

## Reliability, Resiliency Key to Caribbean Rebuild

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*As another hurricane season approaches, the lessons learned by energy companies that have repaired power infrastructure in Haiti, Puerto Rico, and other areas provide a path forward for reducing the impact of future major storms.*

### Work Continues in Puerto Rico

[APR Energy](#), a Jacksonville, Florida-based company that specializes in delivering modular, turnkey power plants, particularly to areas hit hard by disaster, began moving equipment to Puerto Rico ahead of Maria. Its workers were on the ground in San Juan soon after the storm, installing three of the company's TM2500 (trailer-mounted) mobile gas turbines (Figure 1), two of them at the Palo Seco power plant on the island's northern coast, and another at Yabucoa on the southeastern coast.

“There is a lot of aging infrastructure [in Puerto Rico], with a lot of it in disrepair,” John Campion, APR's CEO, told *POWER*. “In Puerto Rico, much of the power is generated in the South, and used in the North, and [workers] are gradually bringing those lines back. We installed two units in San Juan [at Palo Seco], making about 58 to 65 MW, running baseload. Our team installed those units in about 15 days, which is remarkable.”



**1. Installing mobile turbines.** APR Energy founder and chairman John Campion, left, talks with one of the company's technicians as they look at equipment being used to restore power in Puerto Rico. The Florida-based company has had more than a dozen workers in Puerto Rico, installing two of the company's TM2500 mobile gas turbines at the Palo Seco power plant, and another at a plant in Yabucoa. *Courtesy: APR Energy*

The [Edison Electric Institute](#), which has helped coordinate the efforts of its member utilities on the island, in January gave APR its “Emergency Assistance Award” in recognition of its swift power restoration efforts. “Our goal is bringing stability to the grid,” Campion said. “Ultimately, what happens in Puerto Rico is up in the air. We are interested in a longer presence there, but if PREPA is privatized, we’ll have to see what happens with that.”

APR has had 15 people on the island, working three shifts a day—much like other companies and utilities who have staff working around the clock to rehabilitate the country’s grid. “When you turn the power on, you can see the people are excited to get their power back,” Campion said. “You look at the buildings, you see people cheering and clapping.”