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University of Hawai‘i Maui College aims to be the first campus in the nation with 100-percent renewable energy generated on-site with battery-enabled self-supply

UH partners with Johnson Controls and Pacific Current to produce more than $79 million in energy savings over 20 years

MILWAUKEE – (March 19, 2018) - Today the University of Hawai‘i (UH) announced that its Maui College campus will soon be among the first in the nation to generate 100 percent of its energy from on-site solar photovoltaic (PV) systems coupled with battery storage. The project is part of a partnership with Johnson Controls and Pacific Current that will also allow four UH community college campuses on O‘ahu to significantly reduce their fossil fuel consumption.

UH Maui College’s new PV plus storage system will be capable of eliminating the campus’ fossil fuel-based energy use when it is operational in 2019. On O‘ahu, through the combination of solar shade canopies, distributed energy storage and energy efficiency measures, Leeward Community College, Honolulu Community College,
Kapi‘olani Community College and Windward Community College will reduce their use of fossil fuel for energy by 98 percent, 97 percent, 74 percent and 70 percent, respectively.

In 2015, Hawai‘i became the first state in the country to make an unprecedented commitment to achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2045. Concurrently, UH and the Hawai‘i Legislature established a collective goal for the university system to be “net-zero” by January 1, 2035, meaning the system would produce as much renewable energy as it consumes across its campuses.

Of the ten campuses, UH Maui College is on target to be the first to supply 100 percent of its energy needs through renewable energy.

The partnership between UH, Johnson Controls and Pacific Current is the second phase of a multi-year energy efficiency and renewable energy project. In phase one, energy efficiency measures were successfully implemented at UH Maui College and the O‘ahu community college campuses under energy performance contracts awarded to Johnson Controls in 2010. Phase two includes additional energy efficiency upgrades and the installation of on-site solar PV coupled with battery storage, allowing the five campuses to use the renewable generated energy as needed. The PV plus storage systems will be developed by Johnson Controls and owned by Hawai‘i-based Pacific Current. The energy efficiency upgrades will also reduce the deferred maintenance backlog at these campuses by approximately $20 million.

“With the implementation of phase two, these five UH campuses will have reduced fossil fuel energy consumption by ~14 GWh annually (45 percent) and added ~13 GWh renewable energy generation,” said UH Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton. “We are proud to move the entire University of Hawai‘i System closer to its net-zero energy mandate, to celebrate UH Maui College’s achievement and to position the O‘ahu community college campuses within reach of 100 percent renewable energy generation.”

Following the successful implementation of energy conservation measures across the campuses during phase one, phase two will bring the total on-site capacity to 2.8 MW of solar PV and 13.2 MWh of battery distributed energy storage at UH Maui College, and 7.7 MW of solar PV and 28.6 MWh of battery distributed energy storage to the UH Community Colleges O‘ahu campuses.

“Hawai‘i’s leaders set the national example of sustainability and renewable energy standards with the net-zero mandate by 2035 for UH, and we’re proud to partner with the university to help it reach that commitment and aim for UH Maui College to become the first campus in the U.S. to generate and store 100 percent renewable energy onsite, 16 years ahead of schedule,” said Rod Rushing, president, Building Solutions North America, Johnson Controls.

Energy and infrastructure improvements at the five UH campuses involved in the project are scheduled to be completed by Q2 2019.
For additional information on the UH’s progress toward its net-zero goal, please see the Annual Report on Net-Zero Energy for the University of Hawai‘i 2018: https://www.hawaii.edu/govrel/docs/reports/2018/hrs304a-119_2018_net-zero_annual-report.pdf

About the University of Hawai‘i
Established in 1907 and fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the University of Hawai‘i System includes 10 campuses and dozens of educational, training and research centers across the state. As the sole public system of higher education in Hawai‘i, UH offers an array of undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees and community programs. UH enrolls more than 49,000 students from Hawai‘i, the U.S. mainland and around the world. For more information visit www.hawaii.edu.

About Johnson Controls
Johnson Controls is a global diversified technology and multi-industrial leader serving a wide range of customers in more than 150 countries. Our 120,000 employees create intelligent buildings, efficient energy solutions, integrated infrastructure and next generation transportation systems that work seamlessly together to deliver on the promise of smart cities and communities. Our commitment to sustainability dates back to our roots in 1885, with the invention of the first electric room thermostat. For additional information, please visit http://www.johnsoncontrols.com or follow us @johnsoncontrols on Twitter.

About Johnson Controls Building Technologies & Solutions
Johnson Controls Building Technologies & Solutions is making the world safer, smarter and more sustainable – one building at a time. Our technology portfolio integrates every aspect of a building – whether security systems, energy management, fire protection or HVACR – to ensure that we exceed customer expectations at all times. We operate in more than 150 countries through our unmatched network of branches and distribution channels, helping building owners, operators, engineers and contractors enhance the full lifecycle of any facility. Our arsenal of brands includes some of the most trusted names in the industry, such as Tyco®, YORK®, Metasys®, Ruskin®, Titus®, Frick®, PENN®, Sabroe®, Simplex® and Grinnell®. For more information, visit www.johnsoncontrols.com or follow @JCI_Buildings on Twitter.

About Pacific Current
Pacific Current is a newly established subsidiary of Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc. (HEI) (NYSE: HE). Pacific Current is part of HEI’s strategy to develop and invest in opportunities that will help achieve Hawai‘i’s clean energy and sustainable future. For more information, visit www.hei.com.

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Photo Caption:
VIDEO: LINK

BROLL:
Shots of UH Maui College campus
Shots of Honolulu CC campus
Shots of Leeward CC campus
Shots of Kapiʻolani CC campus
Shots of Windward CC campus

SOUND:
Lui Hokoana, Chancellor, UH Maui College
:26
We're very excited about the opportunity actually for not only the cost savings that we're going to experience here at the college, but also the learning opportunity and to me that's the most important thing.
:37

Pali O'Connell, UH Maui College student sustainability coordinator
3:07
I think that it shows that we have initiative and drive, that we really care about what we're doing and we're actually applying our knowledge to where we are.
3:15

Bobbie Numata, UH Maui College student
2:38
Right now it's a start that we are going to net zero but there's still plenty more things to work on such as water and air pollution and stuff like that.
2:48