

GRUPO ENERGÍA BOGOTÁ (GEB) STRENGTHENS ITS PRESENCE IN THE CARIBBEAN COAST WITH THE INAUGURATION OF TWO TRANSMISSION PROJECTS IN RIO CORDOBA

- *The projects, which were awarded by the UPME in 2014 and 2015, are a part of the Caribbean Plan 5 of the National Government that seeks more reliability in the provision of the energy service in this region of the country.*
- *The Rio Cordoba Project of the Regional Transmission System would increase between 20 and 25% the installed capacity of energy transformation in Magdalena, Cesar and La Guajira.*
- *In Santa Marta, the increase of the installed capacity will be 66.6%.*

Santa Marta, February 9, 2018: With the start of operation of the transmission projects in Rio Cordoba, the Grupo Energía Bogotá (GEB) today takes a big step in strengthening its presence in the Caribbean Coast and in the progress of this region, one of the key development hubs of the country.

Río Córdoba STN (National Transmission System) and STR (Regional Transmission System), were awarded by the National Mining and Energy Unit (UPME, for its acronym in Spanish) in 2014 and 2015 and they are part of Caribbean Plan 5 of the National Government, which seeks to strengthen the reliability and provision of the energy service in the Atlantic Coast through important investments in the sector.

These are the first projects of GEB that start operation in the Caribbean Coast, a region in which the group is expanding with the construction of three other projects that will soon start operations (Cartagena, La Loma STN and La Loma STR).

"We are proud of starting operations of the projects in Rio Cordoba in one of the Colombian regions with more future and perspective in development and where we hope to continue to grow for the benefit of its population", said Astrid Alvarez, the President of GEB, at an inauguration event, in which the Minister of Mining and Energy, German Arce Zapata, the Director of UPME, Ricardo Ramirez, the Governor of Magdalena, Rosa Cotes de Zuñiga and the Major of Ciénaga, Edgardo Perez, were among other attendees at the event.

Río Córdoba STN consists in the construction of one substation of 220 kilowatts and its related transmission lines, at the municipality of Cienga. These works will strengthen the reliability of the electric system and will reduce the risk of

shortages in the departments of Magdalena, Cesar and La Guajira that all together have a population close to 3 million.

The Rio Cordoba STR Project, through the installation of 2 power transformers, increases the supply capacity in approximately 25% of the energy demand in these departments. In the case of Santa Marta, for example, the increase in the installed capacity will be 66.6%.

The construction of the project was finalized thanks to the work of a great team of personnel, mostly from the region, among them 80 individuals from the village of Cordobita of the municipality of Cienga, a direct area of influence.

For the construction of the works, more than 124,000 kilos of iron were used, which is equivalent to the weight of an adult blue whale, more than 305,000 kilos of cement, which can be compared to the weight of 5 Airbus A320 airplanes, just to mention some of the materials used.

During the execution of the Rio Cordoba project, GEB established important relationships with the communities and authorities in the region. The group put together information and socialization sessions, hired local workers and trained the communities.

Also, GEB developed a shared value project with Drummond for the community of the Village of Cordobita, which directly benefits the students of the Rural Academic Institution Carlos García Mayorca that has more than 400 students. The boys, girls and adolescents will have a more comfortable place to receive their school classes, with the upgrading of electric networks inside the academic institution and the installation of a new transformer, that will enable the use of installed air conditioners in some of the classrooms and technology tools (tables and computers), thus improving their academic performance.

To take care of and protect the environment, a compensation will be made consisting in the planting of 9,200 trees.

“At Grupo Energía Bogotá we hope to continue working together with you to grow together and promote the development of Magdalena and the Caribbean Coast, an important development hub for Colombia”, said the President of GEB, when reaffirming that the group came to stay in this important region of the country.

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