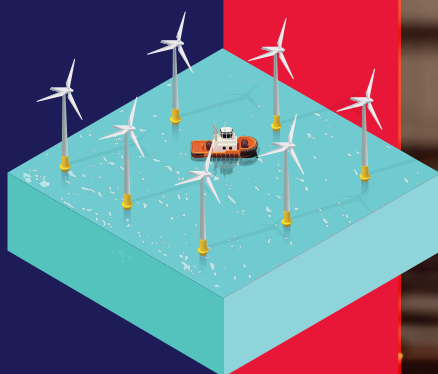


The Spinifex Offshore Wind Farm acknowledges the Gunditjmara and Eastern Maar as Traditional Owners of the Country on which the Project is proposed. It pays its respects to Elders past and present, and to emerging community leaders of all First Nations people.



# Local Supply Chain and Industry Development Executive Summary



## Investing in Portland's future

Offshore wind is an exciting new industry with great employment and economic development opportunities. Alinta Energy is developing the Spinifex Project, a 1,000MW fixed-foundation offshore wind farm in Portland. The project is proposed to connect to the grid via the existing substation at Portland and will be a significant step towards meeting Victoria's renewable energy targets.

We listened to the community and identified a strong appetite for local jobs and economic development. Alinta Energy commissioned two studies to investigate the potential of the Portland region to support the offshore wind industry.

### KEY FINDINGS

- The Portland economy is well placed to benefit from offshore wind due to its skilled workforce, port infrastructure and existing capabilities in heavy fabrication, marine service capabilities, and onshore renewables. **An offshore wind hub would support existing industries through the supply of reliable green energy while diversifying the regional economy with highly paid offshore wind jobs.**
- The Spinifex Project will be pivotal in diversifying Portland's economy. **It is expected to generate up to 1,756 jobs during construction and an additional 352 jobs per year during operation in the Portland region<sup>1</sup>.**
- The Project will stimulate the creation of additional local businesses because of the scale of its expenditure. **It is expected to contribute up to \$402m during construction and \$40m each year in operations to the Portland region economy.**
- To ensure the full extent of benefits and harness the Portland region's existing capabilities, **Portland needs investment in its key infrastructure and training.** This includes upgrades to the Port and heavy fabrication facilities.

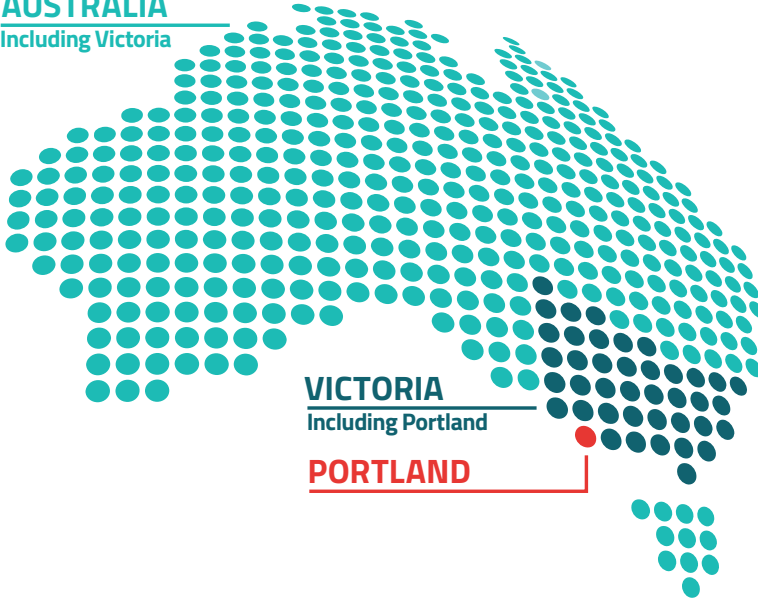
<sup>1</sup> This is based on RPS' medium local content scenario.



## Potential employment during construction (four-year duration)<sup>2</sup>

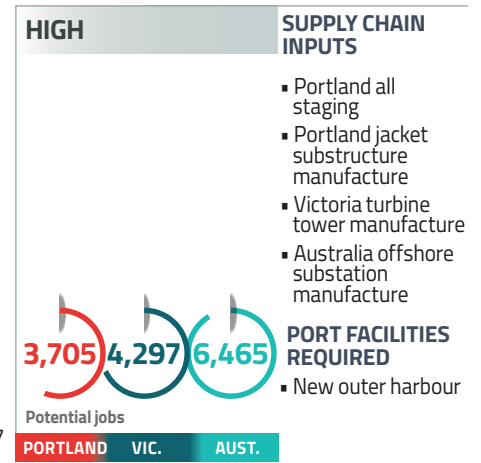
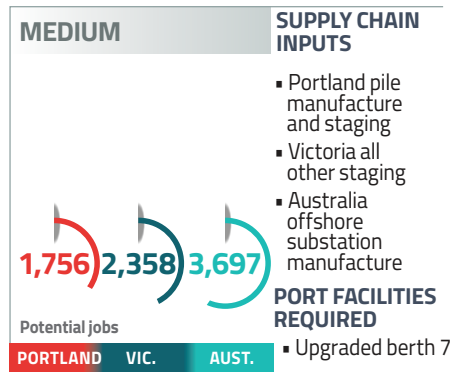
### AUSTRALIA

Including Victoria



**VICTORIA**  
Including Portland

**PORTLAND**



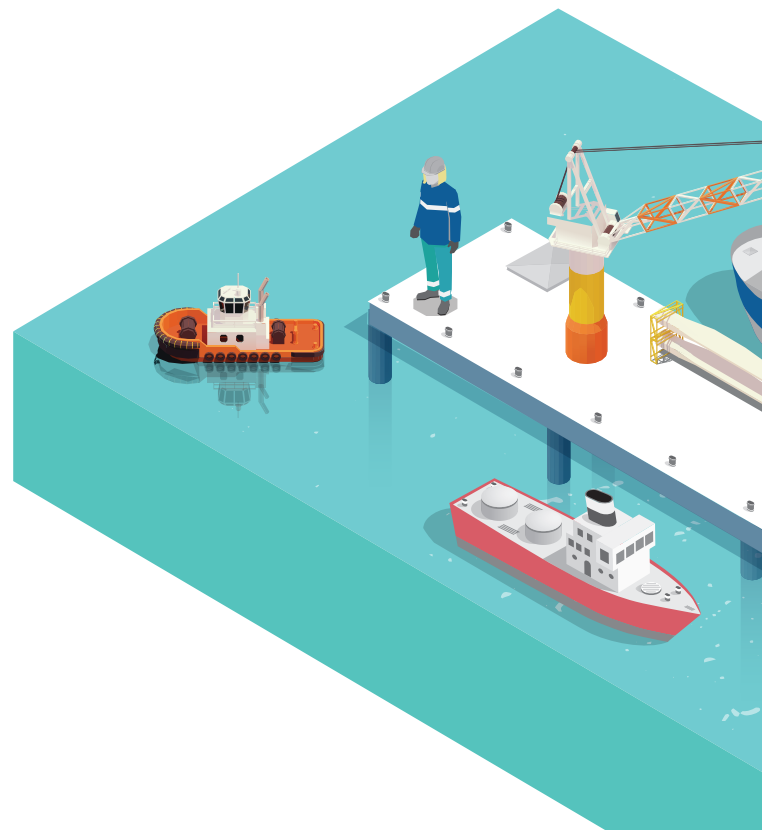
<sup>2</sup> Quantitative benefits.

### Port of Portland – Offshore Wind Capability Analysis (BMT 2023)

This joint initiative with the Port of Portland reviewed The Port's ability to support the construction and operations logistics of offshore wind farms.

### Local Supply Chain and Industry Development Study (RPS 2023)

Informed by interviews with local industry and government, the study examined the existing skills and supply chain capability in the Portland Region.





## Economic development opportunities

The economic analysis considered three supply chain scenarios, each enabled by a different degree of infrastructure investment.

The results present the significant potential for jobs, economic development, and diversification for the Portland region if offshore wind developers, local industry and government work together to realise this outcome.

Three scenarios were developed to understand the potential workforce and economic benefits of the Project based on the infrastructure costs (across development, construction, operation, and decommissioning phases) and the origin of supply chain inputs (Portland, Victoria, Australia or global).

### Potential quantitative benefits estimated for each scenario included:

- Direct and indirect employment estimated to be created by the Project during construction and operation, and
- Direct and indirect economic activity estimated to be created by the Project during construction and operation, estimated as Gross Value Added (GVA) (\$m).



## Key recommendations

To ensure the potential benefits of the offshore wind industry are fully realised in the Portland region the studies have made the following key recommendations:

- **Prioritise declaration of the Portland offshore wind area so that certainty can be provided to developers and businesses on industry opportunities.**
- **Develop a business case of one or more port infrastructure options at Portland with consideration to the establishment of local turbine foundation manufacturing.**
- **Create a national or state roadmap for local supply chain development which considers a scaled and sustainable approach to development of a regional supply chain and workforce.**
- **Create a detailed offshore wind port strategy for Victoria, which includes consideration of alternative port options to mitigate scheduling risk for projects and increases investor certainty.**
- **Consideration of Public-Private Partnership funding models for investment in port infrastructure at Portland.**

# Unlocking the potential

## First Nations participation

- The Spinifex Offshore Wind Farm project recognises there are **opportunities for First Nations Peoples to leverage ongoing benefits and capacity building** opportunities from the project, from the start to the finish of its lifecycle.
- This potential will be realised through an ongoing and collaborative approach to identify the opportunities in conjunction with the project's Traditional Owners.



## Diversifying local workforce and employment

- The Spinifex Offshore Wind Farm can act as a catalyst to **build and diversify skills in Portland** and secure local economic development and employment opportunities for the Portland region.
- Portland's existing industries complement those needed to build and operate offshore wind. **With additional investment in facilities and workforce training, existing businesses can service the offshore wind industry.**
- Provision of medium and long term employment and income opportunities will help retain the local population.

## A hub for the offshore wind industry

- Portland is a prime location to become a **regional hub for offshore wind** renewables and play a key role in Australia's emerging offshore renewable energy supply chain ecosystem.
- An offshore wind hub in Portland will benefit the Australian offshore wind industry by **reducing reliance on materials from overseas** and minimise competition with the demands of the international offshore wind industry.
- **Bringing an offshore wind manufacturing and construction services industry to Portland requires investment in Port infrastructure and upgrades to heavy fabrication facilities.**
- **Dual investment in local port infrastructure and the manufacturing industry** can unlock vast capacity and deliver significant opportunity to the area.

## Acknowledgements

Spinifex would like to acknowledge all of the organisations and local businesses who provided us with their advice and insights as contributors to this report.



## CONTACT

If you want to find out more about the project, provide feedback or get involved in upcoming consultation opportunities:

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