



OEI News

April 2016



SECURING ARMY INSTALLATIONS WITH ENERGY THAT IS CLEAN, RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE

From the Desk of the Executive Director *Army Office of Energy Initiatives Kicks Off a Busy 2016*

The Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) has had a very busy and productive 2015 developing and executing large-scale renewable energy projects. In February 2015, a ribbon cutting took place to commemorate the production of power from the Fort Huachuca, Arizona solar project. In the months since, groundbreakings occurred for four additional large-scale solar projects totaling 105 megawatts (MW), one in Maryland and three others in Georgia.

As we begin 2016, the Army and our project partners are continuing the momentum. January we celebrated with a groundbreaking event on the largest renewable energy project in the Army, a 65 MW hybrid solar and wind project at Fort Hood, Texas. We are also planning ribbon cutting events celebrating the operation of the 15 MW solar project at Fort Detrick, MD and the 30 MW solar project at Fort Benning, GA.

The Army OEI renewable energy portfolio includes a total of 14 projects to date that are either in operation, under construction or in the procurement process. These projects will result in a total capacity of about 350 MW of clean, renewable energy production and contribute significantly to enhancing energy security and resiliency for Army installations across the country. We are now over a third of the way to our commitment to the President of one gigawatt of renewable energy by 2025. Each of these large-scale renewable energy projects represent significant advancements of the great progress that the Army and its partners are making to provide clean, reliable, and affordable energy.



Fort Benning, Georgia, 30 MW Solar Array, 133,950 Solar Panels

Our project partners such as the Mission and Installation Contracting Command, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Engineering & Support Center and Defense Logistics Agency Energy deserve a special note of thanks as none of these efforts would be possible without their expertise and continued support.

In another favorable development, legislation in late 2015 extended wind and solar energy tax credits. This further incentivizes investment opportunities at Army installations across the country. The Army OEI will also be collaborating with the Air Force Office of Energy Assurance to further develop large-scale renewable energy projects within the Department of Defense.

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2016 is shaping up to be a busy and productive year. While we take pride in the accomplishments achieved in 2015, we are excited and look forward to working with all stakeholders supporting Army energy resiliency efforts with us at OEI. The relationships we have developed with our industry and government agency partners are crucial to the success of our efforts in the New Year and beyond. Army Strong!

– **Michael McGhee**
Executive Director
Army Office of Energy Initiatives



- Over 63,000 solar panels will be installed on 132 acres.
- The project is planned to be operational in December of 2016.



Hon. Katherine Hammack joins other senior leaders and Apex Energy, Inc. executives for a groundbreaking ceremony at Fort Hood, Texas

Progress on the Road to Energy Resiliency

Fort Hood, Texas Large-Scale Hybrid Renewable Energy Project Breaks Ground

On January 28, 2016, the Army Office of Energy Initiatives, Fort Hood, the Defense Logistics Agency, and Apex Clean Energy, Inc., conducted a groundbreaking ceremony for a large-scale renewable energy solar and wind project at Fort Hood, Texas. Once complete, the combined 15 megawatt (MW)* solar and 50 MW offsite wind project will have a total capacity of approximately 65 MW, enough to power about 21,000 homes.

- This is the Army's first hybrid (solar and wind) renewable energy project, the first to include both on- and off-installation generation, and the Army's largest single renewable energy project to date.
- The project is expected to provide \$168 million in cost avoidance to the Army over the course of the contract.
- The solar project on Fort Hood will be micro-grid compatible to enhance energy security.

Army/Air Force Renewable Energy Project Collaboration

As climate change and increasing threats, both natural and man-made, continue to affect the Department of Defense's (DoD) mission of protecting our nation, it has become increasingly imperative that the Armed Forces have assured access to reliable supplies of energy, and the ability to protect and deliver sufficient energy to meet mission essential requirements. As the largest user of energy in the federal government, the DoD also has a responsibility to reduce its consumption and increase its efficiencies. To meet these objectives, the three branches of the Armed Forces remains committed to executing large-scale renewable energy projects to achieve their commitment to the President of deploying one gigawatt each of renewable energy by 2025.

To that end, the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment) Honorable Katherine Hammack and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations,

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Environment and Energy), (SAF/IE&E) Honorable Miranda Ballentine plan to have their energy teams work together and leverage experiences to continue the development of large-scale renewable energy projects across Army and Air Force bases.

The Air Force will collaborate and work with the OEI to build upon their capability to support the Air Force renewable energy goal of increasing facility renewable energy to 25 percent by fiscal year 2025.

The Army and the Air Force have several installations located within the same states across the United States and its territories. This collaboration provides an excellent opportunity for partnership in support of the Department of Defense's renewable energy efforts. The teams will work to facilitate the delivery of a full-spectrum of services in the planning, development, and execution of large-scale renewable energy projects (10 MW or greater). They will make use of third-party financing and integrated and/or modular energy systems that support security requirements on military installations.

The two Services will leverage, to the maximum extent possible, existing processes, opportunities, support contracts, partner agency relationships, and lessons learned. The collaboration includes efforts in the areas of business processes (e.g., business case analysis), business and technical due diligence, program and project management, environmental and real estate proponentcy and coordination; acquisition, technical and engineering review in the areas of renewable and alternative energy; electric grid security, smart- and micro-grids, energy storage, and cyber-security.



Honorable Katherine Hammack
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment)



Honorable Miranda Ballentine
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment, and Energy)

Upcoming Events:

- Fort Detrick 15 MW AC Solar Renewable Energy Project Ribbon Cutting: June 2016
- Earth Day: April 22, 2016
- Fort Benning 30 MW Solar Renewable Energy Project Ribbon Cutting: May 2016
- DOE Energy Exchange: August 9-11, 2016
- AUSA Annual Meeting: October 3-5, 2016
- Energy Awareness Month: October 2016



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