### NEW MEXICO

## EnergyPlex Park Site Readiness Report

December 2024





# **Table of Contents**

PAGE **03** 

Site Overview

PAGE 09

Preliminary Conceptual Plan PAGE 13 Site Selection

**Simulation Results** 

PAGE **46** Site Improvement

<u>Opportunities</u>

PAGE 51

Contact Information PAGE 53

<u>Appendix:</u> <u>Preliminary</u> <u>Conceptual Plan</u> <u>Additional Material</u>

PAGE **55** <u>Appendix: Tertiary</u> <u>Criteria</u>



#### NEW MEXICO SITE READINESS

## **Site Overview**

Disclaimer: All content captured in the site overview was provided to GLS by 11/21/24.



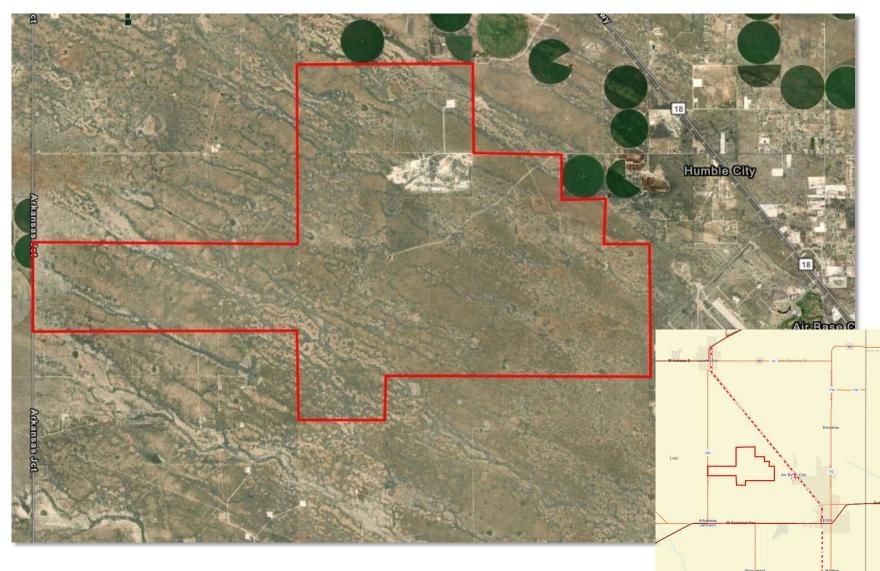
#### NEW MEXICO SITE READINESS

## **EnergyPlex Park**



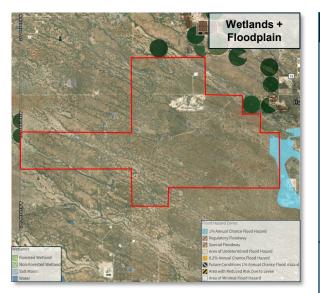
### **Site Aerial**

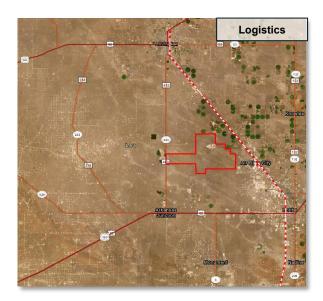
#### ENERGYPLEX PARK





### **Site Characteristics**





#### **EnergyPlex Park Site Profile**

Site Name: EnergyPlex Park

Location: Hobbs, Lea County, New Mexico

Total Acreage: +/- 4500 acres with +/- 800 acres contiguous and developable

**Ownership:** Publicly owned ( 2 owners - State Land Office and Lea County); The County-owned acreage is For Sale or Lease. The State Land Office land is currently For Lease only. However, the county has a lease on the land, and the county is working on doing a land swap for the state land to sell.

**Zoning:** Unzoned; Rezoning is not required.

**Developability Impacts:** FEMA shows a small section of 100-year floodplain on the far eastern boundary of the site. The NWI shows several small wetlands scattered throughout the site.

**Due Diligence Studies Completed:** A Biological Resources Reconnaissance Report was completed in May 2014. 36 species of wildlife were found in the area during an early spring survey. This included 26 species of birds, 8 species of mammals, and 2 species of reptiles. Recommendations for migratory birds include trying to schedule clearing and grubbing of proposed construction sites outside the breeding season. This works with the exception of western burrowing owls that can be present in the burrows year-round and require special methods to identify their presence. A Phase I ESA was completed in December 2014 and found one recognized environmental concern (REC). A Phase II ESA is recommended.

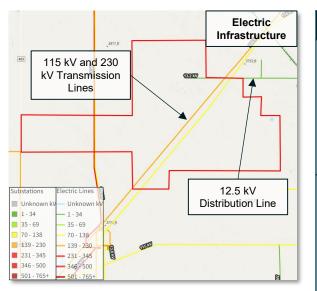
Interstate: 97-mile drive south to the I-20 on-ramp.

Highway: 1.7-mile drive east to the 4-lane highway NM-18.

**Rail:** Direct rail access is unlikely. The nearest rail line is a Watco shortline 1.3 miles northeast of the site.



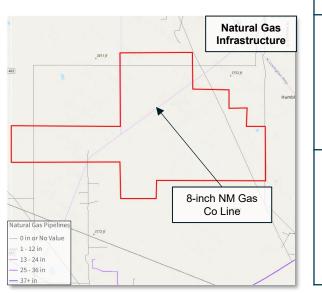
### **Site Utilities**



#### **EnergyPlex Park Site Profile**

**Electric:** Site is served by Xcel Energy. There are several 3-phase 12.5 kV distribution lines adjacent to the site. There are two transmission lines (115 kV and 230 kV) bisecting the site diagonally. These transmission lines come from Xcel Energy's Cunningham and Maddox Generating Stations, both fueled by natural gas. Discussions with Xcel energy indicate that there is potential for a dedicated solar or power generation facility at the site.

**Natural Gas:** Site is served by New Mexico Gas Company. There is an 8-inch line operating at 600 lbs. pressure bisecting the site from the southwest to the northeast. NMGC estimates that the existing natural gas infrastructure will be able to serve a reasonable industrial load on the site.

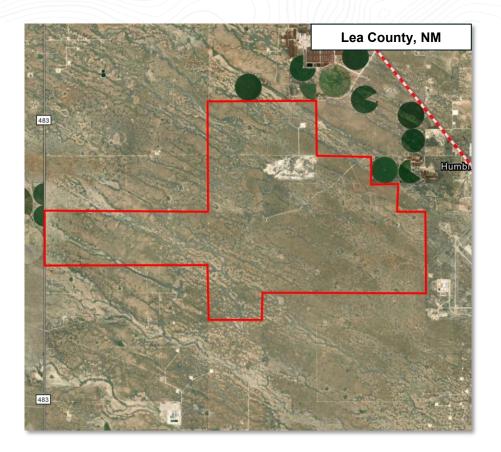


**Water:** Site is served by City of Hobbs. The site is served by well water. Fresh water is available, however, the water provider does not want to use freshwater for industrial operations. Excess capacities and improvements required to serve the site are currently unknown. Large users will require major upgrades.

**Wastewater:** Site is served by the City of Hobbs. To serve the site, the existing wastewater system would need to be expanded for additional capacity. However, the wastewater provider is uncertain if they will accept industrial wastewater into the municipal system. Large users will require major upgrades.



### **EnergyPlex Park**



#### Advantages:

- · Publicly owned site
- Willing to sell or lease depending on location within site
- Approx. 4500-acre site
- Due diligence has been completed on the site
- Zoning is not required; county supports industrial users with the goal being very large end-users
- Heavy power infrastructure around site

#### **Disadvantages:**

- Within the 4500 acres, the state owns portions and the county owns portions. The county has a lease on all state property. State parcels are lease only. Would require a land-swap to sell state property.
- · No existing access roads into the site
- Utility capacities are unknown
- Site would require well water and potential water rights acquisition
- Wastewater is limited and major users would require significant upgrades

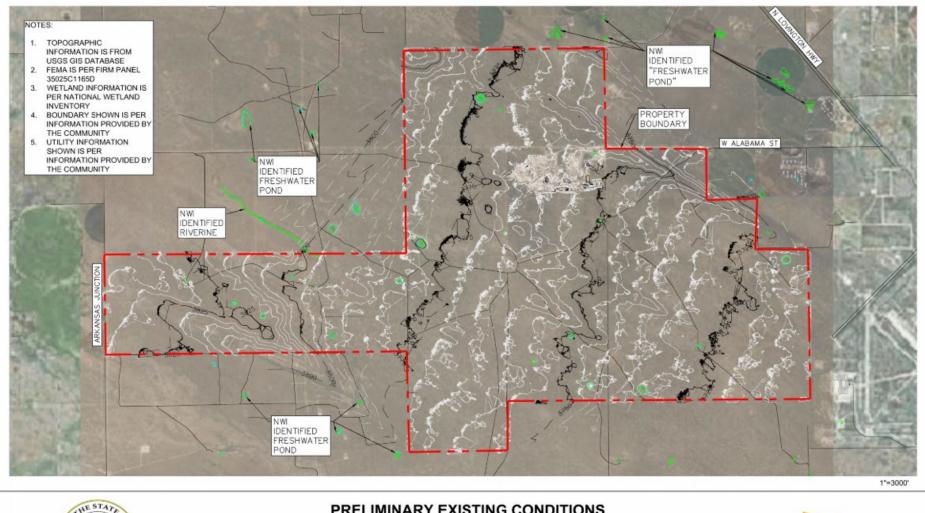


NEW MEXICO SITE READINESS

# Preliminary Conceptual Plan

Disclaimer: The following section was prepared by Gray Construction on behalf of GLS. GLS acknowledges Gray as the author of the content and does not take credit for the work presented in this document. An additional write-up provided by Gray is included in the Appendix.





PRELIMINARY EXISTING CONDITIONS

ENERGYPLEX PARK



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#### PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT - PARCELS

#### ENERGYPLEX PARK

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8313 N DAIRY ST, HOBBS, NM 88240





NEW MEXICO SITE READINESS

## Site Selection Simulation Results

Disclaimer: All content analyzed in the site selection simulation was provided to GLS by 11/20/24.



## Methodology

#### INDUSTRY PROXIES

Below are the models used as proxies to represent several industry types. This allowed GLS to evaluate each site and their competitiveness without confining them and the community to any one industry for recommendations.

Labor-Intensive								
Capital Investment	\$50 - \$300 MM+							
Site								
Acreage	75 acres							
Transportation								
Rail	Not Required							
Truck Traffic	Required							
Utilities								
Electricity	5 MW							
Natural Gas	3 MCF/hour							
Water	75,000 GPD							
Wastewater	50,000 GPD							
Workforce								
Total Employment	400+							
Skill Requirement	Moderate to High							
Industry Examples								
<ul> <li>Food manufacturing</li> <li>Aerospace manufacturing</li> <li>Machinery manufacturing</li> <li>Plastics and rubber manufacturing</li> </ul>								

Capital-Intensive								
Capital Investment	\$250 -\$500 MM+							
Site								
Acreage	100 acres							
Transportation								
Rail	Preferred							
Truck Traffic	Required							
Utilities								
Electricity	100+ MW							
Natural Gas	50 MCF/hour							
Water	1 MGD							
Wastewater	500,000 GPD							
Workforce								
Total Employment	150+							
Skill Requirement	High							
Industry Examples								
<ul> <li>Chemical Manufacturing</li> <li>Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing</li> <li>Primary metals manufacturing</li> <li>Electrical equipment, appliance + component manufacturing</li> </ul>								



### Methodology

#### COMPOSITE ANALYSIS



Quality and cost scores were combined in a composite analysis that reveals the relative attractiveness of each site for the representative labor and capital-intensive projects based on factors outlined. It is important to note that results are relative to the project parameters and the sites in consideration; locations will score better or worse when compared to other locations and considered for other project types. All sites evaluated are in early phases of site readiness; it is expected that all will need to make site readiness improvements in order to compete against currently-marketed sites.

In the graph to the left, scores from the quality analysis are shown on the x-axis, from lowest score on the left to highest score on the right. The average score of is shown as a vertical line on the graph.

Estimated annual operating costs (unburdened payroll, water, wastewater, electricity, and natural gas) are shown on the y-axis, from highest cost on the bottom to lowest cost on the top. The average operating cost is shown horizontally.

The goal of a community should be prioritizing site readiness improvements based on potential ROI. Opportunities to increase quality, decrease cost, and decrease risk will help to migrate a site to the upper righthand quadrant of this composite model.



#### SITE SELECTION SIMULATION

## Labor-Intensive



#### FATAL FLAW ANALYSIS

Labor-Intensive								
Capital Investment	\$50 – \$300 MM+							
Site								
Acreage	75 acres							
Transportation								
Rail	Not Required							
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Workforce								
Total Employment	400+							
Skill Requirement	Moderate to High							
Industry Examples								
<ul><li>Food manufacturing</li><li>Aerospace manufacturing</li></ul>								

- Machinery manufacturing
- Plastics and rubber manufacturing

The requirements and drivers for a typical labor-intensive manufacturing project listed to the left are among the major considerations built into the competitiveness benchmarking.

Siting requirements are minimal for typical labor-intensive manufacturing projects. As a result, sites that are shovelready will have the advantage, with permitting and construction timelines often condensed.

Site access and suitability of local road infrastructure for industrial traffic will be prioritized. Proximity to an interstate or high-quality highway will be a consideration. A specific project's unique supply chain drivers are likely to drive the search region for a general manufacturing project.

Electricity demands are moderate, while water and wastewater are primarily for domestic use. Natural gas requirements are typically minimal, and electricity or propane could be used as an alternative to a natural gas line.

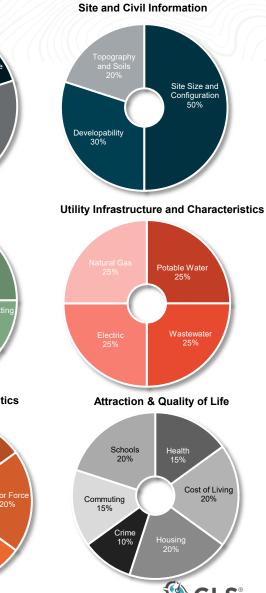
Sites for this type of project will be more readily available across a search region. Consequently, workforce availability, quality, and costs, as well as community attributes, are likely to play a more significant role than for other projects.



#### **Primary Criteria** Use Compatibility 10% Attraction & Site and Civil Quality of Life Information Secondary Criteria 15% 10% Environmental Workforce 10% Characteristics 25% Utility Infrastructure Logistics and Infrastructure Characteristics and 15% Characteristics 15%



#### QUALITY SCORING WEIGHTS



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A quality model will be built specific to the attraction criteria important to a representative a labor-intensive project profile.

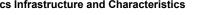
Primary and secondary criteria and weights are shown here. Tertiary criteria scored within the model can be found in the appendix.



Local Road

Infrastructure

40%



Interstate and

Highway Site Access

40%



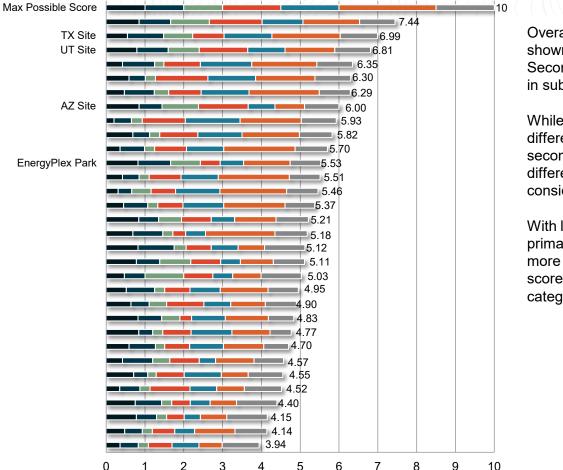
Assessment

Studies

40%



#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



**Quality Scores** 

Overall quality score results are shown in the chart to the left. Secondary criteria charts are shown in subsequent slides.

While there is significant differentiation between sites on the secondary criteria level, there is less differentiation when scores are considered comprehensively.

With limited differentiation on the primary category level, projects are more likely to prioritize site quality scores based on the secondary category level.

- Use Compatibility
- Environmental
- Logistics Infrastructure and Characteristics

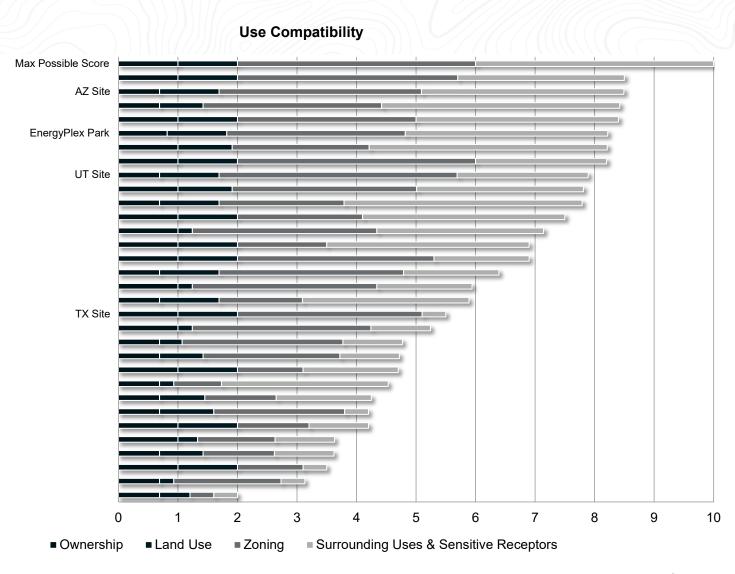
Attraction & Quality of Life

Site and Civil Information

- Utility Infrastructure and Characteristics
- Workforce Characteristics

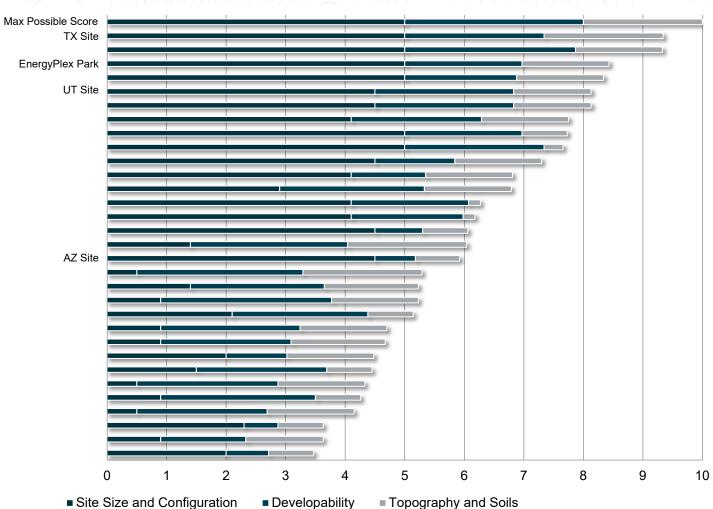


#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



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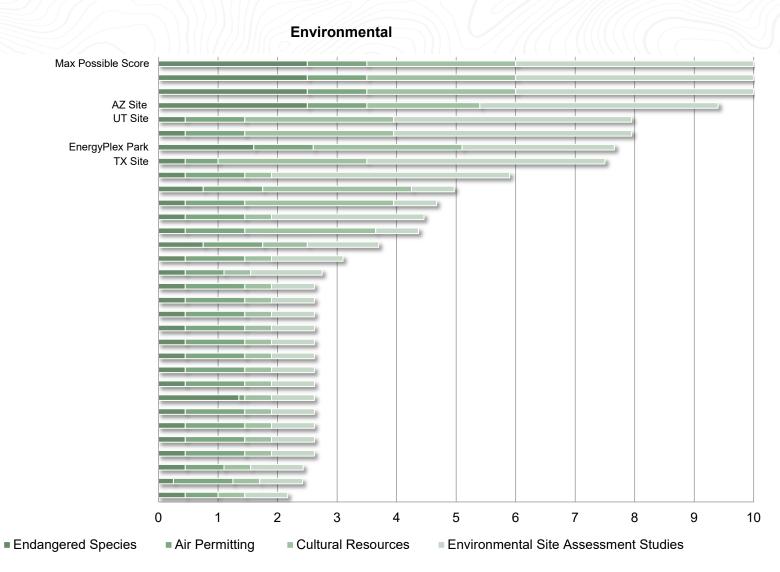
#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



Site and Civil Information

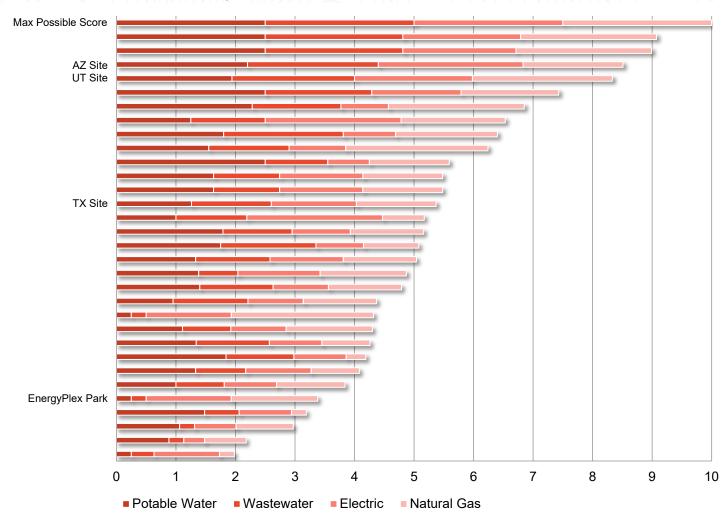


#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



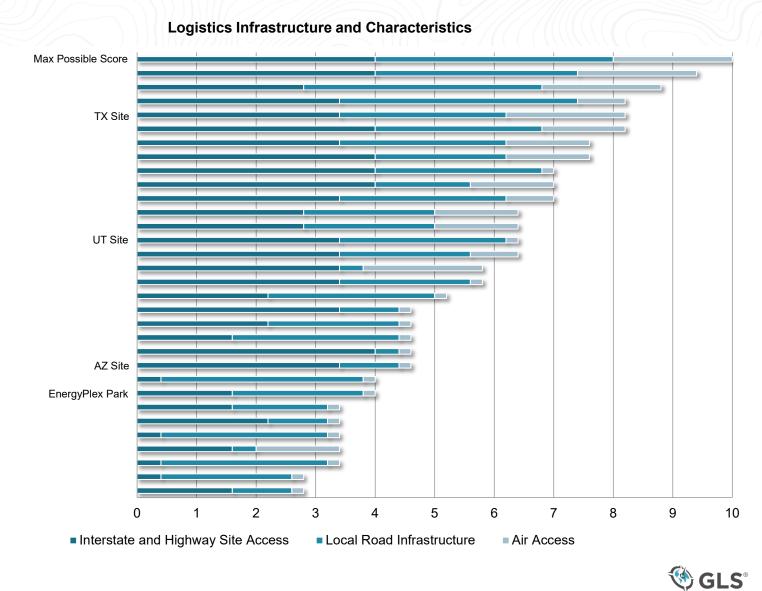
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QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



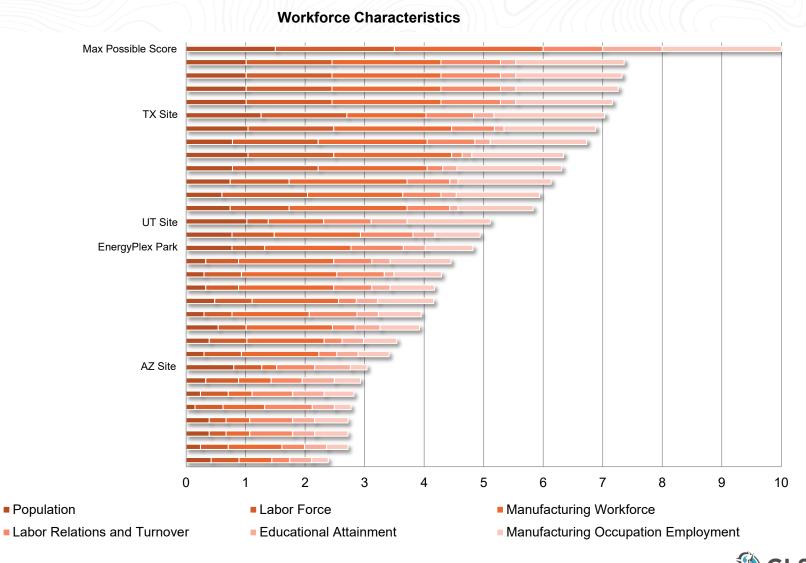
Utility Infrastructure and Characteristics

#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



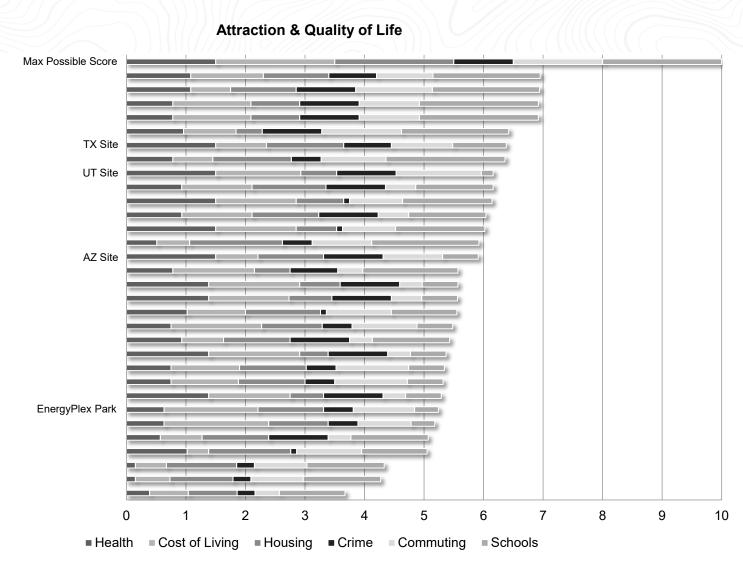
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#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



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#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



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In addition to the quality models, operating and investment costs were estimated for each location.

To estimate wages, a staffing pattern for a typical laborintensive manufacturing project was created. The average wage for each Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) was determined for the 45-minute drive area surrounding the site.

Water and wastewater rate schedules per 1,000 gallons were used where available; proxy rates (75th-percentile of provided rates, so \$6.56 for water and \$9.88 for wastewater) were used when on-site treatment was anticipated or when a rate was not provided or readily available on the municipality website.

To calculate annual project-specific electric bills, an August 2024 EIA Industrial Price was used for all locations. New Mexico's August 2024 EIA Industrial Price is \$5.05 per kWh.

To calculate annual project-specific natural gas bills, a 2022 EIA Industrial Price was used for all locations. New Mexico's 2022 EIA Industrial Price is \$9.62 per MCF.

Of the operating costs considered, unburdened payroll is expected to be the most significant, followed by electricity.

This example shows that for every \$1 per hour increase in payroll, that adds an additional \$800+k per year in annual operating costs.

Annual Impact

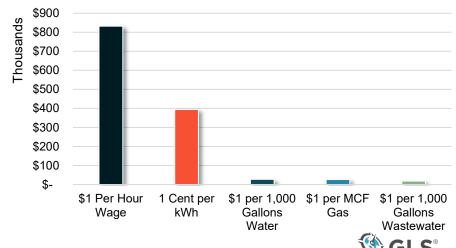
Logistics will be a significant, project-specific cost driver. These costs have not been estimated for this analysis.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: RESULTS

### Wastewater 0.5% Water 0.6% Electricity 8% Payroll 90%

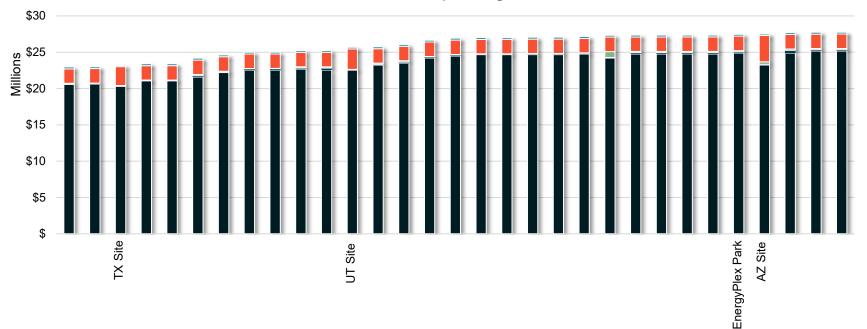
**Average Distribution of Location-Dependent Costs** 





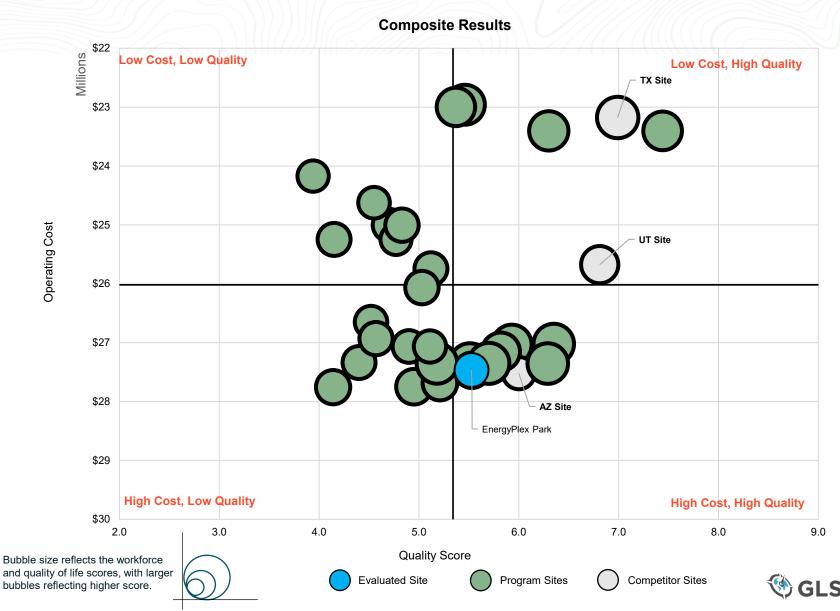
#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: RESULTS

For the operating costs estimated, the difference between the highest and lowest-cost locations in New Mexico is approximately \$4.8 MM annually.



#### **Annual Estimated Operating Cost**

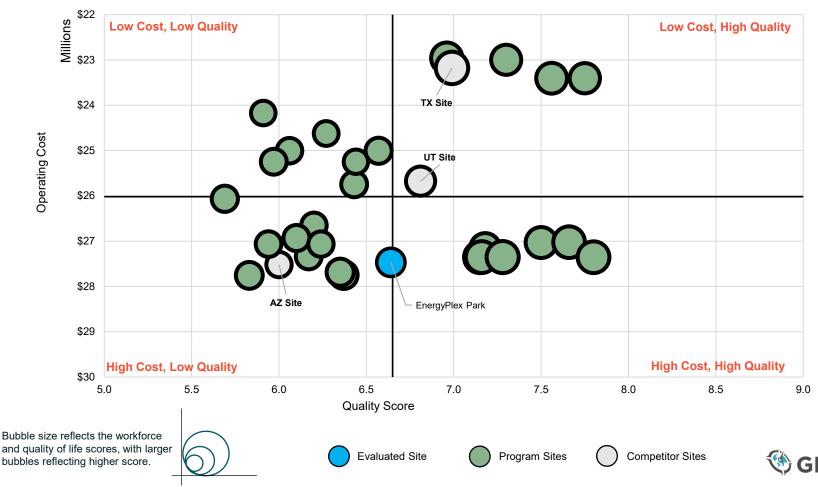
COMPOSITE ANALYSIS: RESULTS



29

#### COMPOSITE ANALYSIS: IMPROVEMENTS

The expectation is that the sites evaluated through this Site Identification program will require some level of site prep prior to marketing for industrial investment. Opportunities to advance each site towards investment readiness was identified, with a cost magnitude and the impact of each improvement determined. The updated composite model shows the new maximum possible score if all sites undergo all improvements that are feasible.



#### **Composite Results After Improvements**

30

#### NEW MEXICO SITE READINESS

## **Capital Intensive**



#### FATAL FLAW ANALYSIS

Capital-Intensive									
Capital Investment	\$250 -\$500 MM+								
Site									
Acreage	100 acres								
Transportation									
Rail	Preferred								
Truck Traffic	Required								
Utilities									
Electricity	100+ MW								
Natural Gas	50 MCF/hour								
Water	1 MGD								
Wastewater	500,000 GPD								
Workforce									
Total Employment	150+								
Skill Requirement	High								
Industry Examples									
<ul> <li>Chemical Manufacturing</li> <li>Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing</li> <li>Primary metals manufacturing</li> </ul>									

• Electrical equipment, appliance + component mfg

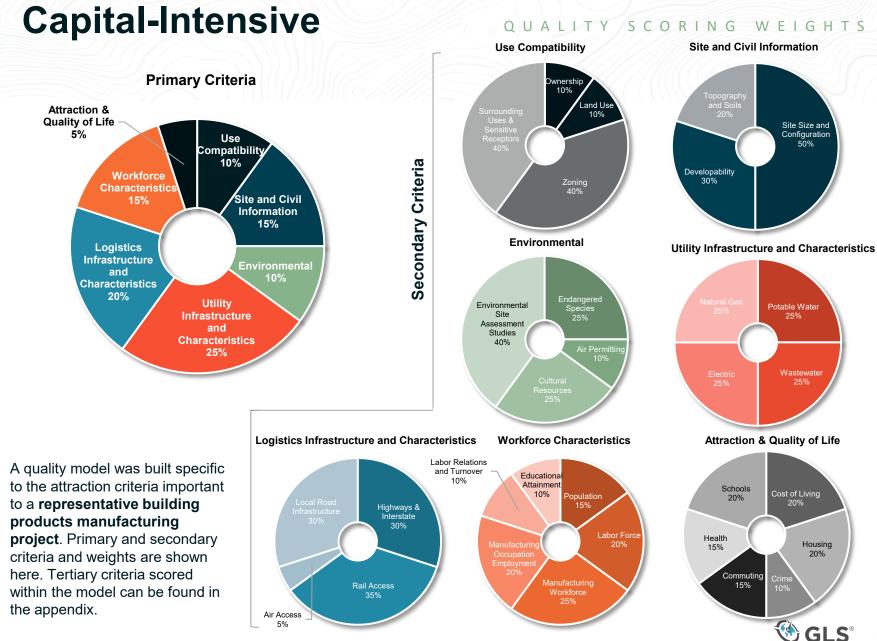
The requirements and drivers for a typical capital-intensive project listed to the left are among the major considerations built into the competitiveness benchmarking.

Siting requirements are more stringent than for a laborintensive or general manufacturing project. A large site, often with on-site rail service, is preferred. There will be fewer sites within a region that meet these requirements, and while investment readiness is a differentiating factor, expectations on site prep work are lower.

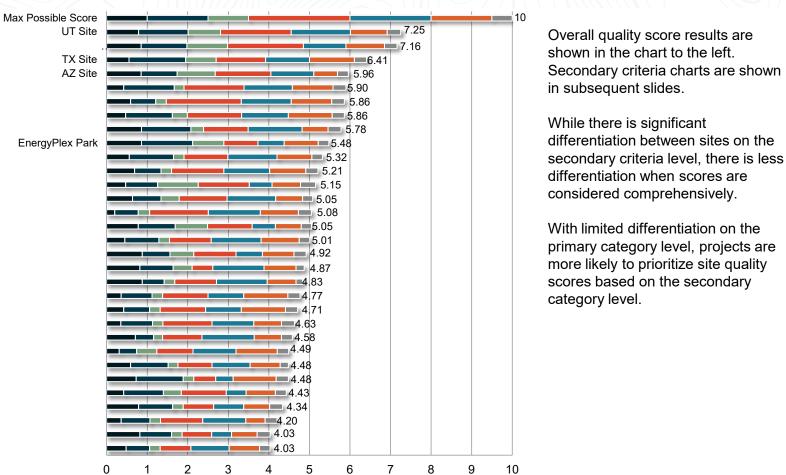
Capital-intensive projects typically require moderate to significant utility requirements. Electricity is needed in high quantities, and redundancy is preferred. Natural gas is often used in the manufacturing process and is needed in quantities that are not negligible. Access to water and wastewater is also a key factor for manufacturing projects.

Identifying sites that meet a project's requirements is likely the first step in the site selection project. Workforce availability, quality, and costs are also important, but are more likely to be considered in detail after site alternatives begin to narrow.





#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



**Quality Scores** 

- Use Compatibility
- Environmental
- Logistics Infrastructure and Characteristics

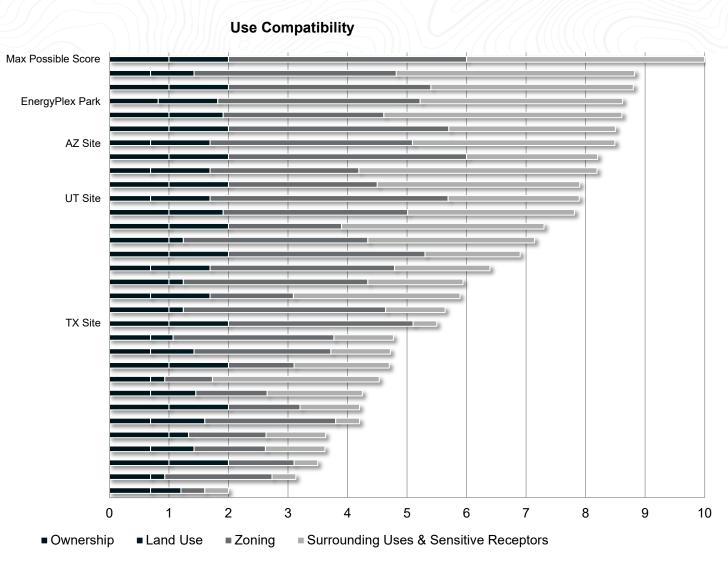
Site and Civil Information

- Utility Infrastructure and Characteristics
- Workforce Characteristics

Attraction & Quality of Life

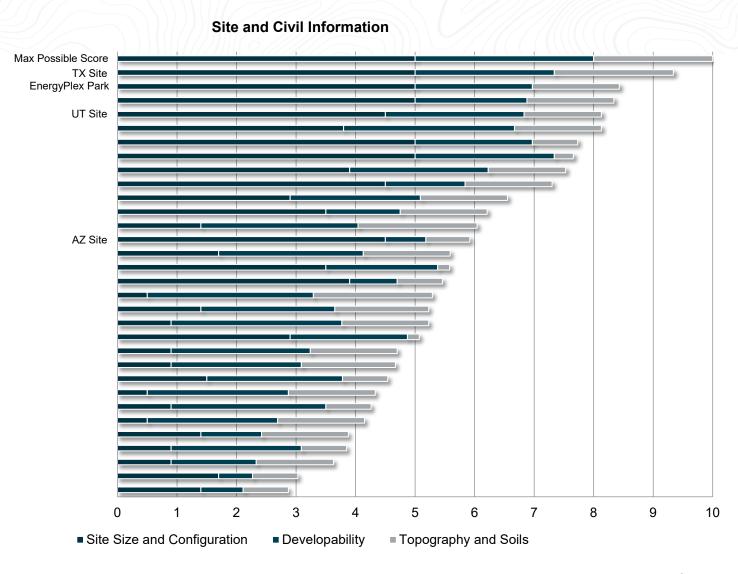


#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



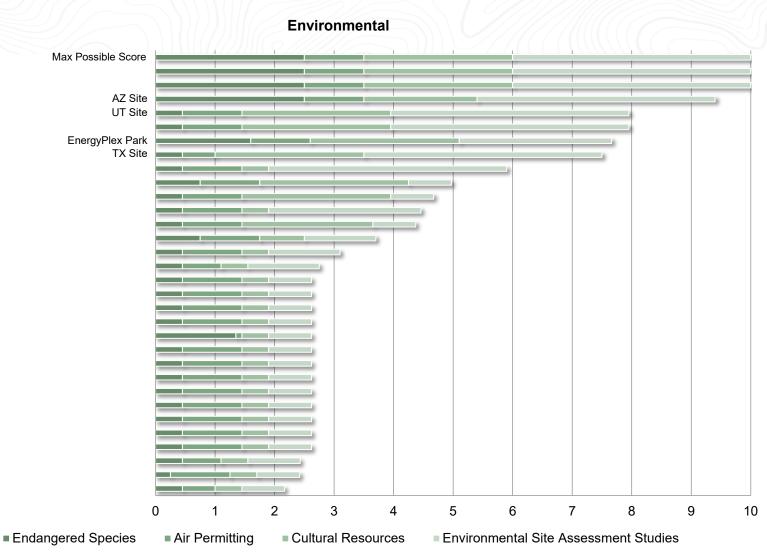
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#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



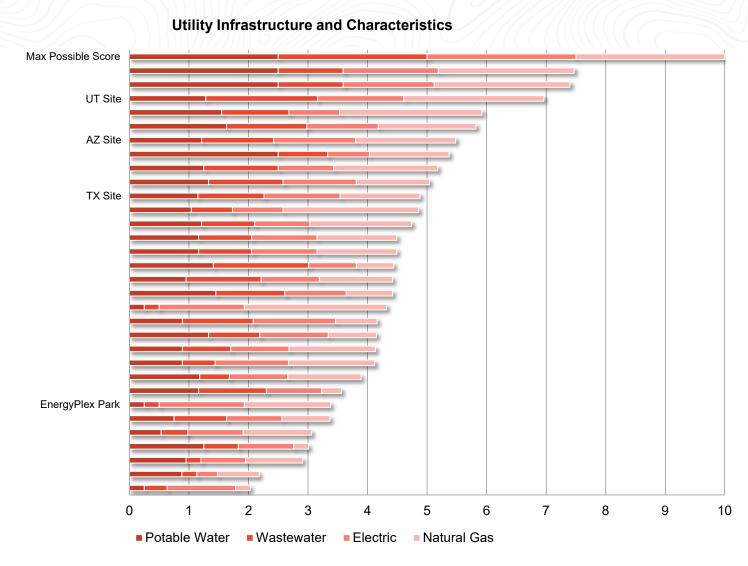
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#### QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



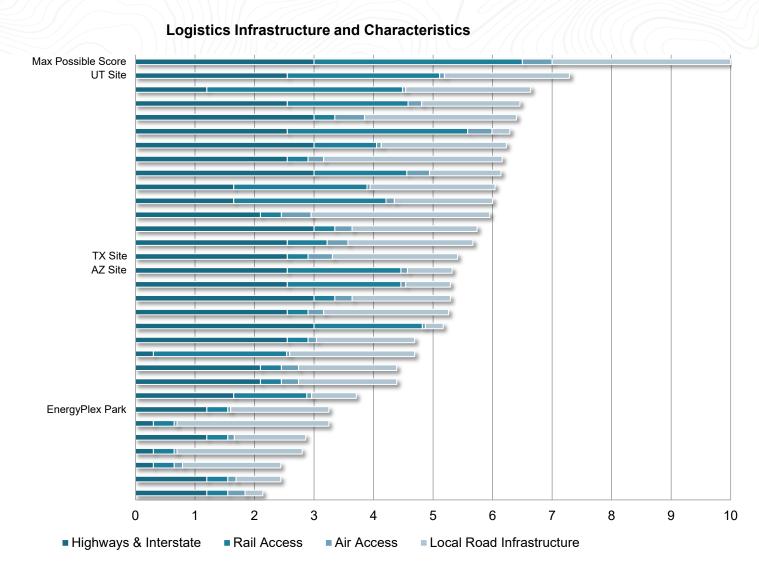
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QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



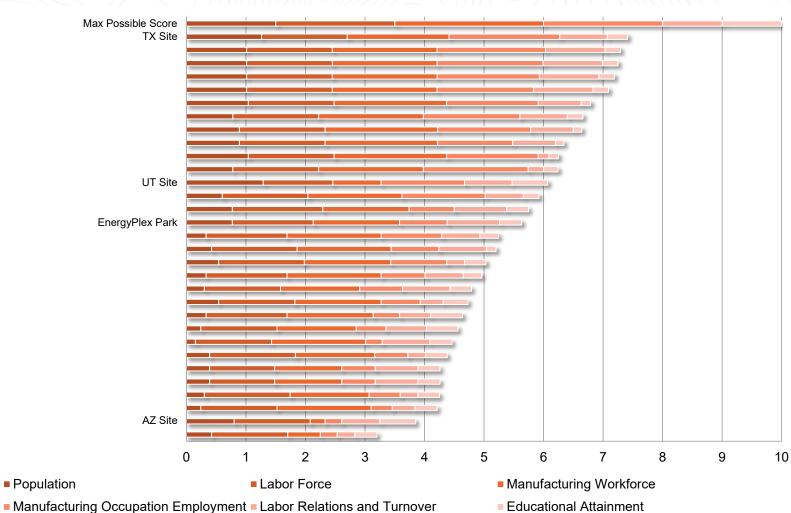
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QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



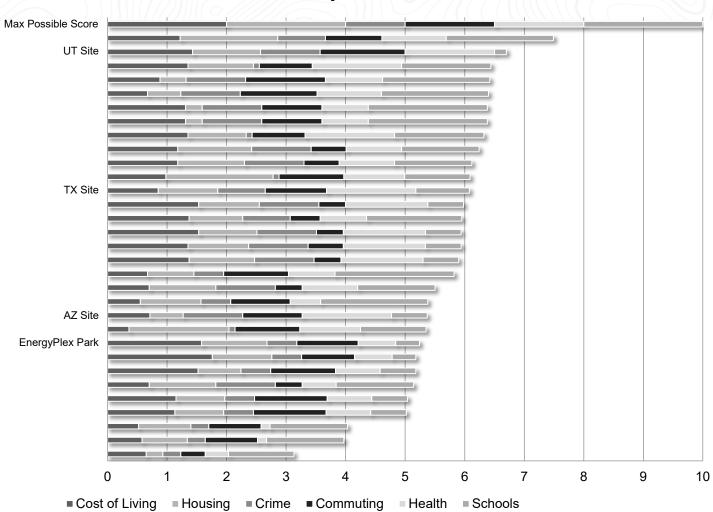
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QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



**Workforce Characteristics** 

QUALITY ANALYSIS: RESULTS



Attraction & Quality of Life

In addition to the quality models, operating and investment costs were estimated for each location.

To estimate wages, a staffing pattern for a typical capital-intensive manufacturing project was created. The average wage for each Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) was determined for the 45-minute drive area surrounding the site.

Water and wastewater rate schedules per 1,000 gallons were used where available; proxy rates (75th-percentile of provided rates, so \$6.56 for water and \$9.88 for wastewater) were used when on-site treatment was anticipated or when a rate was not provided or readily available on the municipality website.

To calculate annual project-specific electric bills, an August 2024 EIA Industrial Price was used for all locations. New Mexico's August 2024 EIA Industrial Price is \$5.05 per kWh.

To calculate annual project-specific natural gas bills, a 2022 EIA Industrial Price was used for all locations. New Mexico's 2022 EIA Industrial Price is \$9.62 per MCF.

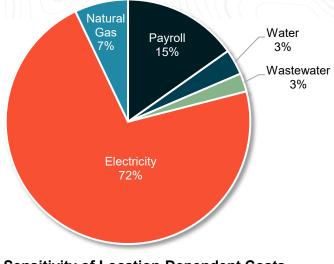
Of the operating costs considered, electricity, unburdened payroll, and natural gas are expected to be the most significant. Annual Impact

Electricity costs are a very sensitive location-dependent factor, with an additional one cent per kWh resulting in nearly \$8 MM additional cost per year.

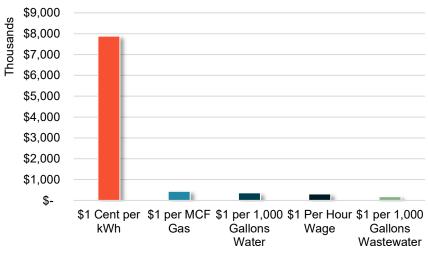
Logistics will be a significant, project-specific cost driver. These costs have not been estimated for this analysis.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: RESULTS

#### Average Distribution of Location-Dependent Costs



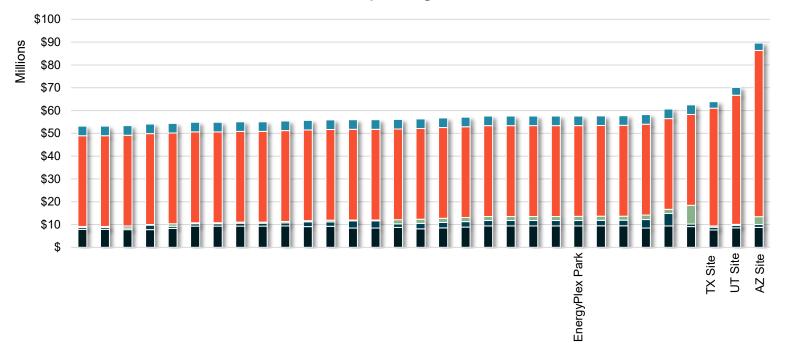
**Sensitivity of Location-Dependent Costs** 





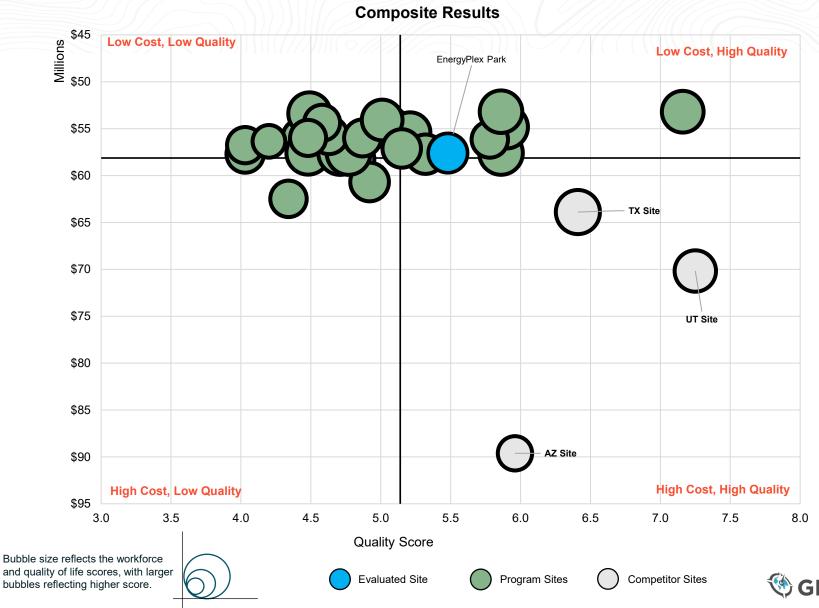
#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: RESULTS

For the operating costs estimated, the difference between the highest and lowest-cost locations in New Mexico is approximately \$9.3 MM annually.



#### Annual Estimated Operating Cost

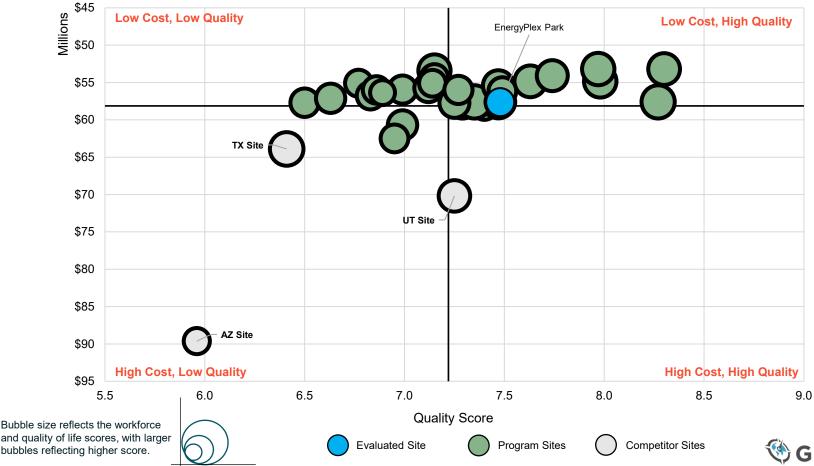
#### COMPOSITE ANALYSIS: RESULTS



44

### Capital-Intensive composite analysis: improvements

The expectation is that the sites evaluated through this Site Identification program will require some level of site prep prior to marketing for industrial investment. Opportunities to advance each site towards investment readiness was identified, with a cost magnitude and the impact of each improvement determined. The updated composite model shows the new maximum possible score if the site undergoes all improvements that are feasible.



#### **Composite Results After Improvements**

° 45

# Site Improvement Opportunities

Disclaimer: All content analyzed in the site improvement opportunities was provided to GLS by 11/21/24.



## **EnergyPlex Park**



### **Gap + Impact Improvement Analysis**

A gap and impact improvement analysis provides feedback on the items that can be completed to provide the biggest impact on the quality score of each site. Those items that are blank (-) indicate items that would not change the site score (already at max score), and those with "N/A" indicate items that are not drivers for that particular project model (labor versus capital).

Improvement Description	Cost Magnitude	Labor Intensive	Capital Intensive
Rezone to Industrial	-	-	-
Wetlands Delineation and Mitigation	\$\$	*	**
Raise site out of Floodplain	\$\$	×	*
Geotech Study with no significant findings	\$	*	**
Endangered Species study with no significant findings	\$	**	**
Archeological/Historical studies with no significant findings	-	-	-
Phase 1 ESA with no significant findings	\$	***	***
75,000 GPD of Water Service	\$\$	***	N/A
1 MGD of Water Service	\$\$	N/A	***
50,000 GPD of Wastewater Service	\$\$	***	N/A
500,000 GPD of Wastewater Service	\$\$	N/A	***
5 MW of Electric Service	\$	*	N/A
100 MW of Electric Service	\$	N/A	**
3 MCF/hour of Natural Gas Service	\$	**	N/A
50 MCF/hour of Natural Gas Service	\$	N/A	**
Improve Site Access	\$\$\$	***	***
Extend Rail on site	\$\$	N/A	***

Disclaimer: since utility capacities are unknown, assumptions were made that upgrades would likely be mild to moderate in cost and impact.

### Recommendations

The most impactful improvement opportunities to advance the site towards investment readiness are as follows:

State Land Plan: Within the 4500 acres, the state owns portions and the county owns portions. The county has a lease on all state property. State parcels are lease only. A land-swap would be required to sell state property. Recommend looking at other land in the state that could be a fit for a land-swap. The goal of the county is to have larger end-users on the site; most heavy industrial users will want to own the land.

02

01

<u>Utility Capacities:</u> Existing power and gas infrastructure is at the site. Utility capacities for electric, gas, water and wastewater are unknown at this time. With a site of this size, large utility demands are likely for end-users. Recommend working with utility providers to understand current capacity, and timelines, upgrades, and cost associated with servicing the site depending on various thresholds. Water and wastewater solutions will be the most complex to solve. The site will likely need to use a well for water and according to the county, wastewater is limited. Recommend understanding if county water and/or wastewater can be accommodated at the site.

03

Site Access: The site does not currently have any access roads; this would need to be built it. Recommend planning out access points, securing relevant easements, and looking into funding sources for road infrastructure. When planning site access, think through best truck traffic routes. Ideally, truck traffic would move in and out of the west side of the property to avoid recreational area.

04

**<u>Rail Service</u>**: Texas New Mexico short line is near the property. Recommend talking with rail provider to understand the viability (ability, timeline and cost) of serving the EnergyPlex Park with rail from the northern side of Hobbs Industrial. With the site being so large, it would be a huge advantage if this could be a rail-served site when trying to attract industrial users.



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#### Disclaimer.

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# Appendix



# Preliminary Conceptual Plan Additional Material

Disclaimer: The following section was prepared by Gray Construction on behalf of GLS. GLS acknowledges Gray as the author of the content and does not take credit for the work presented in this document.

53





## **Tertiary Criteria**



### **Use Compatibility**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
	Number of Owners
Ownership	Control of Property
	Sale or Lease
	Current Land Use
Land Use	Most Recent Prior Use
	Existing Structures
Zoning	Current Zoning
	Height Restrictions
	Rezoning Process
Surrounding Uses & Sensitive	Surrounding Land Use Suitability
Receptors	Sensitive Receptors



### **Site and Civil Information**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
Site Size and Configuration	Total Size
	Total Contiguous and Developable Acreage without Improvements
	Site Configuration
Topography and Soils	Impact From Soil Borings
	Topography
Developability	Wetlands Delineation
	Impact From Wetlands
	Impact From Floodplain
	Impact from Mineral Rights
	Nearby Airport Impact



### Environmental

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
Endangered Species	Endangered Species Study
	Endangered Species Study Impact
Air Permitting	Air Quality Attainment
	Class 1 Areas
	Proximity to Major Air Emitter
Environmental Site Assessment Studies	Phase I ESA
	Phase I Findings Impact
Cultural Resources	Cultural Resources Study
	Cultural Resources Impact



# Utility Infrastructure and Characteristics

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
	Potable Water Availability
	Potable Water Distance
Potable Water	Water Line Size
	Water Line Capacity
	Ability to Serve
	Complexity to Serve
	Wastewater Availability
Wastewater	Wastewater Distance
	Wastewater Line Size
	Wastewater Excess Capacity
	Ability to Serve
	Complexity to Serve



# **Utility Infrastructure and Characteristics**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
Electric	Electric Supply
	Distribution Line Distance
	Construction Power
	Existing Capacity to Serve
	New Infrastructure Required to Serve
Natural Gas	Natural Gas Availability
	Natural Gas Distance
	Natural Gas Distribution Line Size
	Ability to Serve
	Complexity of Upgrades to Serve



### Logistics Infrastructure and Characteristics

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
	Distance to Interstate
Highways & Interstate	Distance to 4-Lane Highway
Rail Access	Direct Rail Service
	Type of Carrier
	Direct Rail Service Type
	Rail Extension Distance
Air Access	Airport Commercial
	Runway Access
Local Road Infrastructure	Site Access Improvement Significance
	Route Suitability



### **Workforce Characteristics**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
	Population Size
Population	Population Annual Average Growth Rate
Population	Median Age
	Population 25-44 Years %
	Total Workforce Size (16 and older)
	Labor Force Participation Rate (16 and older) %
Labor Force	Unemployment – Most Recent Available %
	Prime Age Labor Force Participation Size (22-54 years old)
	Prime Age Labor Force Participation Rate (22-54 years old) %
Manufacturing Workforce	Manufacturing Turnover %
	Location Quotient - Manufacturing
	Manufacturing Employment



### **Workforce Characteristics**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
Manufacturing Occupation Employment	Employment - Production Occupations 51-0000
	5 Year Percent Change Employment Production Occupations 51-0000
	Employment - Architecture + Engineering Occupations 17-0000
	5 Year Percent Change Employment - Architecture + Engineering Occupations 17-0000
	Employment - General and Operations Managers 11-1020
	5 Year Percent Change Employment - General + Operations Managers
	Employment - Installation Maintenance + Repair Occupations 49-0000
	5 Year Percent Change Employment - Installation Maintenance + Repair Occupations 49-0000
Labor Relations and Turnover	Manufacturing Turnover %
	Manufacturing Union Membership



### **Workforce Characteristics**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
Educational Attainment	No High School Diploma
	High School Graduate
	Some College or Associates Degree
	Bachelor's Degree
	Postgraduate Degree



### **Attraction and Quality of Life**

Secondary Criteria	Tertiary Criteria
<u></u>	K-12 Pupil-Teacher Ratio within County
Schools	K-12 Spending per Pupil within County
	Median Household Income
Cost of Living	Poverty Level %
Cost of Living	Per Capita Income
	Home Price to Income Ratio
	Total Housing Units
Housing	Homeowner Vacancy %
Housing	Rental Vacancy %
	Median House Value
Crime	Violent Crimes per 1,000 Residents
	Mean Commuting Time (Minutes)
Commuting	Worked In Region of Residence %
	Worked Outside Region of Residence %
Health	Percent of County in Poor or Fair Health
nealui	Primary Physicians (number)

