



# FORT BENNING, GEORGIA SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

## PROVIDES ONSITE ENERGY GENERATION & SUPPLY DIVERSITY

Energy resilience is critical to Army Readiness. The homeland is no longer a sanctuary.<sup>1</sup> The Army is modernizing its installations with energy solutions that are resilient, efficient, and affordable.

The U.S. Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) and Fort Benning collaborated with Georgia Power Company (GPC) to develop a large-scale 30 megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC)<sup>2</sup> solar project at Fort Benning, Georgia. This project is one of the three operational 30 MW AC solar projects, one each at Forts Benning, Gordon, and Stewart. These projects, collectively referred to as the Georgia 3x30 project, supply about 20 percent of the Army's total electrical demand in Georgia. In November 2016, the project became fully operational, bringing onsite generation and supply diversity to Fort Benning.

### About Fort Benning

Roughly 120,000 Soldiers, family members, military retirees, civilians, and contractors live, work, and use services on Fort Benning daily.

Camp Benning was established in October 1918. In February 1920, Congress voted to declare Camp Benning a permanent military post for the Infantry School of Arms, which later became the Infantry School.

Fort Benning is now home to the Maneuver Center of Excellence, the Armor and Infantry schools (including subordinate brigades), and the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade. Fort Benning is located in an area commonly known as the "TriCommunity," comprised of Fort Benning and Columbus, Georgia, and Phenix City, Alabama.



### Project Details

- The project is located on approximately 220 acres of land at Fort Benning.
- The project diversifies Fort Benning's power supply with a sustainable energy source.
- The project comprises 133,950 solar panels that supply energy to the Georgia grid.
- The project will generate enough solar energy to power about 4,300 homes per year.
- The Army and GPC signed a 35-year easement for the property.
- Fort Benning will continue to procure power from GPC through an existing GSA Areawide contract.
- Energy generated by the project is delivered to the grid as part of GPC's wholesale portfolio.
- GPC, owned by Southern Company, financed, owns, operates, and maintains the large-scale solar energy project.
- The project provided approximately 225 jobs during construction and 5 full time positions during operations.



## About Army Office of Energy Initiatives

The Army OEI seeks to assist Army installations in optimizing operations, meeting mission essential requirements, mitigating vulnerabilities, and sustaining critical capabilities during any energy disruption. The Army OEI is aligned under the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability. The Army OEI serves as the Army's central program management office for the development, implementation, and oversight of privately financed, large-scale, energy projects focused on enhancing energy resilience, energy security, and sustainability on Army installations. Army OEI collaborates with industry, public utilities, and other stakeholders to implement projects using alternate resourcing strategies that provide energy generation, storage, and control capabilities. These "islandable" capabilities can support critical operations in the event of a grid outage, enabling the Army to achieve the levels of mobility and lethality to maintain its tactical and strategic edge. For more information about Army OEI, visit: [www.oei.army.mil](http://www.oei.army.mil).

## About Mission and Installation Contracting Command

Headquartered at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, the Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC) is made up of more than 1,500 military and civilian members assigned to 3 contracting support brigades, 1 field directorate office, and 32 contracting offices throughout the continental United States and Puerto Rico. MICC supports Army Commands, installations, and activities with disciplined and responsive contracting solutions and oversight. It also, on order, aligns and provides contracting forces in order to enable Army Unified Land Operations.

<sup>1</sup> 2018 National Defense Strategy

<sup>2</sup> Alternating Current (AC) is provided to consumers. Inverters convert the direct current (DC) from solar panels to AC and losses occur during conversion. Approximately 30 MW AC = approximately 41 MW DC.

## About U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has approximately 37,000 dedicated Civilians and Soldiers delivering engineering services to customers in more than 130 countries worldwide. USACE's mission is to deliver vital public and military engineering services; partnering in peace and war to strengthen our Nation's security, energize the economy and reduce risks from disasters, and with a vision of engineering solutions for our Nation's toughest challenges.

## About Georgia Power Company

Georgia Power Company (GPC) is the largest subsidiary of Southern Company (NYSE: SO). Value, reliability, customer service, and stewardship are the cornerstones of the company's promise to 2.5 million customers in all but 4 of Georgia's 159 counties. Committed to delivering clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy at rates below the national average, GPC maintains a diverse, innovative generation mix that includes nuclear, advanced coal and natural gas, renewables such as solar, hydroelectric, and wind, as well as a variety of energy efficiency programs. For more information, visit [www.GeorgiaPower.com](http://www.GeorgiaPower.com).



Fort Benning, GA, 30 MW solar array, 133,950 solar panels

