

## United States Army Reserve 2020 Energy Action Month Message Energy Resilience Gives Us the Power to Win

As a ready and resilient Reserve force, the United States Army Reserve (USAR) stands prepared to mobilize and deploy to support the mission. Energy resilience, or the ability to operate independently from commercial utilities during outages, means reliable access when our Soldiers need it the most. The USAR Energy & Water Program's strategy focuses on achieving this security through collaboration, knowledgeable and trained staff, and modern, well-maintained infrastructure.

## Collaboration

From engaging senior leadership to integrating operational staff, the USAR Energy & Water Program drives policy and resources towards state-of-the-art resiliency initiatives. We must protect mission readiness, and through stakeholder engagement, we can continue to drive understanding and support for energy and water solutions for our critical facilities. As we continue to lead the effort to coordinate and collaborate between the installation and operational staff on critical mission resilience, we will always look beyond our team to ensure solutions are sustainable, flexible, and meet the needs of mission owners.

## Knowledgeable and Trained Staff

We must properly staff our installation management workforce and provide them with dynamic data repositories and reliable information platforms. Empowering our workforce with continuous learning opportunities while leveraging a wider aperture of data will shape the USAR's success. We currently do this through hosting the USAR Mission Resilience and Sustainability training and participation in the Department of Energy's Energy Exchange annual conference, and we will continue to pursue opportunities internally and externally to develop our team.

## Modern, Well-Maintained Infrastructure

We must target our investments so USAR facilities are sustainable, enable multi-domain operations, and protect the homeland. Modern, efficient, and affordable infrastructure must withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions. Unless otherwise directed by a senior commander or higher headquarters, Army Directive 2020-03 (Installation Energy and Water Resilience Policy) tasks all landholding commands to ensure a minimum of 14 days energy and water resilience during outages to sustain critical missions. Through Installation Energy and Water Plans and Energy Resilience Readiness Exercises, the USAR evaluates our resilience posture and prioritizes projects to address vulnerabilities.

The 2018 National Defense Strategy states, "It is undeniable that the homeland is no longer a sanctuary." As our assets face threats of physical attacks and cyberattacks from our adversaries, and the devastating impacts of natural disasters, we must all take action to reduce energy and water consumption to protect our supply chains. This October, I encourage Soldiers and Civilian employees to share this observance with your Families and communities. If we each take steps to implement simple yet effective changes, we not only reduce usage but reduce costs that enable the USAR to move dollars towards other operational needs.

As we increase our energy and water resilience, America's Army Reserve will be ready to face the challenges of the future.

For more information on U.S. Army Reserve energy resilience initiatives and tips on how you can help, visit <u>www.usar.army.mil/sustainability</u>.

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