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

BOULDER, Colo., – 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.

"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."

The system will be located on former sugar land between Lāwa'i and Kōloa on Kaua'i's south shore. 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."

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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About The AES Corporation: *The AES Corporation (NYSE: AES) is a Fortune 200 global power company providing affordable, sustainable energy to 16 countries through our diverse portfolio of distribution businesses as well as thermal and renewable generation facilities. Our workforce of 10,500 people is committed to operational excellence and meeting the world's changing power needs. Our 2016 revenues were \$14 billion and we own and manage \$36 billion in total assets. To learn more, please visit <http://www.aes.com>. Follow AES on Twitter [@TheAESCorp](#).*

About KIUC

KIUC is a member-owned cooperative serving 33,000 customers on the island of Kaua'i. Formed in 2002 and governed by a nine-member, elected board of directors, KIUC is one of 930 electric co-ops serving more than 36 million members in 47 states.