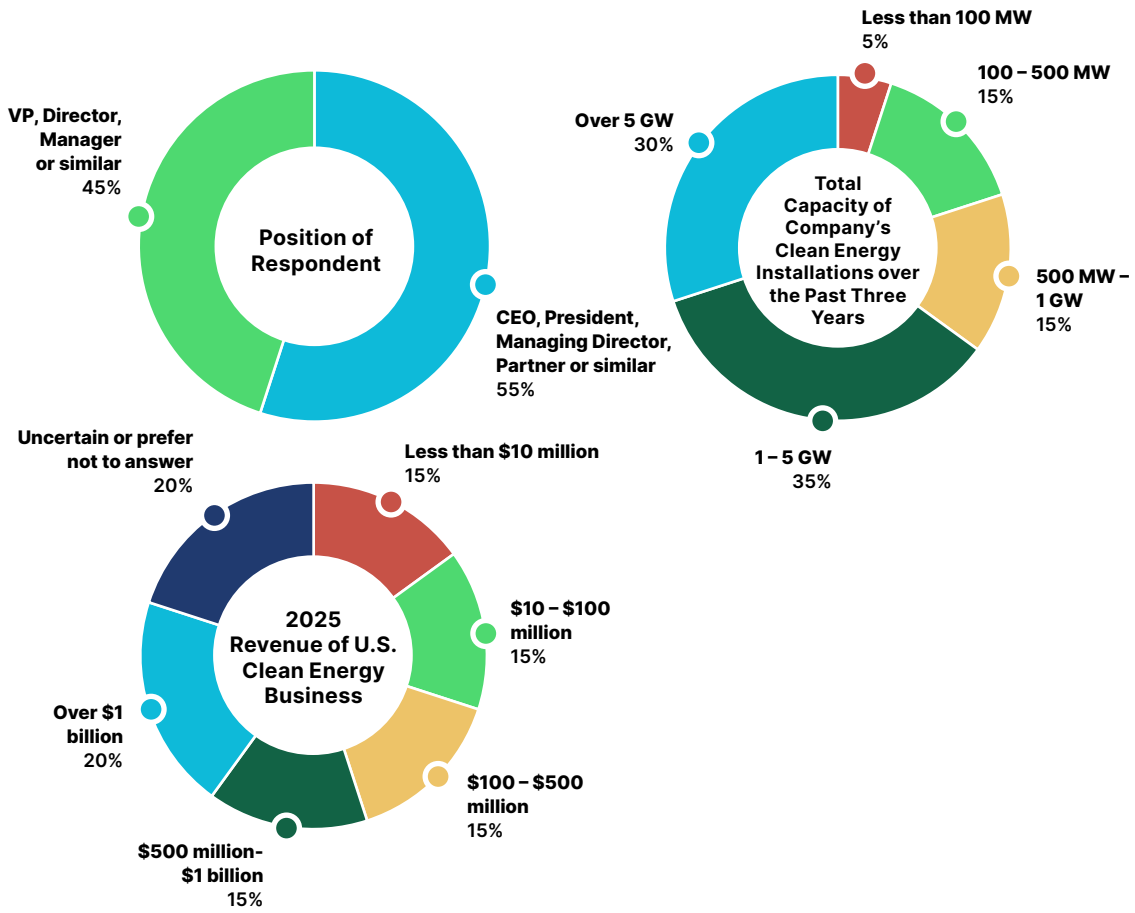
Capital Provider Survey



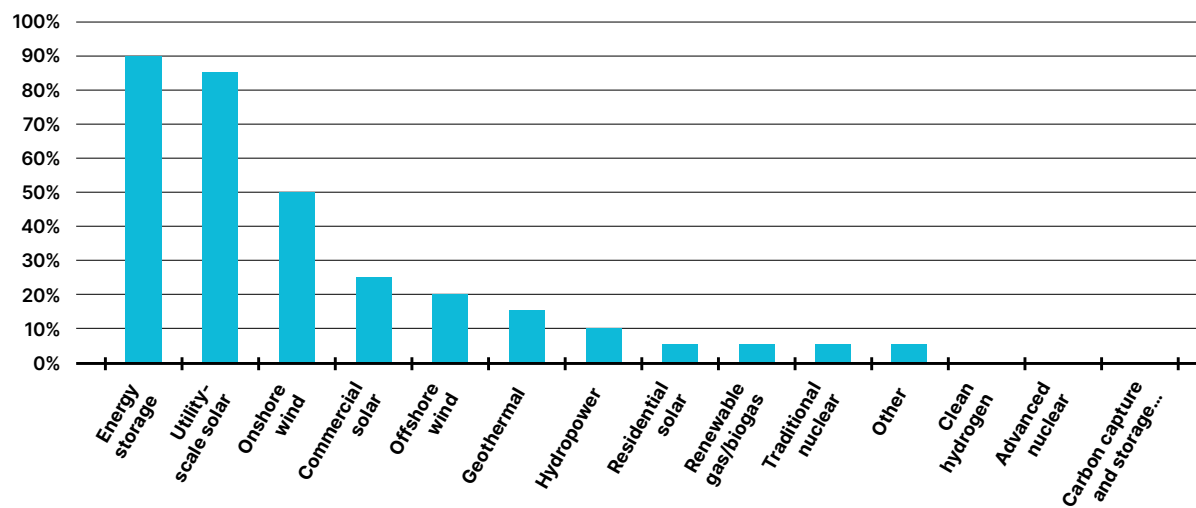
Financing Vehicles Used for Clean Energy



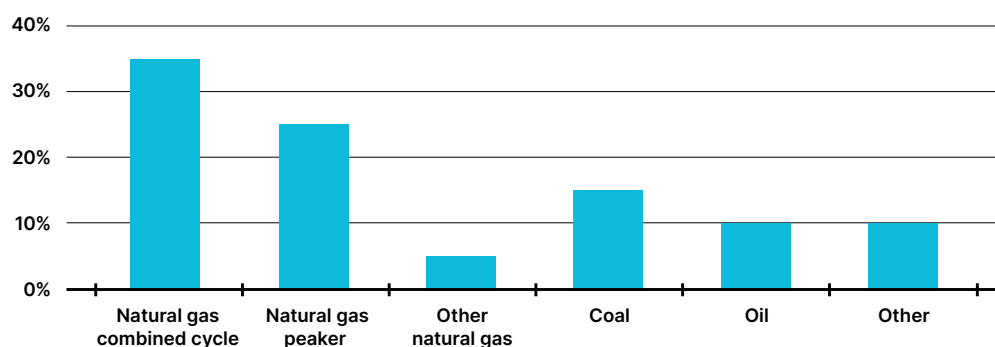
Project Sponsor Survey



Clean Energy Technologies in Company Portfolio



Other Energy Technologies in Company Portfolio



Acronyms

- **ATT** Advanced Transmission Technology
- **BESS** Battery Energy Storage System
- **FEOC** Foreign Entity of Concern
- **GW** Gigawatts
- **IRS** Internal Revenue Service
- **ITC** Investment Tax Credit
- **LCOE** Levelized Cost of Electricity
- **LDES** Long-Duration Energy Storage
- **M&A** Mergers and Acquisitions
- **MACRS** Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System
- **MWh** Megawatt-Hour
- **OBBBA** One Big Beautiful Bill Act
- **PPA** Power Purchase Agreement
- **PTC** Production Tax Credit
- **SATA** Storage as a Transmission Asset

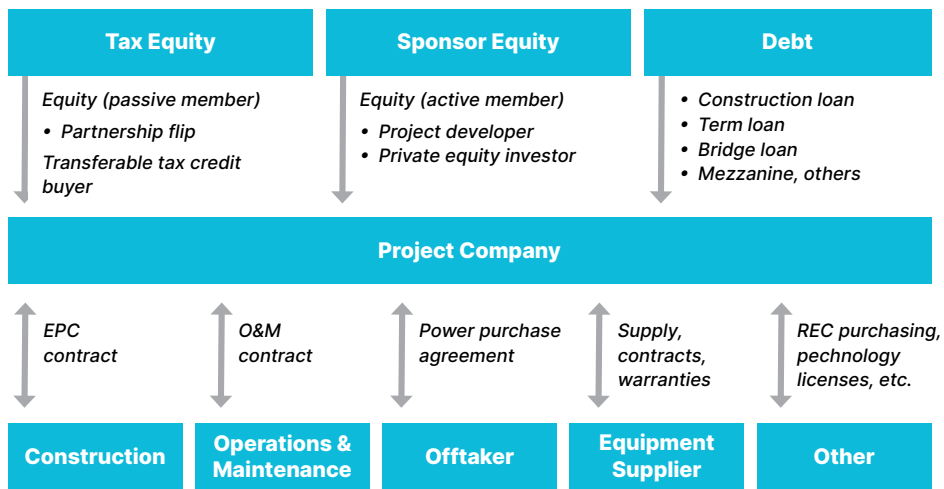


Figure 25. Typical Tax Equity Project Finance Structure



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