



FORT RUCKER, ALABAMA SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

**PROVIDES ONSITE GENERATION, SUPPLY
DIVERSITY & MICROGRID COMPATIBILITY**

Energy resilience is critical to Army Readiness. The homeland is no longer a sanctuary.¹ 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 Rucker collaborated with Alabama Power (APC) to develop a 10 megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC)² solar energy project at Fort Rucker, Alabama. In May 2017, the project became fully operational, providing energy to the grid, then to Fort Rucker and the community.

This project is one of three large-scale energy generation projects in operation on Army installations in Alabama. Other projects include a 10 MW solar and battery storage project at Redstone Arsenal and a 7 MW solar project at Anniston Army Depot.

About Fort Rucker

Fort Rucker opened on May 1, 1942, as Camp Rucker, and is situated on 58,000 acres in southeast Alabama. Today, Fort Rucker supports a population of about 15,600 and is home to the 1st Aviation Brigade, 110th Aviation Brigade, and 23rd Flying Training Squadron.

The U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) is the dominant military mission of Fort Rucker and has served as the headquarters for Army Aviation since 2008. USAACE facilitates indispensable aviation capabilities across warfighting functions in support of commanders and Soldiers on the ground. Army Aviation has played a vital and ever-expanding role across the spectrum of Joint Combined operations.



Project Details

- The project, consisting of over 115,000 solar panels located on approximately 90 acres, increases energy security and sustainability at Fort Rucker.
- The Army and APC, owned by Southern Company, entered into a 30-year easement for the property.
- APC financed, built, owns, operates, and maintains the large-scale solar energy generation facility.
- An estimated 241 workers were employed during the construction of the solar array.
- Energy generated by the project is delivered to the grid as part of APC's wholesale portfolio, benefiting all APC customers.
- Fort Rucker continues to procure power from APC through the existing General Services Administration (GSA) Areawide contract.
- The project is microgrid compatible to facilitate a future project to provide islandable capability in the event of a power emergency, which will strengthen energy resilience at Fort Rucker.
- The Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC) and the GSA provided support to this project.



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.

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.

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 Alabama Power Company

Alabama Power provides the valuable combination of competitive prices, reliable electricity supply, and unparalleled service to more than 1.4 million homes, businesses and industries in the southern two-thirds of Alabama. It is one of four U.S. utilities operated by Southern Company (NYSE:SO) and one of the nation's largest producers of electricity. Learn more at www.alabamapower.com.



The 10 MW solar array at Fort Rucker, AL, is comprised of more than 115,000 solar panels.

¹ 2018 National Defense Strategy

² Alternating Current (AC) is provided to consumers. Inverters convert the direct current (DC) from solar panels to AC and losses occur during conversion. Approximately 10 MW AC = approximately 12.5 MW DC.

