



OEI News

September/October 2015



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

From the Desk of the Executive Director *Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) Celebrates One Year Anniversary as Permanent Office*

The publication of this issue of OEI News marks the one year anniversary of the establishment of the Office of Energy Initiatives, which began as the Energy Initiatives Task Force four years ago.

Like any team, the organization has gone through the Tuckman phases of group development: Forming, Storming, Norming, and Performing. It is clear that the OEI has entered the Performing phase. Two projects are currently operational [Fort Huachuca and Fort Drum], and four projects are under construction [Fort Detrick, Fort Benning, Fort Gordon, and Fort Stewart].

Our momentum will continue into Fiscal Year 2016 with these four projects coming online, followed by as many as six other projects [Redstone Arsenal (solar), Fort Hood (solar and wind), Fort Rucker (solar), Anniston Army Depot (solar), Tooele Army Depot (solar and wind), and Joint Force Training Base Los Alamos (solar)] before the end of calendar year 2016. In addition, we foresee contract awards on two of our longer term projects [Schofield Barracks (biodiesel), and Redstone Arsenal (Combined Heat and Power)].



OEI Executive Director Amanda Simpson greets Fort Knox Deputy Garrison Commander Emmet Holley at the DOE Energy Exchange in Phoenix, Arizona

The status of these and other projects the OEI is currently pursuing is detailed on the following pages.

Our project teams are constantly working through the Tuckman phases as new projects are assessed and evaluated, processes are revised to respond to market pressures, and new members are integrated into our staff. New technologies and new applications are in development. We are exploring expanded opportunities and authorities to best serve our military installations. The team's fifth year promises to be exciting and productive.

– **Amanda Simpson**, Executive Director,
Army Office of Energy Initiatives

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Project Updates

For more specifics on each project, please visit the OEI website at: www.oei.army.mil.

The Army's large-scale renewable energy projects provide installations with energy at or below current and projected utility rates.

Operations Phase:

Fort Drum, New York 28 MW Biomass Project: 100% Energy Security

The total capacity of the Biomass Generation Facility (BGF) on Fort Drum is 60 megawatts (MW). The project is currently operational and producing 100% of the installation's on-site electricity requirements.

- The BGF capacity exceeds Fort Drum's current peak load of ~28 MW and provides excess electricity to the grid to support the community
- The Army announced a contract award to ReEnergy Black River LLC, in September 2014
- The project enables Fort Drum to maintain mission critical operations in the event of a system-wide outage



*Construction of overhead lines, to be complete by spring 2016, will provide the interconnection for two substations for the BGF on Fort Drum.
Photo Released by ReEnergy Holdings, LLC*

Fort Huachuca, Arizona ~18 MW Solar Project

The large-scale solar project is currently operational and providing electricity to the Southern Arizona grid and Fort Huachuca.

- Tucson Electric Power (TEP) has installed more than 57,000 solar panels on Fort Huachuca
- The interconnection through the installation substation reduced costs and improved system reliability
- The project is supplying the installation with approximately 25 percent of its electricity requirements. Phase II, a 4 MW solar array, is expected to begin construction this fall

Fort Huachuca, Arizona



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Construction Phase:

Fort Detrick, Maryland ~15 MW Solar Project

The Army, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) - Energy, and Ameresco, Inc., held a groundbreaking event in April 2015.

- The project includes a 26-year term contract, and construction is more than 50 percent complete
- Over 60,000 solar panels are being installed on 67 acres on Fort Detrick
- The project will be micro-grid compatible to enhance energy security
- All electricity from the solar facility will be consumed by Fort Detrick
- Commercial operations are expected to begin in March 2016



Ongoing construction/installation of solar panels at Fort Detrick, Maryland



Solar panels installed at Fort Benning, Georgia

Fort Benning, Georgia ~30 MW Solar

The ~30 MW large-scale solar project is under construction, with posts, racking and panels being installed.

- OEI, Fort Benning, GSA, and Georgia Power are developing the project
- The project will include ~130,000 solar panels
- Commercial Operations are expected to begin in the spring of 2016

Fort Gordon, Georgia ~30 MW Solar

In May 2015, the OEI, Fort Gordon, GSA, and Georgia Power conducted a groundbreaking event for the ~30 MW solar project. The project will be located on ~275 acres at Fort Gordon.

- With the completion of the site work, construction began last month
- The project will include ~130,000 solar panels
- Commercial Operations are expected to begin in the fall of 2016

Fort Stewart, Georgia ~30 MW Solar

The Fort Stewart Solar Project groundbreaking event also took place in May 2015. The project is being built on about 285 acres on the installation.

- Georgia Power will develop, finance, design, install, own, operate, and maintain the solar project
- Construction is underway, and the project is expected to be operational in the fall of 2016
- The project will provide ~17 percent of the installation's annual electricity requirement

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Contracts and Agreements Phase:

Fort Hood, Texas ~65 MW Hybrid Project

In June 2015, a Notice of Intent to Award (NOIA) was issued to Apex Clean Energy, Inc., for a large-scale renewable energy solar and wind project at Fort Hood, Texas.

- Once complete, the combined ~15 MW solar and ~50 MW offsite wind project will have a total capacity of ~65 MW
- The project will be micro-grid compatible to enhance energy security
- This is the Army's first hybrid (solar and wind) renewable energy project, first to include both on- and off-installation generation, and the Army's largest single renewable energy project to date
- A contract award is planned to be issued prior to the end of the year

Fort Irwin, California ~15 MW Solar

The Fort Irwin project is a long-term purchase of renewable energy from a ~15 MW solar facility located on the installation near Barstow, California.

- In June 2015, DLA – Energy published an amendment to close the existing Request for Proposals (RFP) due to delays in the environmental process
- Energy security at Fort Irwin is an imperative, therefore the Army intends to issue a new solicitation upon completion of the assessment as required by the National Environmental Policy Act
- A new RFP is expected to be issued in 2016

Redstone Arsenal, Alabama ~18,000 MW(h) Per Year Solar

The Army issued a Notice of Intent to Award (NOIA) to SunPower Corporation for a solar project of up to 18,000 MW hours per year, on ~66 acres at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama.

- The Army anticipates a contract award in early 2016
- The project will be micro-grid compatible and Redstone Arsenal will be the sole off-taker of all power generated
- The project is expected to be operational in late 2016

Redstone Arsenal, Alabama ~25 MW CHP

The Army plans to announce a NOIA for a large-scale renewable ~25 MW Combined Heat and Power (CHP) project on approximately 5 acres at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

- The project will produce steam and electricity required by the installation
- This project is a joint effort between OEI, Redstone Arsenal, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville (USACE HNC)
- The formal contract award is expected to take place in late 2016
- The CHP project will provide 24-hour reliable energy supply to installation base load and have black start capability

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Tooele Army Depot, Utah - Solar

In June 2015, the Army issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a large-scale renewable energy project at Tooele Army Depot (TEAD), Utah.

- The solar project will include a lease and is planned to provide a minimum of 10 MW of renewable energy
- An Industry Day for the project took place on July 30, 2015
- ~274 acres of land are available for the project
- The majority of the power from the project will be sold regionally

Tooele Army Depot, Utah - Wind

On July 8, 2015, the Army issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a large-scale renewable energy wind project at TEAD.

- The wind project will include a lease and is planned to provide a minimum of 10 MW of renewable energy
- An Industry Day took place on July 29, 2015
- ~600 acres of land is available for the project
- The RFQ closed on August 24, 2015, and an RFP is scheduled to be issued this fall



Ray Torres, Tooele Army Depot Business Development Director, delivers remarks to an audience of wind and solar industry executives and government leaders during the Tooele Army Depot Wind RFQ and Solar RFP Industry Day.

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Schofield Barracks, Hawaii ~50 MW Biodiesel

The ~50 MW multi-fuel generation facility will be located on approximately eight acres at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

- The project is planned to provide 100 percent of the operational requirements for Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield, and Field Station Kunia
- In the event of an emergency, the Hawaiian Electric Company-owned and operated project will have black-start capability, enabling the grid to be re-energized during system-wide outages and providing continuous service to vital community facilities
- The Hawaii Public Utility Commission is expected to issue a ruling in the upcoming months
- A lease agreement is expected by early 2016

Anniston Army Depot, Alabama ~10 MW Solar

OEI, Anniston Army Depot, Alabama Power Company, in coordination with GSA and the Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC), are collaborating to develop a ~10 MW solar project.

- This project is anticipated to include a 30-year easement
- The installation has identified ~92 acres of land available for the project
- The project will be designed to be micro-grid compatible, and all power will be utilized by Anniston Army Depot

Fort Rucker, Alabama ~10 MW Solar

OEI, Fort Rucker, and Alabama Power Company, in coordination with GSA and the MICC, are working to develop a large-scale renewable energy solar project.

- The ~10 MW solar project will be micro-grid compatible
- The Army has identified ~119 acres of land available for the project

Assessment & Validation Phase:

JFTB Los Alamitos, California ~16 MW Solar

OEI, Joint Forces Training Base – Los Alamitos (JFTB-LA), and USACE Los Angeles are working to develop a ~16 MW, Integrated Renewable Energy Generation Facility on ~200 acres at JFTB-LA.

- A Request for Information (RFI) was issued in May 2015
- The RFI closed on June 15, 2015
- The results of the RFI are under review and are being used to determine the way forward regarding this opportunity

Upcoming Events

October Energy Action Month

The Army theme for the 2015 Energy Action Month is “Energy Action Today = Resiliency Tomorrow,” which supports the Department of Energy’s vision to: “Lead our nation to a secure, clean, and prosperous energy future.” Throughout the month of October and beyond, the Army will highlight the responsibilities of key team members, along with the recently published Energy Security & Sustainability (ES2) Strategy. The strategy provides a roadmap for the management of energy, water, land, and other resources as a means of achieving installation resiliency through energy security and sustainability.

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2015 AUSA Symposium

The Association of United States Army (AUSA) annual meeting will take place October 12-14 at the Washington Convention Center. AUSA provides numerous professional development opportunities that support America's Army - Active, National Guard, Reserve, civilians, retirees, Wounded Warriors, Veterans, and family members.

On October 13th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in Room 147 AB, join Honorable Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy & Environment), LTG Dave Halverson, US Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, and other senior Army and industry representatives for a panel discussion on "Enabling Victory in a Complex World: Resilient Army Installations."

For additional information on the symposium [click here](#).

Held every October, the AUSA Annual Meeting attracts over 26,000 attendees. The event consists of informative presentations, professional development events, panel discussions on pertinent military and national security subjects, and workshops.



HON Hammack hosts the Army Energy Panel at the 2014 AUSA annual meeting.



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