Bringing Energy Solutions to You

Insights

A monthly newsletter for all GPA Customers • Issue No. 94 • January 2025

Brighter Days Ahead

Energy-Saving Resolutions for 2025: Lower Bills, Cleaner Power, Brighter Days

This New Year, many of us are making resolutions to raise our quality of life and build a brighter future. At GPA, we're committed to doing the same. Our resolution for 2025? Deliver cleaner, more sustainable energy through the Ukudu Power Plant, which is now over 92% complete. This milestone project will bring lower bills and reduce fuel imports by 879,000 barrels annually.

Exciting progress continues as we enter the final stages of construction. Key achievements include the first successful fuel transfer from the Piti Bulk Storage Farm to the plant and significant advancements in engineering and construction, with procurement nearly 100% complete. Recent work includes lube oil flushing for gas turbines, pipe fit-up for the Heat Recovery Steam Generator, and ongoing cable installations for critical systems like the Battery Energy Storage System and treated water storage tanks.

Together, let's keep the countdown going. Here's to brighter days and energy-saving resolutions for all!

Biba Åñu Nuebu!

A MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR
FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

***Håfa Adai* Loyal Customers,**

2025 is set to bring brighter days for our island. This January, testing begins on the new Ukudu Power Plant, which will be fully online by September. This long awaited plant will deliver 198 MW of cleaner and more resilient energy, and will reduce our annual fuel imports by 879,000 barrels per year, providing substantial savings for our customers.

We've also taken steps to help ease the financial burden on our community by requesting a 20.3% decrease in the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause (LEAC), which was approved by the Consolidated Commission on Utilities (CCU), and is now with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). **If approved, this adjustment will take effect in February, saving the average residential customer approximately $53.19 per month.**

At the same time, we continue advancing Phase IV renewable energy projects, totaling approximately 333 MW, which will help us achieve 50% renewable energy by 2035. Once contracts for all proponents are approved, we will be on track to meet Guam's renewable energy mandates as early as 2028.

Every decision we make is focused on delivering reliable power at the lowest cost possible on a sustained basis. Thank you for your continued support as we work together for brighter days ahead.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

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

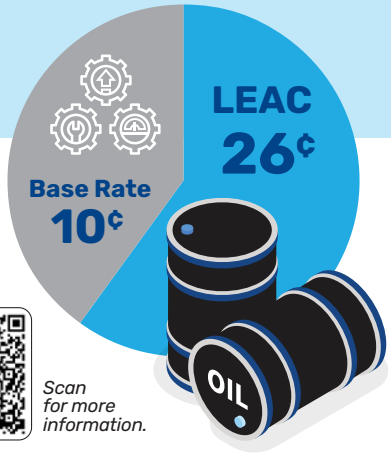
Average Residential Customers Could Save Over $50 Monthly on Power Bills

The Guam Power Authority (GPA) is taking significant steps to bring relief to customers by proposing a reduction in the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause (LEAC). If approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), this decrease will not only lower monthly power bills but also reflect GPA's ongoing commitment to balancing affordability, reliability, and sustainability.

The LEAC is a pass-through charge on your electricity bill that directly covers the cost of fuel used to generate power. Adjusted every six months based on projected oil prices, it shields customers from sudden spikes in energy costs while ensuring GPA can manage the expense of fuel procurement. However, when oil prices rise, so does the LEAC, which can lead to higher energy bills. The good news is that global oil prices are currently stabilizing, allowing GPA to pass potential savings on to customers.

GPA has requested and CCU approved a reduction in the LEAC rate from $0.261995 to $0.208802 per kilowatt-hour — a 20.3% decrease. For an average residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month, this means a savings of approximately $53.19 on their monthly bill, a welcome relief for families and businesses alike. If the PUC approves the adjustment, it will take effect on February 1, 2025, and customers will see the reduced rates reflected in their February billing statements.

This proposed reduction comes at a crucial time as GPA continues its work to stabilize power generation and transition to cleaner energy sources. In addition to benefiting from lower fuel costs, GPA is managing its under-recovery balance, which is expected to drop to $4.3 million by the end of January. This balance reflects the cost of shielding customers from abrupt increases during previous periods of high oil prices.



Scan for more information.

"We know how much energy costs impact our community," said GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. "This proposed reduction aligns with our mission to deliver reliable power at the lowest cost possible on a sustained basis."

Looking ahead, GPA is advancing long-term solutions to reduce its reliance on imported oil, such as commissioning the new Ukudu Power Plant by September 2025. The plant will bring 198 MW of cleaner, reliable, more resilient energy to Guam. Additionally, renewable energy projects, including Phase IV initiatives totaling 333 MW, aim to achieve 50% renewables by 2035, offering further cost stability for customers.

With the proposed LEAC reduction and ongoing progress in energy initiatives, GPA is committed to delivering brighter days for Guam's families and businesses. Stay tuned for updates as we await the PUC's decision.

Contractors Guide to GPA's Electrical Project Requirements

The GPA Contractor Checklist and Guidelines outline essential steps and requirements for contractors and applicants involved in electrical projects needing Guam Power Authority (GPA) approval. These guidelines ensure compliance with safety standards and smooth project execution. Key highlights include:

Plan Review and Submission

- All plans must include a project name, vicinity map, electrical notes, Professional Engineer seal and an electrical site plan.
- Load calculations and one-line diagrams must be provided, showing existing and new loads and their impact on GPA infrastructure.

- Electrical Site Plan:
  - Show ALL new/existing power facilities including poles, transformers, handholes and overhead/underground lines on the electrical site plan.
  - Place handholes and metering equipment within the private property. Fencing shall be routed around handholes and metering equipment to ensure 24-hour access.
  - Provide pipe guard protection for handholes and transformers. These shall be placed 1-foot diagonal from each corner.

- One-Line Diagram:
  - Provide load calculations showing existing and new loading. Show the total demand load. Show how the new load/electrical work affects the existing GPA transformer, service, and meter. If the existing service is sufficient, please indicate on plan with the note: "Interior work only. No change to GPA service, wire or meter."
  - Show all existing/new power facilities including transformers, handholes and meters on one-line diagram.
  - Indicate transformer size on electrical layout.
  - Show how the new electrical work ties in with the existing GPA transformer.
  - Indicate on the one-line diagram if the meter and transformer are new or existing.
  - Service voltage, number of phases, number of wires, and type of system shall be specified on the one-line diagram near the metering unit. (Example: 208Y/120 V, 3-Phase, 4 Wires)
  - Meter socket type shall be specified on the one-line diagram. (Example: 7 Terminal, 20 Class,NEMA 3R)
  - Meter sockets for CT metering systems shall be the combination type, which includes an enclosure for a test switch. GPA will provide the test switch.
  - For CT metering systems, owner will provide color-coded, # 12 copper, stranded CT wires as required and GPA will terminate wires.
  - For CT metering systems, GPA requires a non-fused main disconnect switch with sealing provision for GPA on line side of CT.

Design and Construction Requirements

- Residential and Commercial Services:
  - Single residential applicants require overhead service design.
  - Commercial and multi-residential projects require hybrid systems or pad-mounted transformers, depending on load size.

- Mandatory Clearances:
  - Maintain a minimum of 3 feet clearance around handholes and metering equipment from fences and walls.
  - Provide 5 feet clearance around transformer sides and about 10 feet in front of transformers.

- Electrical Components:
  - Above-ground conduits must use rigid aluminum, while below-grade must be concrete-encased PVC schedule 40.
  - Systems must comply with the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC) and the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC).

- Placement of Power Poles and Power Lines:
  - Contractor/owner must provide new pole stakeout and down-guy locations to prepare easement exhibits for GPA poles, handholes, transformers, power lines and other associated power facilities. Coordinate with GPA Engineering department for specific requirements.

Inspections and Coordination

- Coordinate with GPA Engineering 48-hours ahead of inspection of manholes, handholes, conduit installation, transformer and metering provision, and conduit/duct mandrelling prior to concrete pouring.
- Obtain GPA approval for survey stakeouts, maps, easement documentation, and any plan changes.

Timelines

- Submit application for power service 8 months before final energization to accommodate material and equipment delivery and GPA approvals. For pad mounted transformer projects, applications must be submitted 12 months before final energization.

Accessibility and Easements

- Grant utility easements to GPA for power lines, handholes, and transformers.
- Ensure 24-hour access to GPA equipment for maintenance and meter reading.

Emergency Disconnects

- Install readily accessible emergency disconnect switches for one- and two-family dwelling units as per NEC 2023 guidelines.

Other Requirements

- All conduits must be cleaned and mandrelled tested, with final approval given by GPA. All conduits must be provided with nylon pull rope with a minimum pull strength of 200 lbs.
- All project changes require as-built drawings for GPA and Department of Public Works (DPW) approval.
- Contractors must work with GPA to finalize costs, clearances, and scheduling.

Scan to download the full Checklist and Guidelines under forms and permits

GPA Gallery

Celebrating a Legacy of Leadership: GPA and the CCU honor Chairman Joseph "Joey" T. Duenas for his 15 years of dedicated service (2009–2024) to Guam's public utilities. His commitment to serving the people of Guam will continue to shape brighter days for our island community. Si Yu'os Ma'åse', Chairman Duenas!

Start 2025 with Powerful Resolutions!

Switch to power strips.

Many appliances still consume electricity even when they're off. Use power strips to easily turn off multiple devices at once.

Keep your cool at 75°F (24°C)

Keeping your thermostat at 75°F (24°C) or higher reduces the workload on your air conditioning system, helping you save energy while staying comfortable.

Rely on ceiling fans

Living in Guam means warm weather year-round, so let your ceiling fans help you stay comfortable.

Wash only full loads.

Washing machines use a lot of energy per cycle. Wait until you have a full load before running them to maximize efficiency.

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 56 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.