



# GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2026

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## GPA Hosts Successful 4<sup>th</sup> P.O.W.E.R. Symposium Focused on Energy Resilience and Recovery

(Fadian, Guam) - The Guam Power Authority (GPA) successfully concluded its two-day 4<sup>th</sup> P.O.W.E.R. (Promoting Optimal Ways to Energy Resilience) Symposium, pre-conference to the University of Guam's 17<sup>th</sup> Conference on Island Sustainability (CIS), held on April 20–21, 2026 at the Hyatt Regency Guam. The event brought together local and federal leaders, engineers, industry experts, energy and regional partners to advance Guam's energy future, **drawing more than 150 attendees** to the symposium.

Held in the immediate aftermath of Typhoon Sinlaku, the symposium highlighted both the island's recovery efforts and the importance of building a more resilient and modern energy system. Governor Lou Leon Guerrero noted that Guam achieved approximately 90% power/feeder restoration within four days after COR4 was announced, underscoring the strength of planning, investment, and execution. She emphasized Guam's role at the "tip of the spear" for both national security and disaster recovery, and reiterated the administration's goal of undergrounding power lines, citing lessons from Typhoons Mawar and Sinlaku.

GPA General Manager John Benavente, P.E. emphasized that GPA's recovery reflects years of strategic planning. "Our ability to reconnect the grid, stabilize generation, and restore power in phases is not by accident," he said. "These are the results of long-term planning, strong partnerships, and a clear focus on reliability and resilience." He added that restoration efforts prioritize critical infrastructure, including hospitals, water systems, and emergency services, and reaffirmed GPA's commitment to supporting neighboring islands such as Saipan and Tinian.

John J. Cruz Jr., P.E., Assistant General Manager of Engineering & Technical Services (AGMETS) highlighted GPA's long-term transformation, guided by the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). "We have turned the corner and we are accelerating," Cruz said, noting progress in grid modernization, customer experience, affordability, and digital transformation, with reliability, resiliency, and affordability as key priorities.

The symposium sessions featured national and local experts addressing key areas of Guam's energy transition, including Energy Systems Integration for Island Grids, Generative AI for Power Grid Operations, and Advanced Controls for Reliability in GPA's Inverter-Dominant Grid. Presentations by partners such as the U.S. Department of Energy and national laboratories, along with sessions on long-duration energy storage, electric vehicle infrastructure (FlowEV Guam), and cybersecurity and threat response for utilities, highlighted both current challenges and forward-looking solutions

These discussions reinforced GPA's commitment to building a stronger, smarter, and more resilient power system. The 4<sup>th</sup> P.O.W.E.R. Symposium concluded with a message: Guam is not only recovering; but building its energy future now.

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Presentations from the 4<sup>th</sup> GPA P.O.W.E.R. Symposium can be found in the GPA's Energy Sense page: <https://energysense.guampowerauthority.com/2026-power-symposium/2026-power-symposium-presentations>