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Energy Resilience – Past and Future

The Secretariat’s Energy Team has been busy since our last issue of Energy & Sustainability News was published.

In August, The ASA (IE&E) Energy Team participated enthusiastically in the Department of Energy’s Energy Exchange-2019, where we met with Army Installation Energy Managers and helped lead a full-day training workshop by the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 (Installations). We also heard and shared new ideas with industry partners, participated in panels with the Army’s sister service Deputy Assistant Secretaries and other agencies, and celebrated with Energy Team members as they received ten Secretary of the Army Awards for Energy and Water Management. Our main focus during of these engagements was to convey and strengthen the understanding of how energy resilience supports the Army Strategy and the Army’s top priorities of readiness, modernization, and reform.

In October, we participated in the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) 2019 Symposium in Washington D.C. Again, we met with industry representatives, Army Soldiers and Civilians during a group presentation, and through the Installation Management Community’s three-day “Meet the Team” program. During one of AUSA’s Contemporary Military Forums, the Army’s installation leadership discussed how installations are part of the Strategic Support Area, where military might is generated, projected and sustained during the fight no matter where Army combat forces are deployed.

The foundation of the Army is readiness. Installations are the Army’s readiness and power projection platforms where our Soldiers live, train, and work. As we move into fiscal year 2020, the Army is focused on driving reform and performance improvement efforts by refining the processes for assessing energy and water risks and opportunities.

By 2021, the Army aims to have all Installation Energy and Water Plans (IEWP) completed for installations. IEWPs will address Army installation vulnerabilities, some of which are identified through ongoing Energy Resilience Readiness Exercises (ERREs), which help identify capability gaps when the power goes out.

We will also continue to strengthen our relationships with local utilities and industry. The Army will seek additional opportunities to collaborate with industry, utilities, the Department of Energy, local communities and other stakeholders to strengthen the energy resilience of our installations.

In pursuit of improved energy resilience, the Army will prioritize critical infrastructure replacements and upgrades over non-critical upgrades. We will continue to pursue contingency power microgrids and components supported by onsite energy generation to provide back-up power, reduce peak demand and minimize demand for excess fuel storage, leverage alternative financing opportunities as a resourcing strategy. The Secretariat’s Energy Team will help keep the Army focused on resilience, efficiencies and controlling costs.

If you are not yet aware, the former Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management is now the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 (Installations). I would like to congratulate and welcome the new Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9, Lt. Gen. Jason Evans. He was confirmed by the Senate on September 26, 2019.

I would like to welcome two new team members to the Office of Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability. Mr. Anirban Bhattacharyya and Dr. Stephen Dornbos. Anirban Bhattacharyya (Ani) focuses on third party financing, Energy Savings Performance Contracts, Utility Energy Services Contracts, Utilities Privatization, and electric vehicles. Ani has 25 years of combined experience as a senior leader and program manager with federal, state, county and city government agencies, and medium-to-large private corporations.

Dr. Stephen Dornbos is an American Association for the Advancement of Science & Technology Policy Fellow. He is working on the Army’s climate and water resilience portfolio. It’s a one-to-two year fellowship designed to bring PhD-level scientists into the federal government where they learn policy and support the mission of their assigned office. He comes to the Army from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee where he was the Chair of the Geosciences Department and a Professor.
The Secretariat’s Energy Team visited Denver in August to participate in Energy Exchange - 2019, and the Army Energy Manager Training Workshop. The events were attended by representatives from the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Energy, other federal agencies, leadership from Army installations, and leading energy management and industry professionals. The Army’s themes centered on energy resilience, readiness, modernization, and reform.

At the opening session for the Energy Exchange, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Honorable Alex Beehler, highlighted the impact of energy resilience on Army readiness. He said, “Army readiness begins on our installations where energy is key to everything the Army does. Without energy resilience, readiness is not possible.” In addition, he shared his vision of the Army’s future energy needs by saying, “I envision all installations to be energy resilient and to fully utilize technology and data. Future capabilities that optimize artificial intelligence, sensors, and deep analytics will give us new tools to adapt, consider and react to conditions almost simultaneously.”

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability, Mr. J.E. “Jack” Surash, joined other DoD deputy assistant secretaries for a Policies and Strategies Panel at the Energy Exchange. He furthered the message of energy resilience by encouraging the Army to strengthen relationships. He challenged industry and local utilities “to bring new, innovative ideas that focus on resilience.” He noted that by the year 2021, the Army aims to have all Installation Energy and Water Plans in place for installations.

Mr. Surash also spoke at the Army Energy Manager Training Workshop held in conjunction with the Energy Exchange. He said, “Enabling warfighter readiness begins on our installations. Modernizing installation energy and water programs, technology and infrastructure will increase the U.S. Army’s ability to project multi-domain operations. Through diligent energy management, our installations can become robust and resilient power projection platforms.” He also provided a framework of ‘top ten’ resilience and efficiency strategies for installations: (1) energy resilience training exercises, (2) onsite energy generation, (3) issuing mock electric bills to installation tenants to motivate energy efficiency and cost-saving measures, (4) lowering lifecycle costs, (5) building control systems, (6) reducing demand, (7) guaranteed energy savings, (8) use of native landscapes, (9) single stream recycling and (10) reducing waste.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Mr. Jordan Gillis, continued the discussions on energy resilience during the final DoD panel. He said, “Keeping in line with our priorities of readiness, modernization, and reform, we’re seeking to develop energy solutions to provide the necessary energy and water resources to sustain critical missions in the event of a major outage or disruption in supply.” Mr. Gillis outlined the relevance of the Installation Energy and Water Plans and emphasized that the Army is also conducting Energy Resilience Readiness Exercises to uncover and mitigate possible new resilience risks.
Delivering the Army’s Energy Resilience Message

Energy Leaders and Installation Managers from around the world gathered at the annual Association of the United States Army’s Symposium in Washington D.C., October 14-16.

The goal was to communicate, educate and inform Army leadership, government, academia, civic, and veteran advocates about how Army installations are critical to Army readiness, and how energy resilience and security is essential to Installation and Army readiness.

During a Contemporary Military Forum titled, “Synchronizing Installation Readiness and Sustainment from the Strategic Support Area to the Tactical Point of Need,” Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment (ASA (IE&E)), Hon. Alex Beehler, joined with: Army Materiel Command’s Commanding General, Gen. Gus Perna; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for ASA (IE&E), Mr. Jordan Gillis; AMC Deputy Commander, Lt. Gen. Ed Daly; and Deputy Chief of Staff, Army Logistics (G-4), Lt. Gen. Duane Gamble, for the panel discussion.

Hon. Beehler pointed out, the fact that they were discussing ‘installation readiness and sustainment’ was significant in and of itself. He said, “It shows that installations have become a vital component in how we conduct and prepare for war.” Beehler said, “Winning is our top priority, and installations are the launching point to make sure that happens.”

Gen. Perna said, “The [Army leadership] priorities are clear: be ready tactically, increase our readiness strategically, modernize our equipment and the way we do business, the way we run our installations, and constantly reform ourselves as we move from the industrial age into the information age.”

Mr. Gillis said to be successful, an Army installation needs to be four things: resilient, efficient, effective and affordable. He noted that installations cannot be totally resilient if they are reliant on off-site energy or off-site water. In a power or water outage, an installation must be able to carry out its critical missions.

“To achieve these successes, we need the best ideas. We need the best collaboration from private industry, our communities adjacent to the installations, and from our Soldiers for life,” Gillis said. “We need everyone’s help to build those installations of the future, and we need to make sure that installations are in step with the rest of the Army as we all modernize for the future.”

In addition, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability, Mr. J. E. ‘Jack’ Surash; Operations Director, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 (Installations), Brig. Gen. Joy Curriera; and Executive Director, Army Office of Energy Initiatives, Mr. Mike McGhee teamed up to give a short presentation to symposium attendees. They provided attendees an overview of the Army Strategy and how energy resilience enables Army readiness, how modernizing energy programs enables a lethal force; and how reforming energy business practices enhances mission readiness.

The “U.S. Army Energy: Power to Win” video can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-xpy_bdpTg&t
U.S. Army and Congressional leaders convened on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, October 30, to discuss Army energy programs and the vital role energy resilience plays in Army readiness.

The Congressional Meeting, hosted by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, provided an opportunity for the Army to highlight installation and operational energy programs.

Led by Assistant Secretary Alex Beehler, the event provided an opportunity for the Army to educate Congressional attendees, Professional Staff Members, and member personal staff on how energy resilience enables Army readiness.

U.S. House Representative Marcy Kaptur, from Ohio’s 9th District, and Representative Jason Crow, from Colorado’s 6th District, attended the event and highlighted the vital role of energy in military readiness and national security interests.

Army leaders including Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Mr. Jordan Gillis; Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability, Mr. J.E. “Jack” Surash; Director of Operations, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 (Installations), Brig. Gen. Joy Curriera; Executive Director of the Army Office of Energy Initiatives, Mr. Michael McGhee; and Special Assistant for Energy and Sustainability Installations, Energy and Environment, Dr. Bret Strogen, participated.

The annual event is held in October during Energy Action Month which serves as a reminder that secure and reliable access to energy, water, and land resources is vital for the Army to perform its mission and support multi-domain operations.
Army Commemorates Energy Action Month World-Wide

October was Energy Action Month, an annual observance designed to raise awareness of the critical role energy resilience plays in mission readiness, which supports the Army priorities of readiness, modernization, and reform.

Keeping with the Presidential Proclamation promoting National Energy Awareness Month, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment joined with the Army Materiel Command, Army Land Holding Commands, Army Installations, Army and Air Force Exchange Services, the Defense Commissary Agency, Utilities and Washington Headquarters Services to highlight the vital role energy plays in mission readiness.

Observed worldwide across the Army's 156 installations, this year's campaign highlighted the Army's efforts to enhance Army readiness by strengthening energy resilience, modernize Army installations and operational energy programs to build a more lethal force, and reform business processes to maintain effective warfighting operations. This was accomplished through congressional engagements, senior leader messages, public service announcements, product sales, graphics, and social media campaigns throughout October.

This year's theme, "Energy Resilience Enables Army Readiness" reinforced the vital role energy plays in supporting the Army's multi-domain operations. The Army is focusing on warfighter readiness - ensuring our Soldiers have the tools they need to deploy, fight, and win.

Around the world Senior Army Leaders, Soldiers, Civilians and Family Members reflected on the importance energy resilience has on Installation mission readiness, and many took part in the educational and awareness activities available to them.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Hon. Alex Beehler, said, "This year’s theme reinforces the Army's top priorities... The Army's ability to accomplish its mission of protecting U.S. national security interests at home and abroad, depends on resilient, uninterrupted access to energy."

In a message to the forces, he told the Army family, "We sincerely appreciate your continued support in focusing on energy resilience, energy conservation, and energy efficiency. Improving the resilience of our energy supply chain and wisely using energy every day throughout the year ensures that we remain Army Strong!"

The Commanding General of Army Materiel Command, Gen. Gus Perna is responsible for installation and materiel readiness. In a video aired around the world, he said, “I can attest to the importance of power and energy to our Army. From installation readiness to battlefield sustainment, Energy Resilience is operationally necessary, mission critical and financially prudent.”

Gen. Perna said, “Reducing our energy dependence and improving operational capabilities places the Army priorities first. Every dollar saved in efficient energy programs and practices can be directed toward Army readiness.” He then asked Soldiers, Civilians and Family Members to join him and our Army Senior Leaders in committing to changing our power and energy behavior, making energy performance a leadership function, and conducting energy-informed operations.

Sergeant Major of the Army Michael A. Grinston noted that the Army is modernizing our installation infrastructure and equipment to enhance energy resilience to increase readiness. However, he told Soldiers, “We need your help. If you have a suggestion, share your ideas with your leadership. Our collective strength depends on each of us.”

"Across the nation, the Army Reserve promoted energy conservation and hosted events in their facilities and communities,” said Branch Chief, Sustainability Programs, Army Reserve Staff, Christine Ploschke.

"The goal, regardless if participants are Reservists, Civilians, or Family Members, is encouraging people to reduce energy waste. It’s something that everyone can and should do. From changes to daily activities while on the job and at home, we can partner together to make long lasting impactful decisions that truly make a difference,” Ploschke said.

Hon. Beehler said, “During Energy Action Month and throughout the year, think about how energy resilience enables Army readiness. Be proactive in reducing consumption and making those around you aware of the vital role installation and operational energy has in mission success.”

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The annual Secretary of the Army Energy and Water Management Awards were presented to ten recipient organizations, garrisons and individuals in recognition of accomplishments during fiscal year 2018.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Mr. Jordan Gillis and the Director of Operations, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9 (Installations), Brig. Gen. Joy L. Curriera presented the awards on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

The awards program was established in 1979 to recognize installations, small groups, and individuals who make significant achievements in energy conservation and water management in support of Army readiness.

The program recognizes significant achievements in advancing the Army’s energy and water program strategic goals, improving energy security and sustainability on Army installations.

The Army has significantly improved energy resilience and reduced facility energy and water consumption on Army installations largely because of the initiative, innovation, and commitment of the award winners. This commitment extends across the Federal government, and the Army is helping to lead the way in improving energy resilience, advancing energy efficiency, deploying renewable and alternative energy, improving water management and utility infrastructure, and reducing costs.

From energy resilience, water conservation, innovation and new technology, effective energy programs and the exceptional individuals – the awardees are doing the hard work that needs to be done – not only to make our Army installations resilient, efficient and responsible stewards of our nation’s energy and water resources, but to make our country safe and secure.

Congratulations to the Awardees!

**Individual Exceptional Performance**
- USAG Fort Knox, Kentucky – Mr. Patrick Walsh

**Energy & Water Resilience Program Effectiveness**
- USAG Fort Knox, Kentucky – Mr. Patrick Walsh, Mr. Robert Dyrdek and Mr. Mark Richerson.
- USAG Fort Hunter Liggett, California – Mr. Gennaro Messina, Mr. Kerry Norman, Mr. David Fullmer, Ms. Melissa Foslien and Ms. Sharon Usrey.
- USAG Fort Campbell, Kentucky – Mr. Mark Linkous and Mr. Robert Ott.
- USAG Hawaii, Hawaii – Mr. Keith Yamanaka, Mr. Ted Robinson, Mr. Santiago Hernandez, Ms. Casey Hiraiba and Ms. Krista Stehn (Army Office of Energy Initiatives).
- USAG Fort Riley, Kansas – Mr. Michael Witmer, Mr. Hadassa Baker, Mr. Daniel McCallister and Mr. Jeffrey Williamson
- USAG Fort Stewart, Georgia – Col. Jason Wolter, Mr. William Ingram, Mr. Edward Forestel and Mr. Fred Pierre-Louis.

**Innovation and New Technology**
- USAG Fort Huachuca, Arizona – Mr. Jack Porter Jr. and Mr. Tim Zimmerman
- USAG Fort Irwin, California – Col. Larry France, Mr. Garth LaComb, Mr. Muhammad Bari, Mr. Christopher Woodruff and Ms. Patricia Kimura