

Regional technology competitiveness considerations

Category	Key themes
<i>Capital access</i>	The kinds of capital required to finance a given project; the extent to which firms in an area can access that capital ; the extent to which firms can access that capital elsewhere
<i>Costs</i>	Up-front costs (examples: capital equipment; engineering, procurement, and construction; land); operational costs (examples: input materials; labor; electricity); levelized cost of energy and production
<i>Industrial base and workforce</i>	Project-specific workforce requirements ; industry co-location patterns (implicit workforce readiness); workforce development capacity
<i>Infrastructure and resource access</i>	Site-specific project requirements (interconnection, industrial land, etc.); resource endowment (e.g., solar irradiance)
<i>Innovation ecosystem</i>	Presence of nearby universities, government laboratories, and testing centers ; access to commercialization infrastructure (e.g., pilot facilities); startup and technology-transfer support
<i>Institutions and policy</i>	Permitting and regulatory timelines ; policy stability ; policy support (tax credits, subsidies, etc.)
<i>Markets</i>	Regional, national, and global market size and competition ; product export potential (to other regions or other countries)
<i>Supply chain</i>	Input material and machinery access ; import dependency risk (for input materials and machinery); firm-level concentration risk (for input materials and machinery)

Sources consulted: Center for Public Enterprise; Clean Air Task Force; Council on Foreign Relations; Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina; International Energy Agency; McKinsey & Company; New Energy Industrial Strategy Center.