

Colombia transforms the history of power energy in Guatemala

- *Guatemala celebrates the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the General Electricity Law. Grupo Energía de Bogotá develops the most important energy project in the history of the country.*
- *The Colombian experience and knowledge have been fundamental for the development and construction of over 850 km of lines in the Central American country.*

Bogotá, November 21, 2016. Today, November 21, the General Electricity Law of Guatemala celebrates its 20th anniversary. Since its entry into force, this law has become a transformation milestone for Guatemala's development. Before passing this Law, there were no clear parameters of quality, control and reliability for the energy service and there was no established regulatory framework for the expansion of the system or the participation of private investments.

This Energy Law, one of the most recently enacted laws of the continent in the energy sector, promoted private participation, fostered competition and encouraged the growth of the electric sector increasing supply, demand and coverage. In this process several Colombian companies, including Grupo de Energía de Bogotá, have played an important role for the energy development of Guatemala.

In March 2009, the government of Guatemala, as a part of the Expansion Plan of the Energy Transportation System, opened tender PET-01-2009, for the construction of approximately 850 km of new 230Kv transmission lines and 24 works of expansion and construction of new sub-stations intended to double the transmission capacity in the National Interconnected System. To participate in this process, Grupo Energía de Bogotá organized the company TRECSA (Transportadora de Energía de Centroamérica S.A.), which was awarded the construction of the project. As of this moment, a Bogotá company has become one of the leading characters in the energy growth of Central America.

The Expansion Plan of the Energy Transportation System - known as PET Project - will allow for reducing the losses of the system caused by overloads currently amounting to 300 Gigawatts per year. This will account for savings in the amount of USD 109 million and an estimated decrease of billing costs for users of up to 25%. Likewise, this project will allow the company to increase the reliability and quality of supply, by minimizing the frequency and duration of the recurring failures that take place due to the limitations of the system.

TRECSA builds and operates this new energy transportation system, deemed as a Nation Project, as it contributes to having a more accessible, reliable and cost-effective energy service for the people of Guatemala. This work will enable the diversification of the country's energy matrix and will bring investments for new electric generation centrals based on renewable resources intended to bring the transmission system closer to the largest energy loading centers, which are currently located far away from the main systems.

The experience of Grupo Energía de Bogotá has been fundamental for the development of this project, in which the talent of many Colombian engineers and experts, along with an important group of workers from Guatemala, was essential for the progress and conformity of the works, upon which Guatemala expects to receive a renovated and overhauled electric system in 2018.

The Expansion Plan of the Energy Transportation System - PET - developed by Grupo de Energía de Bogotá, through its company TRECSA, is the most important milestone for the energy development of Guatemala since the enactment of the General Electricity Law. Grupo Energía de Bogotá takes pride in being part of the history of the electric development of Guatemala and in making Colombia an important part in the growth of Central America.

About Grupo Energía Bogotá

“Grupo Energía de Bogotá” is one of the leading business groups in the region’s low-emission energy chain. As a Corporate Group, it creates value to its shareholders and interest groups through the sustainable and cost-effective management of business activities throughout the energy chain, both in the generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization of energy and in the transportation and distribution of natural gas.

The Group contributes to the development of the countries where the group operates, while leading projects that impact on the productivity, competitiveness, well-being and quality of life of users.

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