

PUERTO RICO

PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU NARUC-NASEO TASK FORCE ON COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING TASK FORCE FEBRUARY 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT

On August 24, 2020, the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau approved an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that is aligned with very ambitious public policy components, including but not limited to mandates to achieve supplying 100% of the energy served in Puerto Rico from renewable sources by 2050 and 30% by energy efficiency by 2040.¹ The IRP approved by the Energy Bureau contemplates an increased penetration of distributed energy resources (DERs) and the inclusion of battery energy storage systems (BESS) and virtual power plants (VPPs) as generation resources. Finally, in order to increase overall system reliability and resiliency, the IRP includes a series of transmission and distribution system upgrades, including undergrounding and hardening of portions of the system that feed critical facilities.

In light of the emerging need to modernize the system at the distribution level, the Energy Bureau commenced a Distribution System Planning (DSP) Initiative with the intent of addressing an area that is only indirectly discussed in the IRP process.² As part of that effort, the Energy Bureau held a series of stakeholder meetings that provided significantly valuable information. As an initial step, on December 31, 2020, the Energy Bureau issued a Resolution and Order establishing a series of principles that should guide any future capital investments in the distribution system.³ In said Resolution, the Energy Bureau ordered the utility to start working on the preparation of voltage and hosting capacity maps to facilitate the DER interconnection process. The Energy Bureau will continue working on its DSP Initiative with the objective of modernizing the distribution system and integrating its planning with the IRP to the highest extent possible.

¹ See: [Integrated Resource Plan \(IRP\) Overview](#) and [Final Resolution and Order on the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's Integrated Resource Plan](#)

² See: [Distribution Resource Planning \(DSP\) Initiative](#)

³ See: [December 31, 2020 Resolution and Order](#)