

Grupo Energía Bogotá inaugurates the transmission line Bolivar - Cartagena which will provide more reliability to the energy service in the Caribbean region.

- *This second transmission line will allow to serve the increase in energy demand in Cartagena, a city with high industrial activity and one of the main tourist destinations in the country.*
- *During the construction of the project, GEB developed 17 shared value initiatives in order to bring progress to the communities in the area of influence.*

Cartagena, September 28, 2018. As part of Plan 5 Caribe, designed by the National Government with the purpose of improving the conditions in the provision of the energy service and to serve the increasing demand in this part of the country, Grupo Energía Bogotá (GEB) delivered the second transmission line Bolívar-Cartagena, which will benefit more than 2 million inhabitants of the department.

This project (Upme 05-2012) awarded by the Mining and Energy Planning Unit (Upme) to Grupo Energía Bogotá in May 2014, consists in the construction of a second transmission line of 220 kV, from the Bolivar substation until the Cartagena substation, including the installation of a line module at each substation. The Bolívar-Cartagena line has a length of 20 kilometers, of which four kilometers are underground and passes through urban and rural areas of Cartagena, Turbaco and Santa Rosa de Lima.

With the inauguration of this project, the conditions in the provision of the service will improve by doubling the amount of energy that arrives in Cartagena, a city that is growing and expanding thanks to the drive of the industry, commerce and tourism. The tourism sector is one of the most dynamic, taking into consideration that La Heroica is one of the cities that receives the most local and foreign visitors.

The project

"This project increase the energy transportation capacity towards the Caribbean region, mainly the Department of Bolivar, improving the reliability and reducing the shortage risk, which allows for the provision of a service that facilitates the economic growth of the region", said Astrid Alvarez, President of Grupo Energía Bogotá, during

the inauguration, in an event in which government officers, and local and representative authorities participated.

On its part, the Minister of Mining and Energy, María Fernanda Suárez, highlighted the importance of the new transmission line by stating that these types of investment contribute to President's Duque equality agenda, ensuring a better energy service to the inhabitants of the Caribbean region.

Energy demand increases

According to a 2017 UPME report about the Regional Forecast of Energy Demand, in Cartagena an annual growth of such demand is between 3,09% and 3,49% is expected for the 2017 - 2031 period.

This increase in demand is due to an increase in petro-chemical industries, as well as in port logistics and tourism activities. This is in addition to the increase of Cartagena's population, that according to the population projections of the National Administrative Statistics Department (DANE) is 1,03 million people.

In this context, the start of operations of the Bolívar-Cartagena energy transmission line serves an important role to strengthen the transmission system and serve the demand not only for this department but for the Caribbean region, which has been increasing in population, commerce and industry.

Programs with shared value

During the construction of the project, GEB developed 17 shared value initiatives in order to bring progress to the communities in the area of influence.

These initiatives directly benefited close to 10.000 inhabitants of Cartagena and rural areas of Turbaco and Santa Rosa de Lima, and were focused on areas such as sport, culture, youth entrepreneurship, the environment and energy efficiency, which aim at the improvement of the quality of life, community participation and education.

Among these, the support to the Soccer School of Mamonal, the environmental group Recikids, Cívica Juvenil Arroz Barato and Danzas Raíces Group of folklore are noted, as well as the construction of 6 playgrounds and the recovery of two others.

Two associations of fishermen of the neighborhoods of Policarpa and Arroz Barato were supported, directly benefiting 216 persons, while in the Membrillal village, rural area of Cartagena, eight business plans were promoted.

Regarding the protection of the environment, during the construction of the transmission line only 14% of the land with vegetation coverage was intervened, of the total authorized by the environmental authority. Also, 78 species of fauna in the region were identified and protected, among other actions.

“Committed with the sustainable development of the territories where our projects have influence, restoration of 10,85 hectares as agreed compensation with the environmental authorities”, said Astrid Álvarez.

About GEB

With more than 120 years of history, Grupo Energía Bogotá (GEB) is a Multilatin company with presence in four countries. GEB is a leading company in energy transmission, distribution and transportation and in natural gas transportation and distribution in Colombia, Peru, Brazil and Guatemala. In Colombia, with its Transmission Unit, develops 12 energy projects awarded by UPME. With TGI, GEB is number 1 in natural gas transportation with more than 4.000 kilometers of pipeline. GEB also has a stake in Codensa, Emgesa, Naturgy and Emsa. In Peru, it is number 1 in natural gas distribution with Cálidda and Contugas. With ISA REP and ISA Transmantaro, where it has a 40% stake, GEB is a leading company in energy transmission. In Brazil, with Gebbras, the company has partnered with Furnas and has 1.100 kilometers of transmission lines. In Guatemala, it is number 1 in energy transmission with Trecca and Eebis.