Bringing Energy Solutions to You

Insights

A monthly newsletter for all GPA Customers • Issue No. 80 • November 2023

GPA's Ongoing Progress in Improving Power Reliability on Guam

We recognize that current capacity issues resulting in rotating outages may inconvenience customers. However, we emphasize the critical juncture in our growth and reiterate that this setback is indeed momentary. Unlike the challenges and solutions that Guam residents confronted in the 1990s, we are eagerly anticipating the commissioning of the Ukudu power plant, poised to address our current generation capacity issues. Thereafter and following a 50-year tenure of service to the people of Guam, the Cabras plant will soon be retired, signifying a new era of cleaner and more reliable energy.

GPA's current journey spans over a decade of planning and hard work with marked progress on our ambitious goals. As we commemorate 55 years of service to the people of Guam, we reaffirm our commitment to delivering the "Power To Serve" and toward Guam's access to secure, affordable, environmentally responsible, and sustainable energy.

198 MW Ukudu Power Plant is expected to commence operations in 2026



Enabling the use of cleaner ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) fuels.

Resulting in substantial cost savings and emissions reduction, allowing for the retirement of older power plants.

Cabras Powerplant established a half a century ago





2002 — Establishment of the Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU)

2011 — GPA introduced Smart Grid Technology which allows GPA to provide tools for customers to monitor and manage their energy use in real time, and for GPA to quickly incorporate and manage solar power.

2021 — GPA's utility-scale battery energy storage system (BESS) operational

Introduced online service options, unveiled a convenient drive-thru payment facility, extended flexible payment plant and temporarily halted service disconnections.

2022 — ***Ongoing construction of the new Ukudu Power Plant***



2023 — Commissioning of a 60-megawatt solar farm & Extension of the U.S. Navy utility services contract.



2026 — GPA graduated its 5th cycle Apprentices of the U.S. Department of Labor certified Apprenticeship Program, additional Apprenticeship Program Cycles are anticipated for the next few years.

2040 — Goal to reach 100% renewable power

View the entire timeline by scanning the QR CODE

Bill 173-37 Extends Energy Credit Program: Awaits Governor's Decision

Bill 173-37, the measure which extends the Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta Energy Credit Program, has passed with a vote of nine to six, thanks to the support of Speaker Terlaje, Vice Speaker Muña Barnes, Senators Barnett, Parkinson, Perez, Shelton, Quinata, and Taitague.

The Energy Credit Program was created to counteract increases in the fuel recovery charge, or LEAC, and aligns with GPA's commitment to source renewable energy resources and energy-efficient solutions for its customers.

GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E., voiced his support for this initiative which provides substantial assistance to the community, highlighting the significance in mitigating the financial burden of high energy costs for ratepayers.

Bill 173-37 extends the energy credits an additional three months, providing crucial $100/month of financial relief to residential, master-meter residential, and commercial customers through December of 2023.

The legislation now awaits the governor's decision. Stay posted for updates on this important development through our website www.guampowerauthority.com and our social media pages (@guampowerauthority).

GPA Hosts Two-Day Cyber Conference to Strengthen Cybersecurity Preparedness on Guam





The Guam Power Authority (GPA), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER), and Idaho National Laboratory (INL), has successfully concluded a two-day Cyber Security Conference and CyberStrike Training event, offering invaluable insights into the world of cyber defense and critical infrastructure protection.

The conference, hosted at the Hyatt Regency Guam, brought together a host of distinguished guests, industry experts, and government agencies to address the pressing issue of cyber security in the energy sector. GPA's General Manager, John Benavente, P.E., expressed his profound delight at welcoming participants and underscored the importance of such collaborative initiatives in ensuring the resilience and security of Guam's power infrastructure stating "This event not only exemplifies our commitment to the safety and resilience of Guam's power infrastructure but also underscores the significance of collaboration in addressing the ever- evolving challenges of cyber security. By bringing together experts from various fields, we've set the stage for valuable knowledge sharing and networking. It is crucial that we remain proactive and well-informed in our efforts to protect the security and reliability of our energy systems."

Benavente added, "For GPA, our interest is to protect our customer data and ensure that we guard against any system attacks. Any breach can be detrimental to our customers' privacy and the operations of Guam's power system. Sharing information is critical in ensuring that GPA stays ahead of the most current threats impacting the Authority's cybersecurity posture."

GPA Chief Information Technology Officer, Melyvn Kwek said, "Cybersecurity is a constant global threat. We are not immune to cyberattacks here in Guam, which is why GPA established a new annual event to bring together local and federal partners in the IT and OT spaces to share knowledge and best practices to protect our interests here in Guam.

Attendees agreed that this event was much needed to bring together top minds in the field to protect our island especially our critical infrastructure from any future attacks."

The conference showcased a diverse range of topics in the realm of cyber security and critical infrastructure, featuring presentations by experts who are leaders in their respective domains. GPA aimed to lead the way in offering a comprehensive and vital forum for cyber security discussions. The event promoted the facilitation of information sharing and networking among government agencies, ensuring situational awareness, training, and the sharing of valuable resources.

Furthermore, the conference served as a prelude to the exclusive CyberStrike training exercise conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy and Idaho National Lab. This specialized training was designed for IT/OT professionals and those responsible for managing critical infrastructure. It offered hands-on exercises and immersive experiences, equipping participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to defend against cyber threats in the rapidly evolving cyber landscape.

GM Benavente also highlighted the instrumental role played by the U.S. Department of Energy in GPA's journey toward improved cyber security. Thanks to federal grants and assistance from the DOE, GPA has been able to enhance its infrastructure in areas including cyber security, engineering development, grid modernization, and training. A pivotal moment was the Smart Grid Initiative grant program, which received $16.6 million in funding from the DOE. This program significantly improved the customer experience, power quality, and the resilience of GPA's power grid.

The Cyber Security Conference and CyberStrike Training event and successful collaboration with CESER, the DOE, and INL sets a standard for Guam by advancing the island's defense against cyber threats, ensuring the continuous and secure provision of power to its residents.

Guam Power Authority Announces Updated November Potential Outage Schedule

GPA announced the release of the potential outage schedule updated for November as a proactive measure to allow customers to be able to plan around possible 1-hr rotating outages. While the schedule has been posted, it's important to note that it doesn't necessarily mean that power will go out during these times. The schedule serves as a precautionary notice to provide customers with advance notice in case power supply cannot meet customer demand due to ongoing maintenance or repairs.

"While the October outage schedule was posted, it's important to clarify that the schedule does not guarantee power outages. In fact, in October, just 11 of the 31 days required load shedding with partial feeders out and limited duration as needed to address generation shortfalls, in line with our commitment to minimizing disruptions to our customers. Shifting solar power, the Interruptible Load Program and general conservation have had positive impacts in mitigating the need to implement outages. GPA encourages continued energy conservation during peak hours," stated General Manager, John Benavente, P.E.

GPA encourages customers to conserve power between 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., including refraining from using unnecessary air conditioning units and turning off electric water heaters immediately before and during peak demand hours. This conservation effort can significantly reduce energy demand and the need for load shedding. For more information, customers can visit our Beat the Peak campaign page on our website and social media platforms.

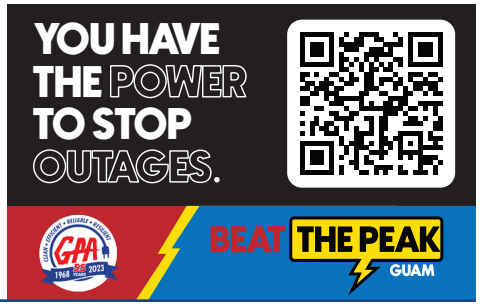
Additionally, it is important to note that some outages may not be related to generation shortfalls but could result from issues such as downed or damaged power lines, auto-pole collisions, brown treesnake interference, vegetation, or transformer problems.



GPA currently benefits from approximately 16MW of energy contributed by large customers participating through the Interruptible Load Program (ILP) and the U.S. Navy. These customers voluntarily switch to their standby generators during peak demand periods, helping to minimize outages for other customers.

GPA also notes that September through November pose high energy demand, coupled with limited capacity, leading to more frequent outages. GPA's General Manager has emphasized the vulnerability over the next several months, highlighting the need to complete repairs on the Yigo 20 MW Combustion Turbine Unit and secure interim energy capacity.

We appreciate the patience and understanding of our community during these challenging times. For the most up-to-date outage information, please follow our social media pages and visit our website.



#CommunityPowered





GPA collected and contributed 2,628 food items and 128 supply items for Catholic Social Service. Items such as canned meats, seafood, veggies and fruit along with rice, beans and non-refrigerated milk were among the items donated during the food drive. On October 24th, GPA transported and dropped off three truck-loads of donated canned and other food items to Catholic Social Service.

CCU and GPA Management thank GPA employees, GWA management & employees, our energy partner MEC, and the community for giving to such a worthwhile cause and for their support. We are grateful for the support to help CSS fill their food pantries and replenish their supplies.



GPA also assisted Special Olympics Guam through much needed donations and employees volunteering their time during weekends to assist with sports events! Our goal is to help these organizations with the services they bring to the public and aid them in giving back to the community, and enable the spirit of giving and teamwork through volunteerism.

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.