



# Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute Research Highlights

## International Support

### Energy Security and Resilience in the Caribbean Islands

**OBJECTIVE AND SIGNIFICANCE:** In February 2023, HNEI was contracted by Deloitte & Touche LLP (“Deloitte”) to deliver technical assistance for the U.S.-Caribbean Partnership to Address Climate Change 2030 (PACC 2030), a U.S. Department of State (DOS) funded initiative. PACC 2030 establishes a framework aimed at enhancing U.S. cooperation with Caribbean countries to bolster climate adaptation, energy security, and resilience of critical infrastructure and local economies in the face of the climate crisis. Deloitte’s role within PACC 2030 is to enhance energy security and resilience in the Caribbean through essential technical support in three key areas:

1. Supporting geothermal development in the Dominican Republic;
2. Building regulatory capacity in the realms of clean energy and utility oversight; and
3. Strengthening the technical capabilities of electric utilities and energy ministries in the integration of renewable energy, electric mobility (e-mobility), and power system resilience.

To achieve these objectives, HNEI GridSTART is providing vital technical support on behalf of Deloitte.

**BACKGROUND:** The Caribbean faces the highest dependency on imported oil for power generation and the highest average electricity prices in the Western Hemisphere. This situation results in expensive and unreliable electricity, making the region vulnerable to global supply shocks. Following years of energy engagement under the Caribbean Energy Security Initiative (CESI), the Biden-Harris Administration announced PACC 2030 in June 2022 during the U.S.-hosted Summit of the Americas. PACC 2030 serves as the comprehensive framework through which all U.S. government climate and clean energy efforts will be implemented in the region.

**PROJECT STATUS/RESULTS:** HNEI GridSTART is providing analytical and advisory services for various activities and deliverables outlined in its contract with Deloitte. These include:

- Conducting regional regulatory virtual training sessions for the Caribbean Electric Utility Services Corporation (CARILEC) and the

Organization of Caribbean Utility Regulators (OOCUR);

- Facilitating regional regulatory in-person training sessions for CARILEC and OOCUR;
- Providing support for virtual training on ETAP Software for Barbados; and
- Preparing technical reports on a variety of topics for the following entities:
  - Jamaica Office of Utilities Regulation;
  - St. Kitts Electricity Company;
  - Trinidad and Tobago; and
  - Jamaica Public Service.

The final report entitled “*Recommendations on Grid Codes and Reliability Benchmarks and Criteria*” was submitted to the St. Kitts Electricity Company on August 4, 2023. A preliminary draft of a report entitled “*Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Trinidad and Tobago*” was also submitted to Deloitte on October 9, 2023.

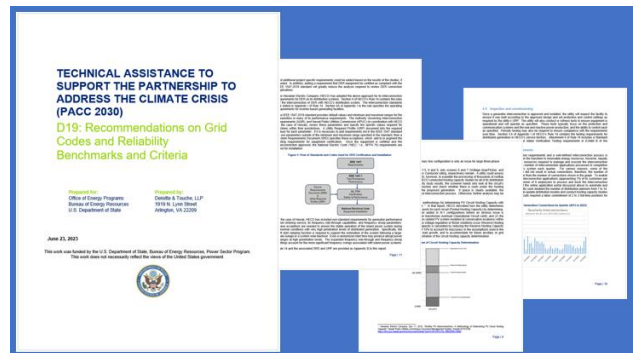


Figure 1. Report submitted to the St. Kitts Electricity Company.

Additional reports for Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica Power Service are in progress. Virtual and in-person training sessions are currently being planned and are scheduled for the first and second quarters of 2024.

*Funding Source:* U.S. Department of State

*Contact:* Leon Roose, [lroose@hawaii.edu](mailto:lroose@hawaii.edu)

*Last Updated:* November 2023