# State Pier Offshore Wind Port Infrastructure Improvements New London, Connecticut

## The role of value engineering in offshore wind port development



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GZA's Offshore Wind Interactive PDF

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### Introduction

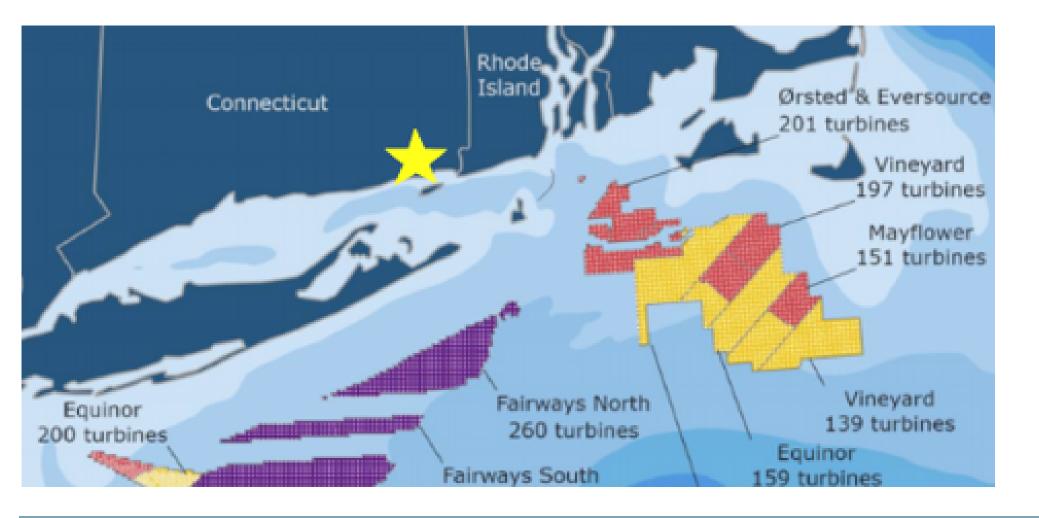
Many U.S. ports currently struggle to meet the needs of the growing offshore wind industry. This project involves upgrading the existing state pier complex in New London, CT into a 16-acre, heavy-lift-capable marshaling port that can accommodate all components of offshore wind farms.

# **Geotechnical Challenges**

Project required filling between two existing piers.

• Approximately 400,000 cubic-yards of fill required.





• Fill needed to be placed through 40 feet of water and then densified to meet high bearing pressure requirements for offshore wind components.

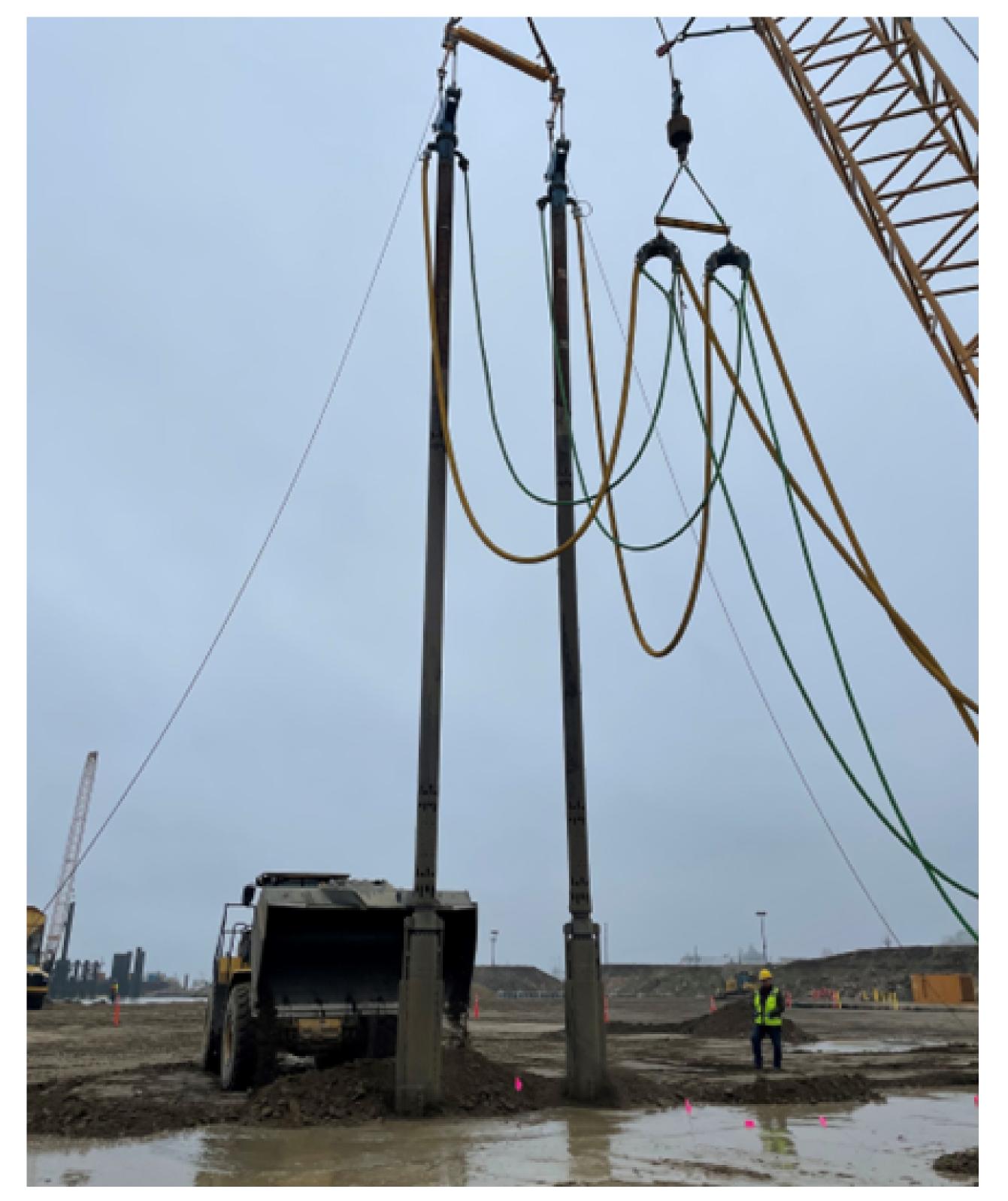
• Very soft organic sediment needed to remain in place. Filling could not displace or "mud wave" the organic sediment into the Thames River.

 Closure wall required to connect ends of pier and retain new fill. Construction needed to be carefully sequenced with filling and densification operations.

Images Courtesy of Connecticut Port Authority. Rendering Artist: Jennifer Gottlieb, AIA NCARB at AECOM

#### **Value-Engineered Geotechnical Solutions**

Project specifications were performance-based allowing alternate designs by Contractor to maximize efficiency and reduce construction costs.



Creative and innovative solution to stabilize organic sediment using sand piles placed below water ahead of mass fill.

Overall construction delays minimized by sequencing filling and densification operations to accommodate closure wall construction schedule.

Maximized efficiency of fill densification below water using tandem compaction probes. First in U.S.



#### Tandem Vibrocompaction Rig - First in U.S.

