West O‘ahu Electricity Use

West O‘ahu’s energy needs continue to grow, with both the Kapolei/Makakilo and Wai‘anae districts recording higher electricity use overall in 2021.

The breakdown of residential and commercial customers varies by district. In Wai‘anae, residential consumption accounted for 57% of usage; Kapolei and Makakilo reported 24.7% – nearly unchanged in both districts as compared to 2020 data. With the economy opening up, commercial usage was up overall in both districts.

Monitoring Our Impact

At Hawaiian Electric we strive to protect the environment and ensure the safety and health of the public. To minimize the impact in communities where we operate, we continue to:

- Monitor air quality at the Lualualei and Pālehua stations. Near real-time data is available on westoahuair.com. Due to the pandemic and building permit queue, the Wai‘anae station relocation was delayed and operation is expected to resume in 2022.
- Study and monitor fish communities and populations along O‘ahu’s Leeward Coast. Annual surveys can be found at hawaiianelectric.com/westoahu.
- Minimize potable water use for electricity generation at our Kahe Power Plant and CIP Generating Station with reverse osmosis water from Honouliuli Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Make night skies friendlier for endangered seabirds with International Dark Sky Association-approved lighting at Kahe Power Plant and CIP Generating Station.

Hawaiian Electric’s Campbell Industrial Park (CIP) Generating Station is a 130-megawatt fuel-flexible power plant that includes a 128-kilowatt photovoltaic solar system to power plant operations using the sun.

Before the CIP Generating Station was developed, Hawaiian Electric and West O‘ahu community leaders agreed to a Community Benefits Program for the Leeward Coast community adjacent to the plant. This update and the community programs described are a result of that commitment.
Working with communities to take action on climate change

Hawaiian Electric continues to partner with communities to take action on climate change and build a stronger Hawai‘i. To make progress we must responsibly use our natural resources to produce electricity and reduce our dependence on imported oil.

Adding 50,000 rooftop solar systems, closing the AES coal plant in September 2022 and retiring at least six fossil-fueled generating units (including two on O‘ahu) are among the initiatives in the company’s Climate Change Action Plan. Hawaiian Electric is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 70% from power generation by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.

The company last year reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 22% compared to 2005 levels, according to preliminary 2021 data. Since 2008, we’ve reduced the use of imported oil by 113 million gallons, or about 25%.

We’ve also streamlined the process to install private rooftop solar, boosted incentives for customers who add battery storage and send energy to the grid, and expanded shared solar, the latest phase of community-based renewable energy. When projects are developed, shared solar will enable customers who aren’t able to install a private rooftop solar system to participate in the solar movement.

As we move forward together, Hawaiian Electric seeks even broader participation by stakeholders and our communities and customers in shaping Hawai‘i’s energy future.

Supporting our communities

During year two of the global pandemic, Hawaiian Electric’s continued investment in West O‘ahu communities focused on:

Helping our most vulnerable citizens with pandemic support

- We contributed funds to the Wai‘anae Coast Community Foundation for its mobile COVID-19 vaccine/testing clinics and food distribution sites; gave to the Nānākuli Boys & Girls Club of Hawai‘i to ensure continuation of its youth programs to address distance learning loss due to the pandemic; and provided a grant to the U.S.VETS – Wai‘anae for programs aimed at preventing homelessness.

Fostering educational initiatives for careers, culture

- Our annual support of the Hawai‘i Lodging & Tourism Association’s Citizen-Scholar Award provided Nānākuli High senior Shanny Gisa scholarship funds to pursue a business degree. We also participated in the Center for Tomorrow’s Leaders “pitch day” at Wai‘anae High School where groups proposed projects emphasizing tutoring for younger students to help develop leadership, communication, organizational and math skills.

Bolstering resilience programs to strengthen communities

- We helped Valley of Rainbows’ Kūpuna Disaster Preparedness project to provide emergency supplies for seniors living on the Waiʻanae Coast so they can remain safe during disasters. Our involvement in the Wai‘anae Wildfire Hui gave us insights into the issue and we provided a grant to Ka‘ala Farm for its efforts to protect the Wai‘anae Kai Forest Reserve through prevention and mitigation projects that can be implemented in the near term.

Cultivating relationships to improve community engagement

- We met with West O‘ahu leaders to hear concerns and collect input on the renewable energy procurement process, and invited state Sen. Glenn Wakai, chair of the Economic Development, Tourism and Technology Committee, and staff to visit westside generation facilities as we transition to a clean energy economy.

2021 Contributions to Wai‘anae, Nānākuli, Kapolei & Makakilo communities

- Aloun Farms
- Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii
- Center for Tomorrow’s Leaders (Wai‘anae Complex)
- College in 7 (for Nānākuli students)
- Habitat for Humanity Leeward Oahu
- Hiʻohia
- Hoa ʻĀina o Mākaha
- Island Pacific Academy
- Ka‘ala Farm
- Kāpili Like (‘A‘aliʻi Program)
- Kapolei Chamber of Commerce
- Kapolei High School
- Kapolei Local Emergency Action Network (KLEAN)
- Mālama Learning Center
- Nā Kama Kai
- Nānākuli High School
- Teach For America
- U.S.VETS Wai‘anae
- Valley of Rainbows
- Wai‘anae Coast Community Foundation
- Wai‘anae Economic Development Council