



60MW MANGILAO SOLAR PROJECT TO BE COMPLETED THIS SUMMER

KEPCO Mangilao Solar commits to providing community benefits for the village of Mangilao

(May 16, 2022 – Mangilao, Guam) – In anticipation of the opening of its new Mangilao solar farm in June, KEPCO Mangilao Solar, LLC (KMS) announced today that the solar energy company is committed to providing community benefits to help improve visibility and safety for residents in Mangilao and contribute to the overall beautification and maintenance of the village.

KMS' new 60-megawatt Mangilao Solar PV farm is expected to be completed in June. All photovoltaic (PV) panels have been installed and will undergo testing in the weeks ahead. Once testing is completed, KMS will provide the Guam Power Authority with the much-needed wattage to support the island's growing demand for renewable energy.

Jeong Heon Kim, president of KEPCO Mangilao Solar, LLC said, "We are committed to being a long-term partner for Guam and a good neighbor for residents of Mangilao, where our new solar PV project will be coming online soon. We are proud to bring the Mangilao Solar Project to Guam which is a vitally important project in helping break Guam's dependence on imported oil and significantly lowering the costs of power to the people of Guam, and also our Mangilao Solar Project will be the cornerstone to reach Guam's 100% renewable energy goal by 2045."

KMS and the Mangilao Mayor's office began planning in 2018 for community benefits that would best serve the village. This year, as the remarkable project progress has been made by the investment of Foss & Company which is a leading institutional investment fund sponsor, KMS has crystalized the community benefit plan which includes installation of a 13.8kV power line and 43 concrete poles to benefit residents in the area where power access was not provided, installation of 13 150W LED equivalent streetlights and secondary wires, set up of 10 security and surveillance cameras (CCTVs) at key locations, donation of maintenance and landscaping equipment, among others.

“In addition to improving safety in the village, it was important for Mayor Ungacta and his staff to have the tools they needed to curb illegal dumping, which has plagued the areas for years. We also look forward to supporting these efforts with our clean-ups and the installation of the streetlights and CCTVs,” said Kim.

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GPA welcomes the addition of 60 megawatts of solar power to move a step closer to renewable energy goals

Guam Power Authority General Manager John Benavente anticipates the addition of 60 megawatts of solar energy from the KEPCO Mangilao Solar (KMS) farm to be fully available to GPA once formal testing is completed this June.

“Once online, the additional 60 megawatts will provide low cost \$0.085/kWh energy to offset the high LEAC cost currently at \$0.21/kWh resulting in over \$1M savings per month for our customers”, said GPA General Manager John Benavente, P.E. The new KEPCO contract with only a 1% escalator will result in significant savings to ratepayers over the twenty-year contract.

He also noted that the additional 60 megawatts generated from the sun will reduce GPA’s annual reliance, consumption, and importation of fuel by 300,000 barrels. This is extremely important considering how high fuel oil prices are and how affected it is by world events, not local ones. The new very efficient Ukudu Power Plant projected for commissioning in April 2024 and the addition of another 110MW of solar renewable currently under construction or contracting will result in reducing our total reliance on fuel oil imports by 1,200,000 barrels in 2025, when GPA meets a 25% renewables portfolio. This will begin to insulate our customers from the erratic high fuel oil prices we have experienced over the past decades.

The new KMS solar farm supports GPA’s commitment to renewable energy, bringing GPA closer to meeting the mandated 2035 renewables goal of 50 percent and 100% reliance on renewable energy by 2045. The new Solar plant is projected to generate enough energy to serve 14,000 average residential customers’ annual energy needs.

“We thank KEPCO Mangilao Soar (KMS) for meeting its commitment to commission this 60-MW solar plant and for working with Mayor Ungacta and the Mangilao Municipal Council to provide additional local benefits to the Mangilao community. We believe the relationship will continue to benefit both parties over the term of the contract,” Benavente concluded.

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Mangilao Mayor's Office announces community improvement projects will improve safety and deter illegal dumping in the village

Mangilao Mayor Allan R.G. Ungacta and the Mangilao Municipal Planning Council (MMPC) announced that the village of Mangilao has received a commitment from KEPCO Mangilao Solar (KMS) to expand its plan that has already begun along Marbo Cave Road. The multi-year projects are slated for completion by the end of the year or early next year, and a few projects, such as the installation of the CCTVs and roadside maintenance and cleaning, are also underway.

Mayor Ungacta noted, "We are pleased to announce KMS has increased its commitment to the village of Mangilao to total more than half a million dollars in support. KMS will install 43 concrete poles with lines and streetlights. One important enhancement is the extension of power access for residents living in the Marbo Cave area, which was not available before."

Mayor Ungacta also noted that some of the projects will directly curb crime and illegal dumping in the village. The 10 CCTVs are live and can be used to monitor illegal activities in problem areas.

He said, "The installation of lighting and cameras will help deter illegal dumping, which has been a big issue for us for years. We can monitor the traffic and be able to identify vehicles driving in and out of that area. We know this has already made residents feel safer."

Mangilao residents weighed in on the announcement:

Rick Unpingco shared that he welcomes a private company stepping up to provide access to power in underserved areas in his village. He said, "That's a big deal to me. I commend KMS for paying for the installation of power poles and power lines in an area of Mangilao that has been lacking that type of infrastructure. This is great news for the village."

Marvin Francisco shared that his late father Francisco C. Francisco, better known as “Kiko Kiko”, would be very happy to know that the Marbo Cliffside area will finally have power. He said, “My Father would also be pleased KMS is donating maintenance equipment that will be used exclusively for Mangilao projects. Thank you for helping our village of Mangilao.”

Mayor Ungacta added that he is especially appreciative of KMS’ donation of landscaping and maintenance equipment that his team needs to keep Mangilao clean and tidy.

“Mangilao is a large village, and the new equipment will allow us to take care of the roadsides and medians more efficiently. Keeping our village tidy contributes to the overall safety for pedestrians and motorists on one of the busiest roadways on the island,” the Mayor concluded.

For inquiries related to the community improvement projects, please contact:

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