

PRESS RELEASE

Launch of the St. Kitts and Nevis - Puerto Rico electrical interconnection pre-feasibility study

NOV 24, WASHINGTON DC – At the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) in Washington, D.C., Mr. Mark Lambrides, Chief of the Energy and Climate Change Mitigation Section of the Department of Sustainable Development, and Mr. Kevin de Cuba, ECPA Caribbean Initiative Manager met with Mr. Jeffrey Palermo, Executive Consultant of the international consulting firm KEMA, to officially launch the study regarding the electrical interconnection pre-feasibility between the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis and Puerto Rico.



On photo – from left to right – Kevin de Cuba (OAS), Jeffrey Palermo (KEMA), and Mark Lambrides (OAS)



On photo – Kevin de Cuba (OAS) at Geothermal Site in Nevis

This initiative is based on the premise that the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis has significant geothermal power generation potential up to several hundreds of MWs and is considered a low hanging fruit option among the eastern Caribbean island states with the potential to supply power beyond the current and future power demand needs of the twin-island federation. According to the World Bank report, a 400MW interconnection between Nevis and Puerto Rico can become highly economic if geothermal electric power from Nevis replaces imported fossil fuels in Puerto Rico. Recognizing this opportunity and urgency for action, the Government of the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis via its Ministry of Housing, Energy, Public Works and Utilities has requested the OAS' assistance in the design, execution and supervision of a pre-feasibility study of an inter-island electricity interconnection between the Federation and Puerto Rico.

The OAS and KEMA project teams, with the US National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) as official partner to the ECPA Caribbean Initiative, are scheduled to execute a mission to Puerto Rico and St. Kitts and Nevis for the second week of December to hold initial formal and technical consultations with government and utility representatives and other key stakeholders from Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands and St. Kitts and Nevis.

This study demands a comprehensive and collaborative effort between the islands involved in order to assess rational and sustainable energy supply alternatives to guarantee the accrual of benefits to involved parties. The pre-feasibility study is financed by the ECPA Caribbean Initiative with funds originating from the U.S. Department of State.

Contact Information

For more information about this program, please contact either person below:

ing. Kevin de Cuba, MSc.
ECPA Caribbean Initiative Project Manager
Organization of American States
T. +1-202-458-6467
F. +1-202-458-3560
E. kdecuba@oas.org

ing. Ruben Contreras Lisperguer, MSc.
ECPA Caribbean Initiative Technical Advisor
Organization of American States
T. +1-202-458-3244
F. +1-202-458-3560
E. rcontreras@oas.org

