Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative
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KIUC First in the Nation for Solar Storage Capacity per Customer

Līhu'e, Kaua'i, HI – 08/06/2019 – Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative led the nation again in 2018 for interconnection of energy storage watts per customer (Wh/C), and ranked second in annual energy storage capacity, according to the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA).

In 2018, KIUC posted more than 3,000 Wh/C, nearly six times more than the next ranked utility: Sterling Municipal Light Department in Massachusetts. This is the second year running that KIUC topped the list of storage watts per customer.

For annual energy storage capacity, KIUC ranked behind Southern California Edison, and logged more than 30% more megawatt hours (MWh) capacity than Pacific Gas and Electric, which ranked third.

The rankings were included in SEPA's 2019 Utility Energy Storage Market Snapshot, which was released today. The report tracks the amount of solar power interconnected to the grid each year, and also collects energy storage and demand response deployment data. According to SEPA, the participating utilities represent more than 82 million customer accounts, or approximately 56% of all customer accounts throughout the U.S.

"The addition of the AES Lāwa'i solar plus storage facility launched KIUC significantly forward in the rankings," said KIUC's President and Chief Executive Officer, David Bissell. "Combined with the Tesla facility, which opened in 2017, we are now able to meet 40% of our evening peak with stored solar power." The Tesla facility, located in Kapaia, can store 52 MWh daily. AES Lāwa'i stores up to 100 MWh for use during nighttime peak or as needed.

KIUC's Board of Directors has set a strategic goal of reaching 70% renewable generation by 2030. So far in 2019, KIUC is generating 55% of its electricity from renewables. One additional solar-storage project is under construction with AES in Kekaha at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, and is expected to be complete in 2020. The addition of AES/PMRF will push KIUC's renewable generation to more than 60%.

"All of these projects are being procured via long-term purchase agreements at prices well below the current cost of oil," said Bissell. "This provides us with pricing stability and a downward pressure on rates over time."

The full SEPA report can be accessed at: www.sepapower.org.

(more)

SEPA's Top 10 Utility Energy Storage Rankings

Each year, SEPA recognizes the U.S. utilities that interconnected the most new energy storage capacity in their service territories with two categories of Top 10 Rankings: most energy storage megawatt-hours (MWh) and watt-hours per customer (Wh/C)—which are listed in Appendix B for both 2018 and cumulative. Only utilities with at least 500 customer accounts were considered for the watt-hours per customer ranking. Complete detailed rankings from SEPA's 2019 Storage Utility Benchmarking Report are available to utility survey participants by contacting research@sepapower.org.

Table 1: Top 10 Utilities by Annual Energy Storage Capacity (MWh)

1	**Southern California Edison**	California	154.3
2	**Kauai Island Utility Cooperative**	Hawaii	102.0
3	**Pacific Gas & Electric**	California	73.2
4	**Florida Power & Light Company**	Florida	56.0
5	**Salt River Project**	Arizona	44.5
6	**Long Island Power Authority**	New York	40.0
7	**San Diego Gas & Electric**	California	33.7
8	**Connexus Energy**	Minnesota	30.0
9	**Hawaiian Electric Company**	Hawaii	23.3
10	**United Power, Inc.**	Colorado	18.2

Source: Smart Electric Power Alliance, 2019.

Table 2: Top 10 Utilities by Annual Energy Storage Watt-Hours Per Customer (Wh/C)

1	**Kauai Island Utility Cooperative**	Hawaii	3,037.6
2	**Sterling Municipal Light Department**	Massachusetts	523.1
3	**City of Holyoke**	Massachusetts	341.6
4	**Braintree Electric Light Department**	Massachusetts	240.5
5	**Connexus Energy**	Minnesota	226.8
6	**United Power, Inc.**	Colorado	218.9
7	**Hawaii Electric Light Company**	Hawaii	95.2
8	**Hawaiian Electric Company**	Hawaii	76.3
9	**Green Mountain Power Corporation**	Vermont	66.3
10	**Randolph Electric Membership Corporation**	North Carolina	44.0

Source: Smart Electric Power Alliance, 2019.

A total of 272 Tesla Powerpack lithium-ion batteries provide for 52 megawatt hours of solar dispatch during Kauaʻi's evening peak

The AES Lāwaʻi project can store up to 100 MWh of power daily

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