Bringing Energy Solutions to You

Insights

A monthly newsletter for all GPA Customers • Issue No. 84 • March 2024

Addressing Generation Capacity Shortfall

Piti 7 Repair of the Plenum
ECD: December 3, 2023
Capacity: 22MW to 30MW
COMPLETED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE 11/30

Utilizing Existing Battery Energy Storage System (ESS)
ECD: *Available to use in* Feb 2024
Capacity: 16 MWH *to be utilized during peak hours*
CURRENTLY IN USE

Repairing the Typhoon- Damaged Yigo Combustion Turbine
ECD: March 2024
Capacity: 20 MW

Procuring Temporary Power
ECD: April/May 2024
if no protests
Capacity: 20 MW
CCU Approved Resolution – Pending PUC Approval

Increasing Existing Cummins diesel units located at Yigo site
ECD: May 2024
Capacity: 14 MW

Returning Caterpillar and Wartsila Units to Service
(Tenjo, Talo'fo'fo & Manenggon/Pulantat)
ECD: May 2024
Capacity: 16 MW

Restoring Capacity for Yigo Diesel units to be placed adjacent to the Tenjo Vista Plant
ECD: September 2024
Capacity: 20 MW

Continuing to Expand Interruptible Load Capacity
ECD: Ongoing
Capacity: *Approximately* 16 MW *currently*

**ECD is Expected Completion Date*

MONTH	AVG. HRS./ FEEDER	DAYS OF OUTAGES
Sep 2023	5.8	20
Oct 2023	2.3	11
Nov 2023	5.9	9
Dec 2023	0.9	4
Jan 2024	1.1	5
Feb 2024	0.88	1

**Data through 2/23/24 demonstrates nominal overall impact.*

Scan the QR code and visit our social media pages to stay informed about rotating outages in your area.

A Letter from the General Manager





Dear Loyal Customers,

As the General Manager of the Guam Power Authority (GPA), I am compelled to address a critical challenge our island faces in its public power supply until the Ukudu Power Plant becomes operational around September 2025. This energy gap, though dire, is not a sudden occurrence but a consequence of long standing issues marked by natural disasters, systemic failures, bureaucratic hurdles, and procurement delays.

The origins of today's challenges lie in the delays in constructing the Ukudu Power Plant, initially scheduled for completion in 2022. Over the years, GPA has encountered permitting challenges, regulatory obstacles, and typhoon-related delays, despite our efforts to boost reserve capacity since 2019. As a result, Guam now grapples with insufficient power generation, particularly strained during peak demand months characterized by soaring temperatures.

Guam's inefficient procurement process has further hindered GPA's ability to bridge the energy gap to Ukudu, resulting in significant losses of up to 102 MW that are unavailable to our customers today. These delays are costly and have left Guam with a substantial power deficit that GPA is actively working to rectify.

The vulnerability to load shedding poses risks to public health, safety, and economic stability. In response, GPA has taken proactive measures to mitigate the immediate impacts of the power shortfall, including securing temporary power from a single vendor capable of delivery within 100 days.

Recent developments, particularly the withdrawal of legal representation by the Attorney General's Office, underscore our initial concerns regarding delays in the statutorily required legal responses that impede the procurement process. Nonetheless, GPA remains confident that solutions will be found in the upcoming weeks. By utilizing in-house counsel, GPA is well-equipped to navigate procurement law effectively and expedite necessary procedures.

GPA has adopted a multi-pronged approach to address the energy capacity gap until the commissioning of the state-of-the-art combined cycle power plant, expected to provide over 198 MW. Projects completed ahead of schedule include the repair of Piti 7 and the shifting of up to 14-16 MWh of daytime energy from solar batteries to address peak demand between 5-11 pm.

The anticipated completion of repairs to the typhoon-damaged Yigo Combustion Turbine is forthcoming, alongside the repair and addition of diesel units throughout the island to add much-needed capacity. The additional energy will alleviate the burden on the 50-year-old Cabras units, which are overdue for retirement but continue to serve the people of Guam. GPA's diligent maintenance of these units will persist until power generation issues are addressed.

To keep customers informed, GPA has utilized its resources to provide updates on ongoing work and completed projects. I encourage customers to visit guampowerauthority.com and our social media pages for the latest news on how the capacity gap is being addressed.

Though Guam is at a critical juncture, it is temporary. Despite the challenges, brighter days lie ahead for the people of Guam.

John M. Benavente, P.E.
General Manager, Guam Power Authority

Despite One Outage in February, GPA Anticipates Rising Demand;

Maintains Potential Rotating Outage Schedule for March 2024

Despite experiencing only one outage day in February, GPA is proactively maintaining the potential rotating outage schedule to prepare for the hotter days ahead.

As temperatures rise, the demand for electricity is expected to increase, placing additional strain on GPA's power generation capacity. Currently, GPA's plants can supply a maximum of 272 MW of power generation capacity, with daily demand averaging around 220 MW during the cooler months. However, as temperatures soar in the summer, daily demand is anticipated to climb to 250 MW or even 260 MW, leaving little room to absorb any impact when a plant goes down.

While we experienced minimal outages in February, we must remain vigilant and proactive in our efforts to ensure a reliable power supply, said GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. "Extending the potential rotating outage schedule allows us to prepare for potential outages during the hotter months, ensuring that our customers are informed and prepared."

In early February, the Talo'fo'fo Energy Storage System (ESS) began operating with energy-shifting functions to support peak loads at night. The ESS originally was designed to stabilize the grid by addressing the ramp-rate of the 25 MW solar farm in Dandan during the day. The ESS has a capacity of 16MWH which can provide 4MWH over 4 hours during the peak.

Furthermore, the Yigo Combustion Turbine (CT) rotor is en route and expected to arrive by the end of March. GPA plans to return the typhoon damaged Yigo CT to the grid within two weeks of the part's arrival.

GPA continues to encourage customers to conserve energy during peak hours. Raising a/c temps to 75 degrees or higher and turning off water heaters between 5-11 pm are two simple steps residents can make that would contribute greatly to the overall stability of the power grid.

GPA Applies January 2024 Energy Credit to All Active Accounts

The first of three $100 Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta Energy Credits made possible under Public Law 37-66 was applied on March 6, 2024 to all qualified GPA residential and commercial accounts. Customers can view the credit by logging on to their GPA online accounts.

Guam Power Authority General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. said, "GPA's finance and customer service teams received the funding from the Department of Administration on March 5th and began the process of uploading the $100 credits to customer accounts. We applaud Senator Parkinson, supporting senators of the 37th Guam Legislature, and Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio for recognizing the importance of this energy credit program, which directly benefits residential and commercial customers."

Sen. Will Parkinson's bill (Bill 208-37) was signed into law by Acting Gov. Joshua Tenorio on Feb. 26, 2024, and GPA received the first $5.27 million in funding from the Department of Administration (DOA) on March 5, 2024. The new law extends the energy credit program for the fifth time and provides $300 in energy credits for active GPA account holders from January through March 2024. The credits will be disbursed in $100 increments for three months.

GPA Encourages Customers to Prepare for Summer Months

Although the Homeowner Assistance Fund has closed, customers who need assistance are encouraged to contact the Department of Administration to see if they qualify for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and the Guam Energy Office for the Weatherization Program.

GPA also encourages island residents to prepare their homes to save energy during Guam's summer months and to reduce their energy consumption between the high-demand hours of 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. An effective way to save energy is to turn off water heaters during these peak hours, which also reduces the demand on the Island Wide Power System. Find more information about GPA's Beat the Peak campaign and energy conservation tips on GPA's customer service website and Facebook and Instagram pages.

GPA Requests $6 Billion from FEMA for Guam Infrastructure Resiliency Plan

GPA is seeking $6 billion in funding from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to enhance the island's power system and improve its resilience against natural disasters. GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, along with other key officials, met with FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell and FEMA Region 9 Administrator Robert Fenton on February 7, 2024, to discuss the funding request.

The Infrastructure Resiliency Plan, proposed by GPA, aims to strengthen Guam's Island-Wide Power System by placing power lines underground and making critical investments to bolster resiliency and capacity. The plan also includes projects such as underground transmission lines, indoor substations, critical distribution system mitigation, and other infrastructure resiliency initiatives.

GPA estimates that the damage caused by Typhoon Mawar in May 2023 cost the utility agency $39.6 million. The expenses include emergency protective measures, damages to utility infrastructure, restoration labor, and damages to buildings, equipment, and vehicles. GPA is currently working with FEMA to provide the necessary documentation for eligible reimbursements, which are estimated to be 90 percent under President Biden's order and the federal share for public assistance, hazard mitigation, and other needs.

Guam Delegate James Moylan introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 6478) in November 2023, requesting FEMA's assistance with repairs to critical infrastructure, including the power system, water and wastewater systems, Guam Memorial Hospital, communications, and cybersecurity. The bill is currently with the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management after being referred by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

GPA remains optimistic about FEMA's support, as the federal agency recognizes the importance of strengthening Guam's critical infrastructure. By placing power lines underground, Guam aims to reduce the threat of losing assets during future storms, minimize power outages, and improve recovery time after natural disasters. This initiative will not only benefit residents, businesses, and military facilities but also enhance vital communications systems and protect against prevalent cyber threats.

GPA and FEMA will continue their discussions to ensure that the One Guam Comprehensive Infrastructure Resiliency plan best serves the community's needs. The island's commitment to strengthening its power system reflects its geographical location and history of extreme weather events.

The Guam Power Authority is determined to secure the necessary funding to implement the Infrastructure Resiliency Plan and fortify the island's power system, ultimately ensuring a more resilient and reliable energy supply for the people of Guam.

Guam Power Authority Recognized As A Smart Energy Provider (SEP) :



GPA has earned a Smart Energy Provider (SEP) designation from the American Public Power Association (APPA) for demonstrating a commitment to and proficiency in energy efficiency, distributed generation, and environmental initiatives that support the goal of providing safe, reliable, low-cost, and sustainable electric service.

The SEP designation, which lasts for two years (December 1, 2023 to November 30, 2025), recognizes public power utilities for demonstrating leading practices in four key disciplines: smart energy program structure; energy efficiency and distributed energy resources programs; environmental and sustainability initiatives; and customer experience. GPA joins more than 90 public power utilities that hold the SEP designation. This accolade is the third consecutive designation, as GPA also earned the APPA SEP designation in 2019 & 2021.

Brighter Days Ahead

Learn more about how GPA is addressing outages at **guampowerauthority.com**

2025

Completion of the 198MW Ukudu power plant.

Ways to Pay Your Bill

NOTICE: For those who make utility payments at the bank, be sure to check with your bank for their updated policies.

Online

Visit PayGPA.com or Download the Pay GPWA App

PayGPWA mobile app

You can also pay your GWA water bill on the app.

Pay By Phone

(671) 647-5787
Mon-Fri 7:30am to 5pm

Afterhours
1 (855) 977-2002 Toll Free

Mail-In

Mail CHECK payments to:
Guam Power Authority
P.O. Box 21868,
Barrigada, GU 96921

Drop Box

Drop CHECK payments to:
Gloria B. Nelson Public Svc. Bldg.
688 Route 15, Fadian
along back road to Andersen

Drive-Thru

Cash, Check & Credit Card payments are accepted at:

GPWA Upper Tumon Office
Mon-Fri 7:30am to 3:30pm
Sat 8am to 12pm

In Person

Customer Service Center & Main Office, GPA Fadian
Mon-Fri 7am to 5pm

Hagåtña Satellite Office
Julale Shopping Center
Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm

GPWA Upper Tumon Office
Mon-Fri 7:30am to 6pm
Sat 8am to 12pm

Other

Your Bank
Subject to individual bank policies

All Treasurer of Guam Locations

At GPA, you can also pay your GWA water and GSWA trash bills.

GPA GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

Your elected Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU) holds two (2) working sessions and one (1) regular meeting monthly. Meeting location is the CCU Conference Room, Gloria B. Nelson Public Service Building in Fadian, Mangilao. For more information and agencies, call the CCU Board Secretary at (671) 648-3002 or visit www.guamccu.org.

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View your energy usage at myenergyguam.com

The Guam Power Authority has been serving Guam for 55 years. Contact us to let us know what updates and information we can provide to help you better understand the work we do; or ways we can better serve you. ***Email us at:*** customersfirst@gpagwa.com or send us a ***Direct Message*** on our Facebook.