



Bringing Energy Solutions to You



# Insights

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## Rotor Repair Prep at Ukudu Power Plant



On September 3, 2025, Guam Ukudu Power (GUP) informed GPA of damage to one of the Ukudu plant's three gas turbines, an issue that caused the delay in full commissioning. While this delay is beyond our control, we remain fully committed to keeping the community informed as we move forward.

The above photo is a behind-the-scenes look at the Ukudu Power Plant's Gas Turbine 3 generator being prepped for off-island repair. This step is part of the ongoing effort to restore full capacity and maintain reliability as GPA pushes ahead.

We're committed to transparency and will keep you updated every step of the way.

## Stability First:

### GPA Reassures Customers During Commissioning Delay

Guam Ukudu Power (GUP), the independent contractor responsible for the 198 MW Ukudu Power Plant, has informed Guam Power Authority (GPA) that full commissioning of the plant will be delayed, but we anticipate its Commercial Operation Date (COD) to be on or before December 2025. The delay follows turbine damage identified during pre-commissioning testing in September. The necessary repairs, which include both on-island work and overseas rotor restoration, are solely GUP's responsibility and are not tied to GPA operations.

This issue is separate from the earlier steam turbine rotor repair, which was completed ahead of schedule earlier this year. Despite the setback, GUP has indicated that the plant can generate approximately 120 MW during testing under combined cycle operations. GPA is working with GUP and the Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA) to determine the conditions under which this interim capacity may be used to support the island's grid. At the same time, Cabras Unit 1, which went offline on August 28, 2025, has since returned to service on September 29, 2025, strengthening available generation resources during the extended commissioning period.

### POWER TO SERVE

## Celebrating Public Power Week and Customer Service Week



Every October, GPA joins community-owned utilities across the country in celebrating Public Power Week and Customer Service Week. These occasions highlight the unique role of public power and the people who make it work for Guam.

Public power means Guam's energy system belongs to the community. There are no outside shareholders—customers are the stakeholders. This ensures GPA's focus remains on reliability, affordability, and building for the future. The values of public power—workforce, affordability, sustainability, reliability, and community focus—guide GPA's service every day.

This year, GPA is marking Public Power Week (October 5–11) and Customer Service Week (October 6–10) with community drives and volunteer efforts. Customers are encouraged to drop off donations at GPA's three customer service lobbies:

- **Canned Food Drive** for Catholic Social Services to help stock their food pantry during the holiday season.
- **Shoe Drive** for Alee Children's Shelter and Harvest House, to collect **new shoes and new slippers** for children in need, including foster children.

Both drives will run October 1 - 28, 2025, with donations presented to the organizations at the end of the campaign.

GPA employees will also volunteer with **Special Olympics Guam's 2025 Softball Season**, assisting players during Saturday practices from October 4 through November 22, 2025. This reflects GPA's tradition of community involvement, showing that service extends beyond delivering energy.

Customer Service Week is about recognizing the trust customers place in us and the responsibility we have to serve them well. Through service centers, online tools, and outreach, GPA upholds its pledge to support families and businesses while living its motto: #PowerToServe.

"These events give us the opportunity to celebrate the partnership we share with our customers," said GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E.



### Serving Our Community, Together

#### Drop Off Donations

- Visit GPA's three customer service lobbies:
  - Bring canned goods for Catholic Social Services
  - Donate **new shoes/new slippers** for Alee Children's Shelter & Harvest House

#### Join in Community Events

- Volunteer with GPA at Special Olympics Guam's 2025 Softball Season – Saturdays through November 22

#### Stay Connected

- Follow GPA on Facebook & Instagram for updates

**Small acts of kindness add up to brighter days for our island community.**

"While this delay is outside of GPA's control, we remain committed to keeping the community informed and taking every step to safeguard reliable service until the full plant comes online," said GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. "GPA is actively managing available resources and working with our contractor and regulators to ensure stability for our customers during this extended period."

The commissioning of the Ukudu Power Plant will happen and remains a cornerstone project in Guam Power Authority's Clean Energy Master Plan (CEMP), also referred to as the Integrated Resource Plan. Once fully operational, the plant will add 198 MW of firm capacity, reduce fuel imports by over 900,000 barrels annually, and create new flexibility in fuel logistics. By transitioning to a more efficient single-fuel source, Ukudu will provide long-term savings and strengthen reliability for decades to come.

The project is being developed under a 25-year Energy Conversion Agreement (ECA), a Build, Operate, and Transfer (BOT) arrangement that allows GPA to secure this critical investment without burdening customers with the upfront cost of construction. The structure ensures stable generation capacity and long-term benefits while Guam continues to add renewables and storage.

While the commissioning timeline has shifted, GPA's focus remains clear: protecting reliability today while building the foundation for Guam's

energy future. Through careful management of existing units, transparent communication, and long-term planning, GPA is working to deliver reliable and affordable power for families, businesses, and future generations.

Brighter Days are ahead as GPA continues building a stronger and more resilient energy system for Guam.



## GPA Calls for Federal Investment to Strengthen Guam's Grid and Keep Energy Affordable

GPA joined territorial leaders and federal agencies in Washington, D.C. last week for the Mid-Year Interagency Group on Insular Areas (IGIA) and the Energy Coordination Working Group hosted by the U.S. Department of the Interior. GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. reinforced Guam's ongoing efforts to modernize its grid and the critical need for sustained federal investment to ensure energy security for both the island's communities and U.S. military operations in the Indo-Pacific.

"Guam must power itself. There is no one else to lean on when demand spikes or a typhoon hits so our energy security needs to be built locally. That means making long-term investments in undergrounding and hardening our system while advancing conventional generation, renewable energy, and storage in balance," said General Manager Benavente. "We continue to advocate to our federal partners that much of Guam's growth is driven from outside the island, and these investments are essential not just for our community but for national security," stated Benavente.

At the meeting, GPA provided an update on key projects, including:

- Commissioning of the 198 MW Ukudu Power Plant, which will provide firm capacity, reduce fuel oil consumption by nearly one million barrels annually, and create new flexibility in fuel logistics.
- Progress on renewable energy, including more than 330 MW of solar-plus-storage projects under contract or negotiation, with the potential to bring Guam to 40–53% renewables by 2028.
- Expansion of battery storage capacity to stabilize the grid and shift renewable energy into evening peak hours.
- Proposal of a \$1.5 billion programmatic agreement to fund the undergrounding of key transmission and distribution systems over the next decade.

Discussions at the Energy Coordination Working Group emphasized how territorial priorities intersect with federal programs, defense readiness, and resilience planning. GPA highlighted that the Department of War (DoW) is Guam's largest customer, with projected energy demand expected to more than double by 2033, and stressed that grid investments are a matter of national security.

"Guam can't do this alone—it's time for DoW and our federal partners to step up. Every dollar invested in hardening Guam's grid strengthens the island's resilience and protects the services our community depends on," Benavente said. "To meet the rapid growth in demand and the unique risks we face, we need DoW and our federal partners to share in this responsibility. With their investment, we can build an energy system that is affordable, reliable, and secure for Guam's people and the nation's strategic mission in the Pacific," concluded Benavente.



GPA General Manager, John M. Benavente, P.E., with William Hague, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, at the IGIA 2025 Mid-Year Senior Plenary session and the Energy Coordination Working Group in Washington, D.C. last week.



GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E., joined military, government, and community leaders at the Guam Defense Forum on September 17–18, 2025. Discussions placed energy front and center as a critical factor for Guam's resilience and its role in the Indo-Pacific.



On September 16, 2025, GPA leadership met with the Honorable Dale Marks, Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment, to discuss Guam's power system and the importance of advancing GPA's \$1.5 billion grid mitigation plan.

### Investing in Guam's Energy Security



- **\$1.5 Billion** – Proposed program to underground transmission and distribution lines over the next decade.
- **198 MW** – Ukudu Power Plant will provide firm capacity, reduce fuel oil use by nearly 1 million barrels annually, and create new flexibility in fuel logistics.
- **330+ MW** – Solar-plus-storage projects under contract or negotiation, targeting 40–53% renewables by 2028.
- **Battery Storage Expansion** – Critical to shift renewable power into evening peak hours and stabilize the grid.
- **National Security Priority** – Reliable, resilient energy supports both Guam's people and the nation's mission in the Indo-Pacific.

*"It's not GPA power, it's not DoW power - it's OUR power."*

## GPA Continues to Advance Energy Security in Defense Discussions

On September 16, 2025, GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E., and leadership met with the Honorable Dale Marks, Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment, and his team to discuss the state of Guam's power system. The conversation focused on GPA's confidence in meeting future capacity needs for both civilian customers and Department of War growth, while also emphasizing the importance of advancing GPA's proposed \$1.5 billion grid mitigation investment. Both sides reaffirmed that securing Guam's energy future will require partnership and collaboration.

The following day, GM Benavente represented GPA at the Guam Defense Forum, held September 17–18, 2025. The forum gathered military, government, and community leaders and highlighted energy as a top priority for Guam's resilience and its role in the Indo-Pacific.

Mr. Benavente joined panelists from NAVFAC Marianas, BlueOcean H2, and the University of Alaska on the session Energy Criticality in the Western Pacific: Resiliency, Redundancy, and New Sources. Asked about the single most important action needed for resilience over the next decade, his response was direct: \$1.5 billion. GPA's mitigation plan includes undergrounding transmission and distribution lines, hardening substations, and expanding storage to protect against natural and manmade threats. He also reinforced that solar paired with storage is Guam's most practical renewable option today, while the Ukudu Power Plant will provide 198 MW of firm capacity, reduce fuel oil consumption by nearly one million barrels annually, and create new flexibility in fuel logistics.

They also stressed that energy must be treated as a joint project - shared benefits, shared risks, and shared investment. As the discussion highlighted: it's not GPA power, it's not DoW power - it's our power.

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](http://www.guamccu.org).

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