

# Comparing international incentives for offshore energy development

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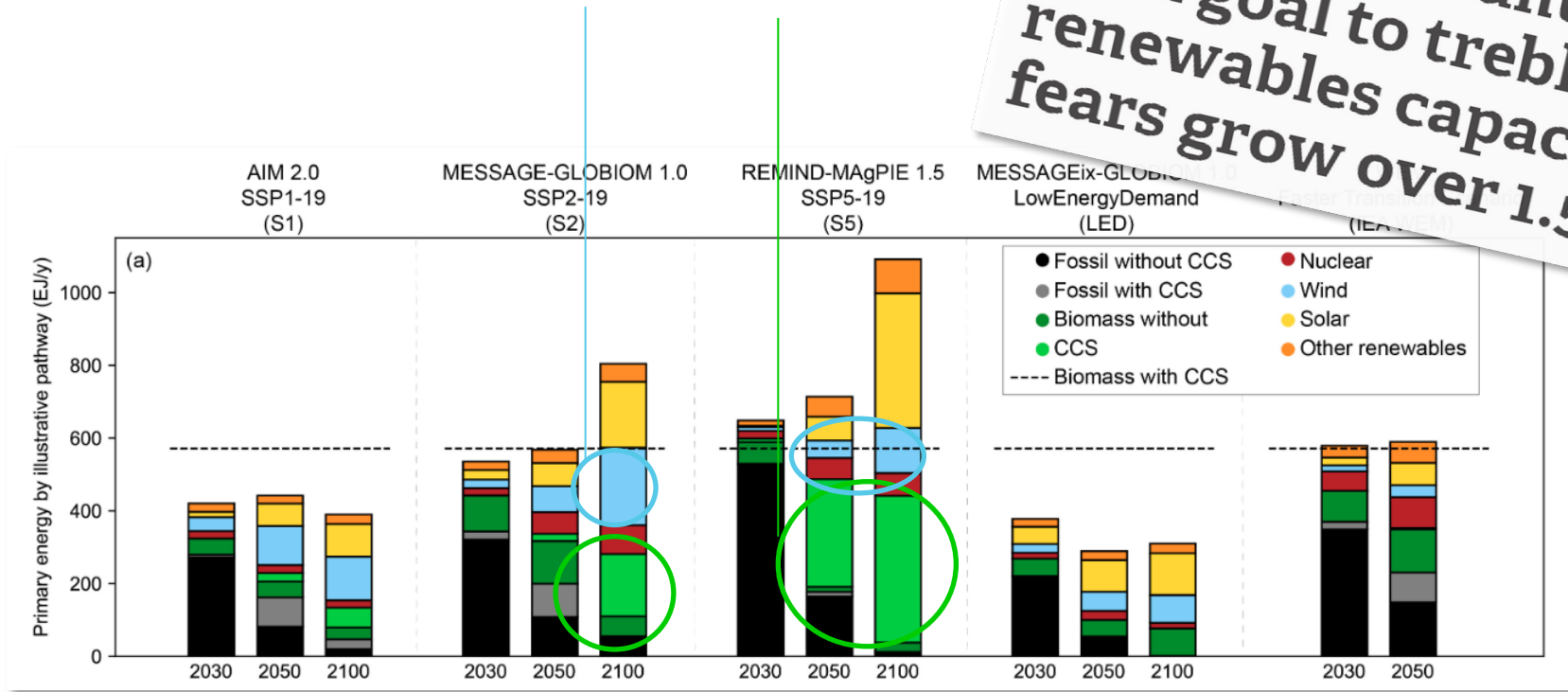
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# Offshore energy is key: The importance of wind and CCS

**COP28: 120 countries back goal to treble renewables capacity, but fears grow over 1.5C goal**



**In all IPCC scenarios, fossil energy generation is decreased, replaced by low carbon energy solutions – CCS, nuclear, wind, solar and other renewables**  
(Figure 2.15 IPCC SR 2.15)

# Energy development incentives: the basics



# Status check: incentivised v market-based energy investment

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Critical drivers for investment decisions by strategic and financial investors

## Investment with state support

- State support schemes remain major drivers for investment in renewable electricity generation assets
- Most countries apply a diverse combination of measures:
  - price driven strategies and instruments
  - capacity driven strategies and instruments
  - Tax measures
  - Funding support
- Assets have different support scheme profiles allocated by law, which determine commercial viability
- Investment decisions require asset-specific characterisation within the existing (potentially grandfathered) support measures and schemes

## Exposure to market risks

- Increasing numbers of clean energy assets either win tenders based on '**zero subsidies**' or run past the expiry of legacy state support
- Some regimes **include but mitigate market risk** by offering fixed price state support (eg, CfDs)
- Being exposed to market risks that are **highly dependent on regulatory decisions** can make investment in renewable assets unviable
- PPAs are gaining momentum in mitigating this risk (eg, large corporate PPAs being entered into by industrial players across Europe)

# Offshore wind: recent EU examples

## Key takeaways from German and Dutch tender procedures

### Subsidy vs subsidy-free tenders

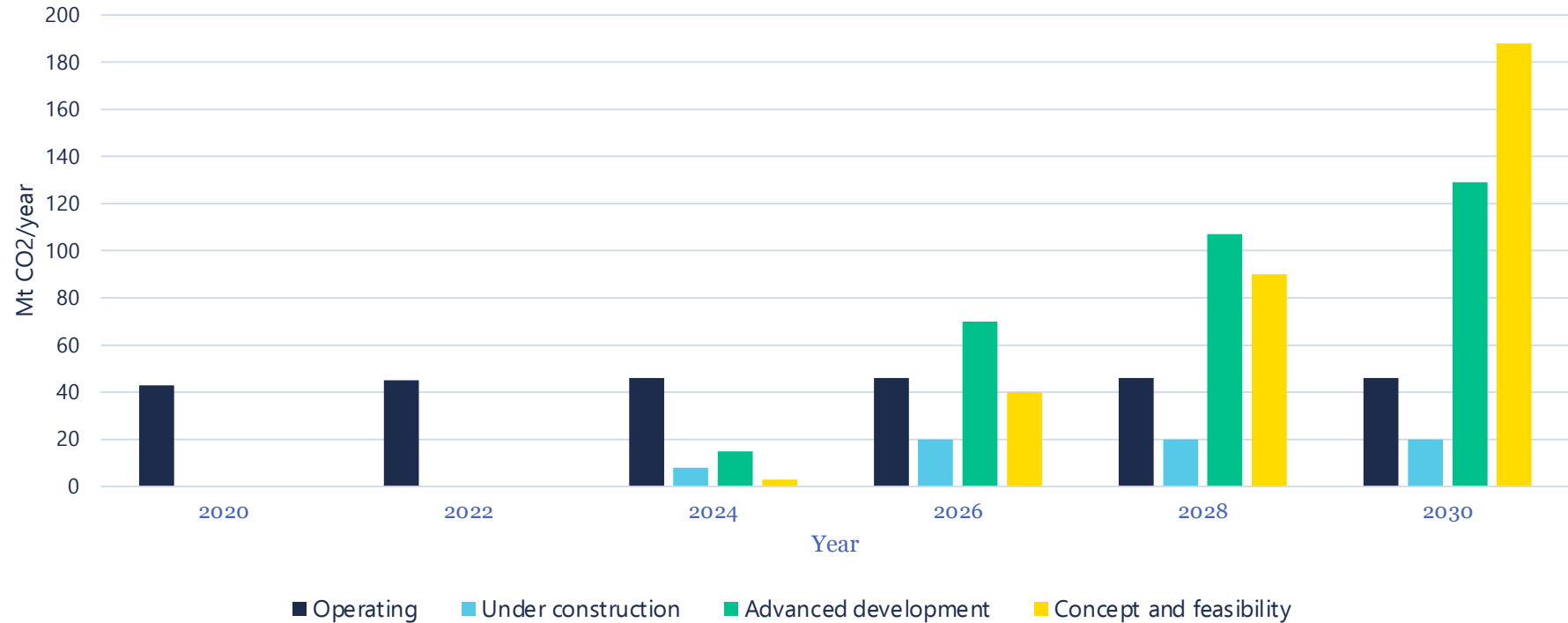
- Tenders involving subsidies **must be based on price criteria**
- However, the CEEAG now allow Member States to include **up to 30 percent of non-price criteria** in the selection criteria of their subsidy tenders
- Subsidy-free tenders **may be based on non-price criteria** only, provided that **overcompensation** of the winning bidder is **prevented**
- The **Member State government** is responsible for ensuring that there is no overcompensation when structuring a zero-subsidy tender

### The EC's view of zero cent bids

- In its approval decision of the new German tender scheme, EC clearly stated that it is *'indispensable to differentiate zero-cent bids in order to **prevent overcompensation** due to further advantages accruing to operators of offshore wind installations, such as the offshore grid connection'*
- This shows that the EC is aware of potential state aid implications of subsidy-free bids, in particular potential overcompensation
- All subsidy-free tenders will therefore need to be structured in a way that **avoids overcompensation** of the winning bidder, eg because the winner is **not paying a seabed lease fee**, is granted **access to the grid** free of charge, or does not have to **compensate** the public authority for **costs** it incurred in relation to impact assessment and site studies

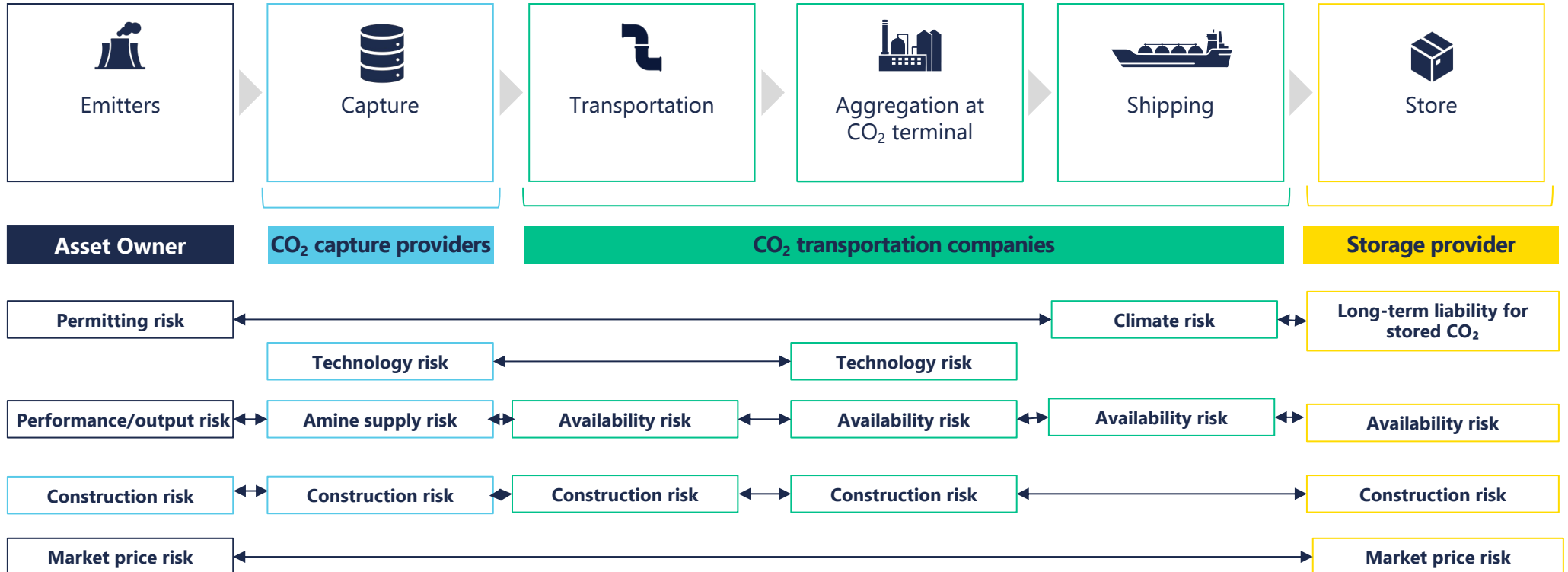
# CCUS: investment landscape

Capacity of current/planned large-scale CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage projects



# CCUS incentives: targeting investment barriers

What makes CCUS different? The project chain



# CCUS incentives: international models

Different approaches to overcoming investment barriers



## UK Model

- Targets different elements of the chain
- Cluster-based competition

### Dispatchable Power Agreement for emitters

- Constant availability payment
- Price support for dispatched energy

### Regulated Asset-Based transport and storage

- Price and revenue-controlled support
- Guaranteed returns and incentivised availability
- Backed by legislative protections against uncontrollable risks



## EU Approach

- Focuses on economy-wide carbon reduction incentives
- Supported by R&D grants

**EU ETS-driven carbon price** incentivises emitters to participate in CCUS

**Connecting Europe Facility** supports cross-border CO<sub>2</sub> transport networks.

**Significant grants** to support CCUS R&D and demonstration projects



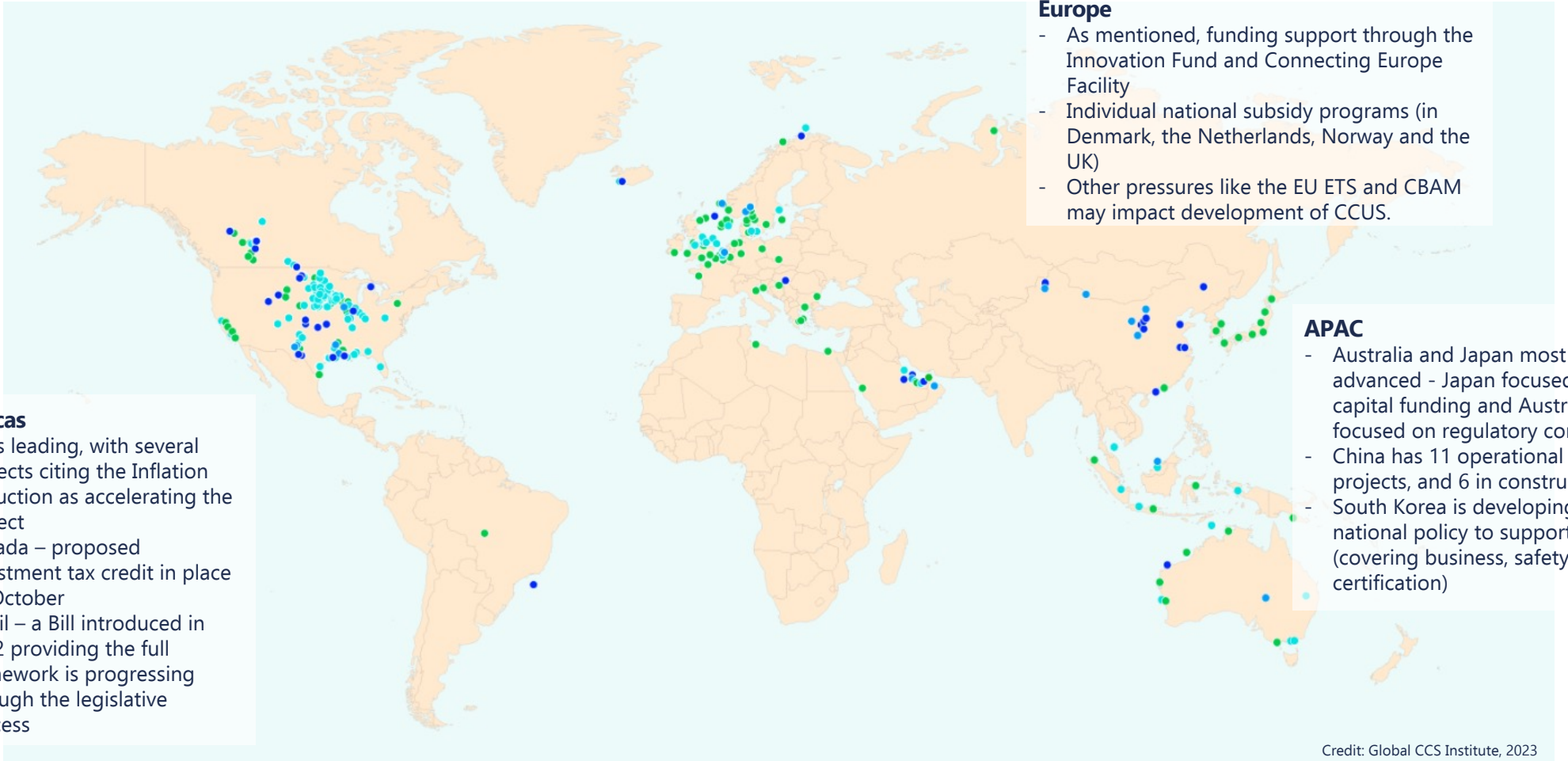
## US Approach

- Tax incentives support investment (subject to increasingly stringent requirements) in storage to flow through the chain

### Inflation Reduction Act

Project developers can receive a 50 dollar per metric tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> tax reduction where that CO<sub>2</sub> is stored in dedicated storage sites.





**Operational:** 41 projects

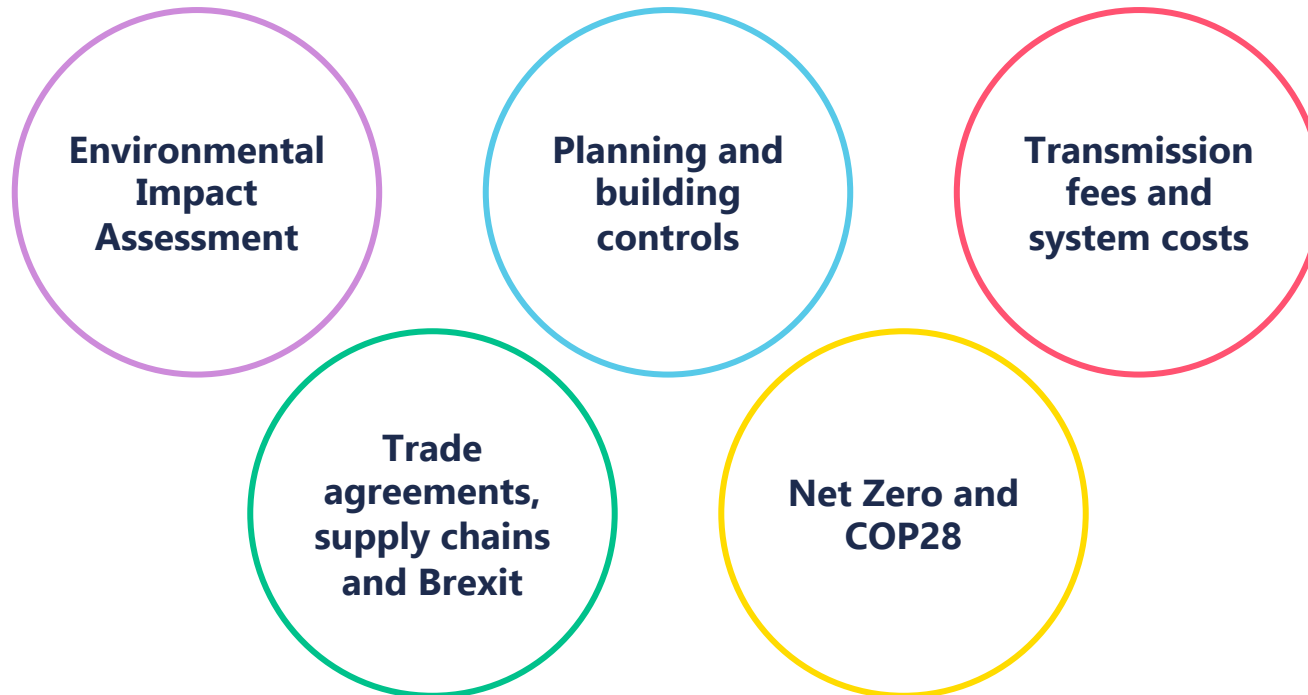
**In Construction:** 26 projects

**Advanced Development & Early Development:** 325 projects

# Broader regulatory context

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Beyond support schemes: examples of recent, relevant regulatory issues affecting investment returns





# Thank You

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