Bringing Energy Solutions to You

Insights

A monthly newsletter for all GPA Customers • Issue No. 76 • July 2023

Relief is on the way

GPA brings much-needed relief with power restoration, LEAC reduction and Energy Credits for Guam residents

As Phase 4 of Typhoon Mawar restoration is upon us, GPA is also delivering much-needed relief for ratepayers.

GPA announced the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause, the fuel surcharge known as LEAC went into effect on June 1, 2023, approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The savings equates to an estimated 21.01% decrease, a savings of about $87.43 per month, for the average residential power bill of customers who utilize 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month. The savings will apply for all meters read as of June 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024.

"GPA thanks the PUC and CCU for their support in decreasing the LEAC. This decrease comes at an essential time for our customers, who are recovering after Super Typhoon Mawar and are in much need of financial relief," GPA General Manager John Benavente said.

Additional reprieve for ratepayers' pocketbooks has arrived with the passage of Public Law 37-16, which extends the energy credit program. The third round of the $500 *Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy Credit will be applied for the months of May through September 2023 to all active GPA accounts. The first $100 credit was applied toward the May billing and the second credit of $100 was applied to the June billing.

"We thank Speaker Terlaje and Senator San Agustin for introducing the bill, along with the 37th Guam Legislature and Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero who made this second extension possible for the people of Guam. Coupled with the decrease of about 21% in the LEAC our customers will be able to save significantly on their power bills in the months ahead. We've all been through so much adversity in the last few years and our people need a break. We are happy to deliver the great news today," GPA General Manager John Benavente stated.

Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta Energy Credits are generally applied at the end of the month and ratepayers should be expecting July credits similarly. There are multiple billing cycles throughout the month. Energy Credits applied after your bill date may not be reflected on your current month's printed bill statement. If you make your payment online (paygpa.com or GPWA pay app) or by phone, you may see "Arrears" and "Adjustment" equal to the Energy Credit on the following month's billing statement. Be assured, your Energy Credit is applied to your account.

Scan the QR code For more information about Energy Credits



A LETTER FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

GPA Continues Recovery Efforts and Looks Forward to Brighter Days Ahead in July

Håfa Adai! Your GPA team and I hope that you and your family or business are well on your way to recovery. We continue to work diligently and methodically to get every household and business energized, and our entire team is committed to ensuring that every customer is energized as quickly as possible.

We thank you for your patience as we worked to recover the islandwide power system after the most devastating storm we've experienced in more than 20 years. Our system sustained unbelievable damage, much of which required complex repairs, and we are proud to say that we were able to make repairs at a more expedient pace than in past storms. Each year, we prepare for the storm season by stocking up on vital equipment, materials and supplies, most of which were utilized during recovery efforts.

Our crews have noted that our preventative maintenance (PM), which started prior to the typhoon with trimming trees and branches near power lines, made a significant difference in minimizing damage.

Integrated line crews from the CUC, Pohnpei, and Snohomish, Washington, led by our GPA teams, have been working diligently since the days after Typhoon Mawar. At any given time, we had a fleet of 30 bucket trucks deployed islandwide. The Snohomish crew worked on the main transmission line while GPA, CUC, Pohnpei, and contracted crews worked on lines in the villages. GPA extends its deepest gratitude for their expertise and sacrifices made to support our efforts. Line work can be very dangerous, and with your help, we have been able to keep everyone safe.

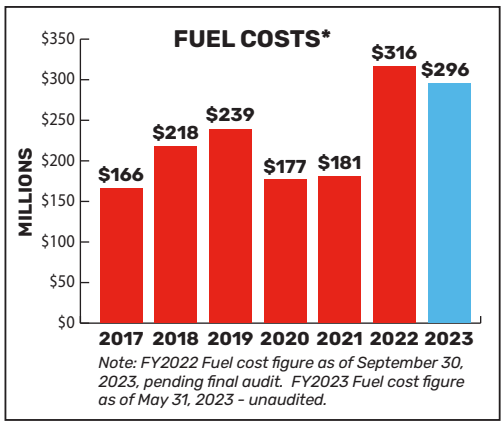
While we were making repairs, GPA also took extra steps to continue hardening our system, an ongoing practice that started after Typhoon Pongsona. What this means is that we looked at opportunities to make our system more resilient to future natural disasters. We replaced wooden poles with concrete poles. Every pole was assessed and every line was inspected. GPA will continue to proceed with other hardening projects such as underground transmission lines. We will pursue federal funding to improve infrastructure and our IWPS system. Federal funding would help offset that cost to ratepayers.

In July, there are brighter days ahead. You should start to feel the positive effects of the decrease in the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause (LEAC), which went into effect on June 1, 2023. The LEAC was significantly decreased to $0.231 per kilowatt-hour, down from $0.318 per kilowatt-hour, which we estimate is a 21% decrease. This amounts to an $87.43 per month savings for households that use more than 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month. All meters read since June 1 will be charged at this new rate, which we agree is a welcomed reprieve for all.

In July, you will be receiving the third increment of the $100 increment of the second extension of the $500 *Prugråman Ayuda Para I Taotao-ta* Energy Credit program toward the end of the month. GPA's customer service team continues to help residents who need financial assistance. I'd like to invite you again to call upon them to guide you on how you can take the next steps to get the support you need.

July is an important month to remember the brave generations that have gone before us. On behalf of GPA's staff and management, we wish you and your family a safe and blessed Liberation Day. May we remember where we came from so we can build a stronger and more resilient future for generations to come. Biba Guam!

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



Note: FY2022 Fuel cost figure as of September 30, 2023, pending final audit. FY2023 Fuel cost figure as of May 31, 2023 - unaudited.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the fuel recovery cost (LEAC)

GPA APPROVED LEAC RATES

Effective Dates	Fuel Recovery Rate
8/1/2018 - 1/31/2019	$ 0.154242
2/1/2019 - 7/31/2019	$ 0.154242
8/1/2019 - 1/31/2020	$ 0.154242
2/1/2020 - 3/31/2020	$ 0.134474
4/1/2020 - 5/31/2020	$ 0.110039
6/1/2020 - 1/31/2021	$ 0.086800
2/1/2021 - 7/31/2021	$ 0.110000
8/1/2021 - 9/30/2021	$ 0.130400
10/1/2021 - 11/30/2021	$ 0.150800
12/1/2021 - 1/31/2022	$ 0.171458
2/1/2022 - 3/31/2022	$ 0.180837
4/1/2022 - 6/30/2022	$ 0.209552
7/1/2022 - 8/31/2022	$ 0.251638
9/1/2022 - 10/31/2022	$ 0.296043
11/1/2022 - 5/31/2023	$ 0.318576
6/1/2023 - 1/31/2024	**$ 0.231144**

GPA lowered LEAC rate when oil price dropped and during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

GPA being in under-recovery due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEAC rates rising due to the ongoing Russia/Ukraine war and inflation.

Lowered LEAC due to gradual decrease in global fuel prices in 2023.

Post Typhoon Recovery Moves into Phase IV

In the immediate aftermath of Typhoon Mawar, restoring power to critical infrastructure, homes and businesses were the primary goals of the Guam Power Authority. As the restoration efforts progress from Phase III to Phase IV, GPA's focus expands beyond getting the lights back on. This next phase entails addressing power quality issues, conducting clean-up operations, and repairing streetlights.

Phase IV involves addressing power reliability which refers to the ability of the power system to deliver continuous and adequate power to customers without failures or outages. Examples of poor power quality can be a result of a damaged transformer, loose connections, or a disconnected line at your residence causing partial power, low voltage, fluctuating voltage, and flicker. If you have flickering or dimming lights, air conditioners not operating properly, or equipment that would sometimes shut off there may be an issue with your power. GPA will continue these improvements toward maintaining frequency and voltage within acceptable industry limits so customers can rely on a consistent supply of electricity for their homes and businesses.

Clean up efforts are also an integral part of the next step in the restoration process. GPA continues to ensure any fallen branches, debris or obstructions hindering the proper functioning of the electrical infrastructure are promptly removed and by doing so, creating a safer environment for both residents and workers involved in the recovery process.

Additionally, Phase IV addresses road safety issues by fixing LED streetlights that may have been damaged by the typhoon. Assessments are still ongoing but the work continues to bring more streetlights online, ensuring better public safety for Guam's motorists.

This comprehensive and strategic recovery approach reflects GPA's continued efforts to improve storm preparation and disaster recovery plans, as well as its dedication to delivering quality power and service to its ratepayers. Ultimately, these initiatives are in effort to help minimize disruptions caused by future extreme weather events and ensure a more resilient electrical system.

PHOTOS FROM THE FRONTLINES









Wire and Other Theft of GPA Property is a Crime and Can Lead to Injury or Death

The Guam Power Authority (GPA) is asking for the public's help to report to GPA and/or provide Guam Police Department (GPD) with information regarding wire or streetlight thefts, meter tampering and all other suspected theft of any GPA property.

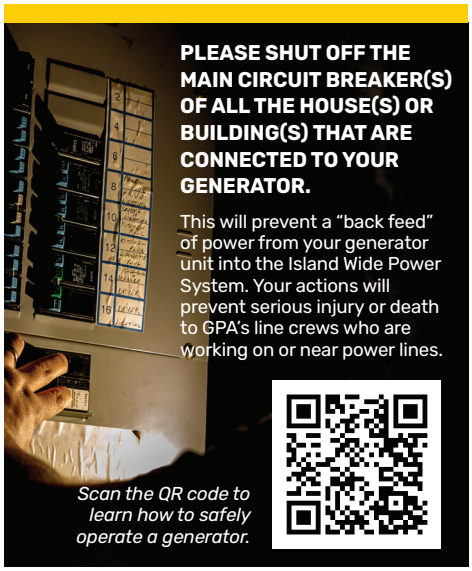
These thefts impede operations, are very costly to ratepayers, and can lead to injury or death. Recently, GPA responded to a number of thefts (wire, streetlights, meters, etc.) impacting our electric grid. The disruption of utility services due to stolen material(s) negatively impacts customers who will bear the costs of repair-and-reinstallation and experience disruption of their services.

Each incident can cost hundreds or up to thousands of dollars. "Wire theft occurs at various times, and thieves often times leave other electrical elements exposed, which will cause serious electrical shock hazard situations or death, for both the perpetrators and the public," stated GPA General Manager John M. Benavente, P.E. GPA reminds the community that theft of any GPA property especially wires or streetlight theft are dangerous, expensive and a threat to reliability and our Infrastructure. Wire theft results in power outages, increased costs, injuries and in some cases deaths.

As a reminder, Guam Code Annotated §43.31. Crime Against the Community; Defined and Punishment states, "A person is guilty of a Crime Against the Community if that person knowingly takes, obtains or exercises unlawful control over government-owned, leased or borrowed property, or interfers with, obstructs, or takes action regarding government services in such a way that: (1) doing so creates a threat to the public health and safety; or (2) doing so results in a deprivation of public services, such as utility services, the education of public or private school students, or any government service intended to benefit the public; or (3) does so for a purpose other than the original purpose for which the property or services were to be provided."

"Call GPD or Guam Crime Stoppers if you observe any individual(s) working on power lines with vehicles other than GPA official vehicles or have any other information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of these thieves," remarked Benavente. "Any help to assist law enforcement officials to reduce these crimes against the community will be beneficial to all ratepayers and our community," concluded Benavente.

GPA reminds the public that during times of emergency, theft of wires and meters will only impede GPA's progress to restore power to customers. The GPA Revenue Protection Service (RPS) Unit investigates all suspected and reported thefts of electrical utilities, meter tampering and theft of services and GPA property. When a theft is confirmed by GPA's RPS, the Guam Police Department is contacted to conduct an official police investigation. The public can call the GPA RPS hotline at (671) 648-3199 or email internal-audit@gpagwa.com to report any incidents that are related to customer-side wire thefts, meter tampering, and theft of services and GPA property. All calls are strictly confidential.



We understand that typhoon recovery has been challenging for everyone.

CALL OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER TO MAKE A PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT

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

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.