Strengthening the Gulf Coast's Competitiveness in Energy and Chemicals

MARCH 2026

HOUSTON ENERGY TRANSITION INITIATIVE

MORE ENERGY, LESS EMISSIONS

GREATER HOUSTON **PARTNERSHIP**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Texas–Louisiana Gulf Coast is one of the most important energy-producing and refining corridors in the United States – critical to the nation's energy security and economic competitiveness. Texas alone accounts for approximately 43% of total U.S. crude-oil production and 28% of U.S. natural-gas gross withdrawals, reflecting its central role in supplying the nation's primary energy feedstocks.[1] The region is also home to the largest concentration of refining capacity in the country. Texas and Louisiana host 50 operable petroleum refineries with the ability to process about 9.3 million barrels of crude oil per day, representing about half of U.S. refining capacity.[2] This concentration of production and processing makes the Gulf Coast one of the most critical energy hubs in the world.[3]

Beyond fuels, the Gulf Coast is also the center of the nation's petrochemical supply chain. A supply-chain assessment by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts reports that facilities in Texas and Louisiana collectively produce around 80% of the nation's primary petrochemical supply, underscoring the uniquely high concentration of chemical production in the region.[3] Texas alone shipped approximately $117.5 billion in chemical products in the most recent reporting year, reflecting the scale and economic significance of this industrial base.[4] Employment concentration data further demonstrate the region's specialization: Texas's basic chemical manufacturing sector maintains a location quotient nearly three times the U.S. average, indicating a significantly higher share of the national workforce in this sector.[5]

The close integration of crude-oil refining, natural-gas processing, petrochemical manufacturing, pipelines, and port infrastructure along the Texas–Louisiana coastline is unmatched elsewhere in the country. These interconnected assets provide the feedstocks, fuels, and basic chemicals essential for downstream industries ranging from plastics and packaging to agriculture, construction materials, pharmaceuticals, and advanced manufacturing. With such a large share of U.S. refining and petrochemical capacity concentrated in one geographic region, the Gulf Coast's resilience and competitiveness are directly tied to the nation's broader economic and industrial security.

Yet, the region's growth in energy and chemical manufacturing will depend on its ability to compete with modern infrastructure, supply chains, and productivity practices. Additionally, maintaining business competitiveness will require not only efficiency improvements across the industry, but also the development of new energy value chains that lead to enhanced and sustained growth in the industry. New technology development can be achieved best through intentional collaboration between national labs, academia at earlier technology readiness levels and industry's deployment at more mature technology readiness levels. In this context, the following workshop examined the scientific, technological, and collaborative foundations necessary to maintain the Gulf Coast's competitive edge.

[1] https://www.eia.gov/state/print.php?sid=TX
[2] https://www.eia.gov/state/print.php?sid=LA
[3] https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/supply-chain/2021/chem.php
[4] https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/supply-chain/2021/chem.php
[5] https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/supply-chain/2021/chem.php

ESSENTIAL PARTNERS

The Greater Houston Partnership, through its Houston Energy Transition Initiative (HETI), builds on the best of traditional energy skills and systems, leveraging industry leadership to accelerate global solutions for the dual challenge of producing more energy with lower emissions. The Partnership is the principal business organization for the greater Houston region, and HETI convenes industry, academia, government agencies and offices, nonprofits, and environmental nonprofits to collaborate on shared "more energy, lower emissions" challenges.

In the fall of 2025, HETI and a coalition of national laboratories, industry leaders, and U.S. Gulf Coast academic institutions continued its series of annual workshops to address mutual scientific challenges and grow the connectivity between academic institutions, national laboratories, and the industry. These three groups were chosen to build relationships, share learnings, and leverage their collective strengths.

National Laboratories: The 17 U.S. DOE laboratories conduct scientific research and development to address complex challenges in areas such as energy, critical material supply chains, national security, and advanced manufacturing technologies. There is no national laboratory located in the Gulf Coast, but the labs' research has broad application for the energy and chemicals industries.

U.S. Gulf Coast Academic Institutions: Academic institutions are a hub of early scientific research alongside national laboratories, leading to scale-up and deployment for industry. These higher education institutions build the pipeline of researchers and technicians through cross-sectoral education, starting as early as high school and 2-year and 4-year institutions.

U.S. Gulf Coast Chemicals and Energy Industry: The Gulf Coast chemical manufacturing and energy industry produces products and derivatives critical for electricity, transportation, health care, agriculture, clean drinking water, and thousands of commercial products such as construction materials, packaging, detergents, and textiles. The concentration of industrial assets, technical knowledge of manufacturing at scale, and decision-making authority along the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast is unparalleled and ripe for scaling the next generation of energy and chemicals technologies.

These three groups form the foundation for the collaborative solutions highlighted throughout the findings of this report.

The closed workshop was held at the Greater Houston Partnership under the Chatham House Rule. Attendees included technical and business leaders from chemical manufacturing and energy companies with Gulf Coast-based assets or corporate offices, academic institutions located along the Gulf Coast, and national laboratories, Argonne National Laboratory, Idaho National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Laboratory of the Rockies, and National Energy Technology Laboratory, with the University of Houston, Louisiana State University, Rice University, Texas A&M University serving as co-hosts with HETI.

Students from the University of Houston served as scribes for the meeting and collected key findings and recommendations made by the workshop's participants. The Partnership thanks Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Vice President of Energy and Innovation, Dr. Suryanarayanan Radhakrishnan, Managing Director of Energy, at the University of Houston, and University of Houston staff and students for their contributions to this paper.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Gulf Coast is already a leader in energy and chemicals manufacturing, but the future is uncertain. While the U.S. is the world's largest producer of oil and natural gas, we must continue to strengthen the country's competitiveness across energy and chemicals technologies. For example, China has undertaken a massive power generation, transmission and distribution build out adding 429 gigawatts of new generation in 2024 and investing twice as much as the U.S. in power plants.[6] China has invested significantly in petrochemical capacity expansions, which have exerted significant downward pressure on industry margins.[7] China dominates global critical mineral supply chains and processing, which threaten U.S. energy, electronics and telecommunications security.

The Gulf Coast can adapt to changing global energy systems by strengthening the nation's energy and chemicals supply chain resilience, leading in scientific research, development and deployment, and adapting to stakeholder demands. The task cannot be met alone, however. Through discussions at the workshop a hypothesis emerged – if the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast can establish a world-class model of collaboration amongst universities, national laboratories and industry, the region will strengthen the nation's energy and chemicals competitiveness and security. Through a series of small group discussions, attendees illuminated the following findings and recommendations. Attendees made it clear that this can only be achieved by partnerships between Gulf Coast industry to scale and deploy technologies and national labs and academic institutions which can support research development and derisking.

FINDING 1 – CONNECTING INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA WITH UNIQUE NATIONAL LABORATORY CAPABILITIES FOR SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE

Resilience was a recurring theme across workshop discussions. Participants agreed that resilience depends on the diversity of supply, flexibility of operations, and speed of recovery after disruption. The last decade, marked by supply shocks associated with the global pandemic, severe weather (fires, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and droughts), and global competition, has revealed how interdependent energy and manufacturing systems have become.

The national labs are developing technologies to reduce lead times and enhance adaptability in manufacturing. For example, Oak Ridge National Laboratory has a Manufacturing Demonstration Facility supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Advanced Materials & Manufacturing Technologies Office, which focuses on early-stage research and development to improve energy and material efficiency, productivity and competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers. This facility has been used to harness artificial intelligence (AI) to validate and qualify new designs of three-dimensional printed blades for use inside gas turbine engines, a critical supply chain component. The laboratory also has remanufacturing capabilities for the repair and refurbishment of heavy machinery, manufacturing equipment and consumer goods, which can close supply chain gaps.

[6] https://www.wsj.com/business/energy-oil/ai-data-centers-desperate-for-electricity-are-building-their-own-power-plants-291f5c81?gaa_at=eafs&gaa_n=AWEtsqcNPU0cbx_cr0fOtyANdx9NDBRZNroMfoKXb7a61KlT2_lfzyEXHhR9DOWpluc%3D&gaa_ts=69601761&gaa_sig=dqc0iY5oFfG3ExmTKtRhiOak0bruSOiYnIwE-su-e5-pcaT7iBjiFFwfpk1356bemd4tmkUkjjS0fpBf5yzUog%3D%3D

[7] https://www.woodmac.com/news/opinion/petrochemicals-in-peril-oversupply-crisis-and-energy-transition-threaten-industry-survival/

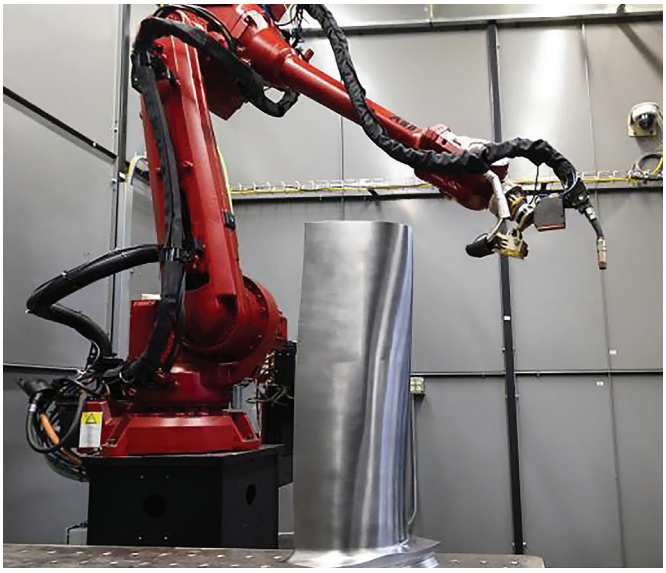

Photo of Oak Ridge's Manufacturing Demonstration Facility courtesy of Carlos Jones and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy.

Argonne National Laboratory has several one-of-a-kind facilities that support energy technology discovery and innovation. The Materials Engineering Research Facility (MERF) applies advanced synthesis and processing protocols, *in situ/operando* characterization and modeling/simulation for the science-based scale-up of newly invented experimental materials and chemicals. The facility produces kilogram quantities of materials and makes samples available for industrial evaluation, prototyping, and to support further research. The MERF develops economically viable processes for materials manufacturing at scale and produces detailed process descriptions for accurate cost modeling (techno-economic analysis). Argonne's Advanced Photon Source has expanded scientific research with ultrabright and coherent X-rays that capture data in unprecedented detail. The Argonne Leadership Computing Facility houses some of the fastest supercomputers in the world, and the Center for Nanoscale Materials studies the smallest materials for innovative discoveries.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory also houses unique facilities such as the National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center, which helps researchers to optimize complex industry system operations and controls and enable new materials discovery, which can aid the development of new energy value chains or strengthen existing supply chains.

The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) has invested in unique pre-pilot and pilot scale facilities that are relevant to new technology development for the chemicals and refining sectors. These include the Advanced Alloy Signature Center where industrially relevant process equipment is used to demonstrate the production and testing of alloys for severe service applications as well as the Reaction Analysis and Transformation Facility where pilot scale microwave conversion units have been used to explore new approaches to commodity chemical production such as natural gas reforming, ammonia production and plastics recycling.

The National Laboratory of the Rockies (formerly NREL) uses its Advanced Research on Integrated Energy Systems (ARIES) platform, in partnership with industrial partners, to investigate how systems respond to grid disruptions caused by weather and other factors. ARIES is the U.S. Department of Energy's most advanced energy systems research platform—offering unmatched scale and complexity to accelerate the validation of secure, affordable, and integrated technologies across all of the country's energy sectors. NLR is also finishing construction of its Energy Materials and Processing at Scale facility that will help address scale-up challenges for advanced energy technologies.

RECOMMENDATION #1 – CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVED INDUSTRY-LABORATORY-ACADEMIC COLLABORATION ON CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAINS

These facilities are each unique to the U.S. DOE National Laboratories, yet they focus on technology readiness levels (TRLs) 1-7 generally, leaving deployment to industry. Improved collaboration between the private sector and national laboratories and universities responsible for early fundamental scientific research is needed to increase the speed to commercialization and the further development of critical energy supply chains. **Workshop participants recommended that the Gulf Coast organize specialized mission trips to the national laboratories to further build relationships, familiarize the Gulf Coast with unique laboratory assets and capabilities, and identify areas for collaborative technology development.** These visits should focus on critical supply chains to the Gulf Coast and areas where the region is already specialized or advantaged including issues related to power generation, transmission and distribution (e.g., transformers, turbines), petrochemical manufacturing (e.g., high process heat, novel catalysts), and refining. Another pressing need is expansion of capabilities at key national laboratories to address major scaling challenges informed by industry and fed by new academic and national lab discoveries.

FINDING #2. BRIDGE TECHNOLOGY GAPS THROUGH THE POWER OF MODELING AND COMPUTING

The workshop participants consistently identified the gap between scientific discovery and commercial deployment as one of the most persistent barriers to innovation. They highlighted that universities tend to focus on fundamental research (TRL 1 to TRL 3), national laboratories on fundamental research and applied development (TRL 1 to TRL 7), and the industry on deployment (TRL 7 to TRL 9). Bridging these silos requires greater intentional collaboration among all entities as well as utilization of key technologies in modeling, processing and computing.

Participants highlighted that across the national labs and energy industry, artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum computing provide the necessary optimized, high-speed computing capabilities for scaling emerging technologies and manufacturing, modeling new systems with diversified feedstocks, and process integration. The quality and volume of data available across the national labs were also identified as a massive opportunity for multi-lab collaborations. The academic partners highlighted that these technologies offer new ways for thinking about research design, methodologies, and communication; however, they will not replace human creativity and foundational scientific thinking. Hence, institutions of higher education are adapting to these changes and innovating their curriculum and learning methodologies.

National labs possess a suite of modeling and computing capabilities which can help early scientific research in universities and later-stage technology development and deployment in industry. These technologies offer realistic pathways to accelerate value chains, strengthen supply chains, bridge the gaps between the different TRLs the partners operate in, and solve innovation problems that classical computing and prevalent multiscale modeling are unable to address.

In advance of the workshop this year, HETI hosted Argonne National Laboratory to present its Strategic Technology Roadmapping and Energy, Environmental, and Economic Analysis Model (STREAM) to Gulf Coast industry leaders and technical practitioners. **This convening provided a platform for the laboratory to share its modeling capabilities with industry and gave industry an opportunity to provide feedback on the tool to ensure that it is truly useful to industry decision makers.**

Beyond these local engagements, there are also opportunities for the Gulf Coast to aid in national efforts. In November 2025, the Trump Administration launched the "Genesis Mission" as a dedicated, coordinated national effort to unleash a new age of AI-accelerated innovation and discovery. The Genesis Mission will build an integrated AI platform to harness federal scientific datasets — the world's largest collection of such datasets, developed over decades of Federal investments — to train scientific foundation models and create AI agents to test new hypotheses, automate research workflows, and accelerate scientific breakthroughs. The Genesis Mission will bring together the nation's research and development resources — combining the efforts of American scientists, including those at the national laboratories, with industry; world-renowned universities; and existing research infrastructure, data repositories, production plants, and national security sites — to achieve dramatic acceleration in AI development and utilization. The Genesis Mission will focus on applications for fusion, the grid, discovery science in particles, molecules and quantum computing, critical materials and advanced manufacturing.[8]

Future work in the Gulf Coast with industry, national labs and academia, should make every effort to support and accelerate the federal Genesis Mission.

[8] https://genesis.energy.gov/

RECOMMENDATION #2. STRENGTHEN PUBLIC, OPEN-ACCESS MODELING AND COMPUTING CAPABILITIES

Workshop participants agreed that it would be beneficial for HETI to convene further training and feedback sessions on laboratory models. Given the national emphasis and industrial sector's focus on affordable and reliable power, a session could be hosted on Argonne's Low-carbon Electricity Analysis Framework (A-LEAF), an integrated national-scale power system simulation framework that includes a suite of capacity expansion, unit commitment, and economic dispatch models. A-LEAF can determine the least-cost generation investment and retirement plans, transmission investment plans, and hourly or sub-hourly system scheduling all under a range of user-defined input assumptions for technology characteristics, electricity demand profiles, system requirements, and electricity market designs.

An additional training session could be hosted with the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR). The Materials Flows Through Industry (MFI), for example, models U.S. industrial sector supply chains. From evaluating energy and materials inputs in the initial manufacturing stages to those of the final production stages, this tool informs the manufacturing process from resource extraction ("cradle") to the factory gate.

Process integration was a key theme of the workshop, which poses unique challenges to integrating new technologies on existing industrial sites, manufacturing systems or networks and often requires systems of systems analysis. Both the National Energy Technology Laboratory and the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR) possess expertise in these fields of modeling, and should be invited to meet with Gulf Coast energy leaders for a training and feedback session.

For example, NETL's Institute for the Design of Advanced Energy Systems (IDAES) platform provides a powerful open-source foundation for advanced technology selection and optimization. IDAES systematically identifies optimal designs (including emerging technology options) and operating conditions for complex energy and chemical systems, simultaneously solving for numerous degrees of freedom. This comprehensive analytical framework is crucial for de-risking new technology adoption and accelerating commercialization across diverse applications like critical mineral recovery, carbon capture, and water treatment, all highly pertinent to the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast.

FINDING #3 STREAMLINING THE PROCESS FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Workshop participants also discussed the mechanisms for collaboration. A key topic of discussion was the Cooperative Research and Development Agreement, or CRADA, and the Strategic Partnership Project (SPP) processes. A CRADA is a written agreement between a federal laboratory and an industry partner or university to collaborate on a project. A CRADA is one of the chief agreement mechanisms used by DOE and other federal laboratories to engage in collaborative efforts with non-federal partners to achieve goals of technology transfer. A Strategic Partnership Project, or SPP, is a fee-for-service contract mechanism that enables industry, non-profit institutions, and other non-federal entities to pay labs to perform a defined scope of work. This work must draw upon the lab's unique facilities, equipment, or personnel.

These processes can be time intensive, taking weeks, months or years. In June 2025, the Trump administration released a memo to streamline the process for the labs to engage in opportunities related to Strategic Partnership Projects (SPP) and Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA).

RECOMMENDATION #3 IMPROVING ACCESS TO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The Gulf Coast should continue to work collaboratively with the national labs and U.S. Department of Energy as they work to implement the changes to the SPP and CRADA process. Goals of this collaboration should include protection of intellectual property rights and increased utilization of laboratory resources for the benefit of national labs and Gulf Coast industry and academia. As changes evolve in the SPP and CRADA process, HETI should facilitate dialogues between industry, academia and national labs on the process and associated improvements.

FINDING #4. REDUCING THE TIME TO TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Across the discussions, participants emphasized that the national labs excel when they focus on well-defined problems where their unique infrastructure and expertise provide the most value. The national labs perform well when their research and innovation are embedded in collaborative, multi-disciplinary and multi-partner consortia environments, which allow them to pool capabilities and expertise for breakthroughs. Such environments also allow for the de-risking of early-stage technologies, rapidly creating and strengthening new value chains, supporting technology transfer from universities and national labs to industry, and co-location of physical infrastructure between the essential partners.

The national labs have maintained mission continuity and success by rooting their work in their scientific capabilities, multi-partner and multidisciplinary collaborations, and strong alignment with priorities of national interest and security, including supply chain resilience, affordability, and global competitiveness. Simultaneously, the labs have grown their ability to quickly pivot into emerging domains.

Attendees noted a prime example of this in the development of lithium-ion batteries. U.S. scientists originally invented lithium battery technology, with much of the early research coming from Argonne National Laboratory and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in the 1980s. The United States and U.S. companies today have lost the advantage and are behind in this critically important industrial sector. Key deficiencies are in manufacturing knowhow and access to both raw and refined energy materials. The market for lithium battery cells in the U.S. is growing rapidly and expected to reach $55 billion per year by 2030. Yet, it is estimated that under current conditions U.S. companies and U.S. workers will capture less than 30% of the value of cells consumed domestically.[9] This economic competitiveness imperative spurred the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a strategy for establishing a strong supply chain for lithium battery technology in North America, called Li-Bridge, and is an example of the kinds of public-private partnerships needed to establish the scientific research and development that underpins a competitive advantage in a new technology and is a cautionary tale of investments that are cut short.

[9] https://www.anl.gov/sites/www/files/2023-02/Li-Bridge%20Industry%20Report_0.pdf

Numerous other consortiums focused on narrow technological challenges have also been built amongst national laboratories, academic institutions and industry. For example, in 2017 the Rapid Advancement in Process Intensification Deployment (RAPID) Institute, a Manufacturing USA Institute which included many of the national labs, was established. RAPID focuses on addressing barriers to enable the development of breakthrough technologies to boost energy productivity and energy efficiency through manufacturing processes in industries such oil and gas, pulp and paper and various domestic chemical manufacturers. RAPID leverages modular chemical process intensification (MCPI) — such as combining multiple process steps such as mixing, reaction, and separation into single more complex and intensified processes — with the goal of improving productivity and efficiency, cutting capital expenses and operating costs, and reducing waste. While this consortium focuses on modularization, areas of focus for the Gulf Coast for future consortiums should leverage the extensive existing network of industrial assets in the region to address complex process integration challenges, including issues such as energy productivity and intensity.

These consortium models are chiefly useful to reduce research and development timelines. Time to commercial scale for hardtech is long, with the lithium-ion battery as a key example with scientific research starting in the 1970's, first commercially available battery produced in 1991, and a Nobel Prize awarded in 2019. Accelerating technology commercialization through sustained partnerships between national laboratories, universities, and industry is critical.

To accelerate technology development, several academic institutions such as Rice University and University of Houston have established memorandums of understanding (MOU) between individual national laboratories and their respective universities. In 2024, Argonne National Laboratory signed a MOU with the Greater Houston Partnership to enable greater collaboration across academia, local industry (incumbent and startup), private investors and government to accelerate the translation, evaluation and pre-commercialization of breakthrough energy and chemicals technologies. That same year, Argonne also funded three jointly appointed researchers in residence at the University of Houston. Since 2023, University of Houston, Tulane University and Argonne National Laboratory have partnered on Argonne's Success Path Method tool for risk modeling in Gulf Coast offshore energy applications. These collaborations lay the foundation for future growth and investment in public-private partnerships between Gulf Coast academia, industry and the national laboratories.

Greater Houston Partnership and Argonne National Laboratory sign MOU in 2024

RECOMMENDATION #4 – TIME FOR A GULF COAST INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA-LABORATORY PARTNERSHIP

Building on the MOU, **the workshop participants called for a regional consortium to formalize collaboration between laboratories, universities, and Gulf Coast industries. Such a consortium would co-locate additional national lab researchers, share modeling data, and establish open-access pilot facilities to complement both new and existing capabilities at the national labs.** It would also help harmonize intellectual property frameworks to streamline licensing and deployment. Here, the lesson from previous commercialization efforts is that innovation thrives when embedded in real industrial ecosystems.

These capabilities, when linked with regional industry networks, would enable the Gulf Coast to act as a national demonstration site for rapid deployment and distributed manufacturing of products that can improve affordability and strengthen resilience and reliability. HETI will continue to convene industry, academic institutions and national lab leaders to establish a model for this type of consortium and facility investment.

NEXT STEPS

The Texas–Louisiana Gulf Coast stands at a defining moment. Its unparalleled concentration of energy and chemical assets has long underpinned the nation's industrial competitiveness, but today's rapidly shifting global landscape demands a new model for innovation, resilience, and collaboration. The findings from this year's workshop make clear that the Gulf Coast can remain the nation's anchor for energy and chemical production—but doing so requires strengthening the connective tissue between industry, academia, and the national laboratories. Each partner brings unique capabilities, and only by integrating these capabilities can the region accelerate technology development and reinforce the nation's critical supply chains.

Participants emphasized that the Gulf Coast has a rare opportunity: to become the country's leading testbed for next-generation manufacturing and rapid technology commercialization. Yet

the path forward depends on intentional action. Industry must prioritize deeper engagement with university researchers and leverage and invest in distinct capabilities at the DOE national laboratories. Universities must continue modernizing curricula and research programs to prepare the workforce and scientific foundations needed for emerging technologies. The national laboratories must maintain their focus on problem-specific, mission-aligned research while expanding opportunities for co-development with regional stakeholders.

If these efforts can be aligned through a formalized Gulf Coast consortium, the region can achieve several critical outcomes:

- **Accelerated technology development at scale,** reducing time from concept to commercial scale for energy and chemical innovations.
- **Strengthened supply-chain resilience,** supported by advanced modeling and computing capabilities and diverse, flexible manufacturing pathways.
- **A world-class pipeline of scientific and technical talent,** trained through joint programs across universities, labs, and industry.
- **A globally competitive industrial ecosystem,** capable of deploying new technologies at scale and maintaining U.S. leadership in strategic sectors.

Ultimately, the Gulf Coast's continued leadership will hinge on its ability to modernize its systems of innovation with the same determination that built its energy and chemical infrastructure decades ago. The workshop's recommendations point to a shared goal: if the region establishes a cohesive, world-class collaboration model that leverages the strengths of universities, national laboratories, and industry, the Gulf Coast can not only secure its own future but also fortify America's energy and chemical security for decades to come.

HETI and its partners are committed to advancing this vision. By building the structures, relationships, and shared priorities needed to accelerate innovation, the Texas–Louisiana Gulf Coast can continue to serve as the nation's most vital hub for energy and chemical production—one that is resilient, future-ready, and firmly positioned to lead in the next generation of global competition.

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NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Argonne National Laboratory

Idaho National Laboratory

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

National Energy Technology Laboratory

National Laboratory of the Rockies

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

UNIVERSITIES

University of Houston

Louisiana State University

Texas A&M University

Rice University

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Binita Roy

Amir Abutalib

Prince Aleta

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