

AES Distributed Energy and KIUC Break Ground on Largest
Hybrid Solar and Energy Storage System in Hawai'i

Lāwa'i, Kaua'i, HI – 02/22/2018 – AES Distributed Energy (AES DE), a subsidiary of The AES Corporation (AES), and Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) today held a groundbreaking for the Lāwa'i Solar and Energy Storage Project on Kaua'i's south shore. The project consists of 28 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) and a 100 MWh five-hour duration energy storage system, and will contribute significantly to the State of Hawai'i's goal of reaching 100 percent renewable energy by 2045.

The system will be located on former sugar land between Lāwa'i and Kōloa. It will be the largest solar-plus-utility-scale-battery system in the state of Hawai'i and one of the biggest storage systems in the world.

“The project will provide 11 percent of Kaua'i's electric generation; increasing KIUC's renewable sourced generation to close to 60 percent. At 11 cents per kWh, the pricing is well below the cost of diesel and will not only provide downward pressure on rates, but also helps us avoid the use of 3.7 million gallons of diesel each year,” stated KIUC's President and Chief Executive Officer, David Bissell. “Projects like this are possible because we've forged partnerships with landowners like A&B and proven industry leaders such as AES. Credit is also due to our Board of Directors for setting bold strategic goals, and of course to our member-owners for their support.”

“AES has had a presence in Hawai'i for more the 25 years, and this first-of-its-kind project demonstrates our continued commitment to the state's vision of a cleaner energy future,” said Woody Rubin, President of AES Distributed Energy. “This innovative project will help reduce Kauai's reliance on fossil fuels while generating clean, reliable and affordable energy.”

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Incorporating advanced technologies like battery-based energy storage will benefit those who live and visit Hawai'i, providing the island with safe, reliable and higher-quality power and a more resilient grid. This system will provide dispatchable renewable solar energy with the ability to deliver consistent peak power output for up to five hours outside of daytime hours while preserving the ability to provide energy directly to the grid during daytime hours.

AES DE will be the long-term owner and operator of the project.

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Kumu Sabra Kauka prepares for the blessing and site dedication with the assistance of KIUC Board Chair Allan Smith as others look on.



Students from the Island School Hawaiian Studies program blow the conch shell to open the blessing ceremony as Kumu Sabra Kauka and others look on.



L-R: KIUC Board Member Jan TenBruggencate, KIUC Board Chair Allan Smith, Kaua'i Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr., Kaua'i County Councilwoman JoAnn Yukimura, Hawai'i Senate President Ron Kouchi, KIUC President and CEO David Bissell, Hawai'i State Senator Lorraine Inouye (Big Island), Brian Miller/AES, Kaua'i County Council Chair Mel Rapozo, Hawai'i State Representative Chris Lee (Oahu), Woody Rubin/AES, Governor Ige's Kaua'i liaison Carrice Caspillo Gardner, Ken Zagzebski/AES, Jerrod Schreck/Alexander and Baldwin.