



## NEWS

For immediate release

### **LUMA breaks ground on world class training facility in Canóvanas**

*LUMA College for Technical Training being built with an investment from parent companies ATCO and Quanta Services*

**Canóvanas, Puerto Rico, April 8, 2021**—Company executives and government officials broke ground today on the future LUMA College for Technical Training, a world class training facility being funded by LUMA parent companies ATCO and Quanta Services.

Assessments, onboarding and workforce development are already underway at the LUMA College site, which will become fully operational in phases over the next few months to train the Puerto Rico-based technical workers who will contribute to the transformation of the island's electric power transmission and distribution (T&D) system. The LUMA College is a value-added project from LUMA Energy, the company that will operate Puerto Rico's T&D system for the next 15 years through a public private partnership with the Government of Puerto Rico.

"Today, all the hard work LUMA has been conducting to give this beautiful island the 21<sup>st</sup> century electric power system it deserves begins to materialize," said Wayne Stensby, President and CEO of LUMA. "It is a substantial investment from our parent companies that brings LUMA's culture of People First, Safety Always, to concrete reality. Here, our employees will develop the skills, knowledge and behaviors to rebuild Puerto Rico's electric infrastructure, pursue meaningful and rewarding careers in the industry and, what's more important, return safely home to their families every day."

The LUMA College campus is being built on a 24-acre plot in the San Isidro Industrial Park in the municipality of Canóvanas. During the construction phase, approximately 50 jobs will be created.

"The construction of the LUMA College for Technical Training is an example of helping a community build its own future. Providing training and good, well-paying jobs is a foundation for growing the economy and improving the livelihoods of Puerto Ricans, one of the many ways LUMA will be an instrument for good," said Nancy Southern, Chair and CEO of ATCO during the groundbreaking ceremony.

The campus will include an outdoor training yard, a learning lab and classrooms, administrative offices and equipment and parking lots. LUMA College will offer customized education and practical training for LUMA employees and the next generation of skilled electric workers in Puerto Rico. The LUMA College for Technical Training and its programs are modeled after the Northwest Lineman College (NLC), a leading technical training institution run by Quanta Services that has four campuses across the United States.

“At LUMA, as at Quanta, our most important asset is our people. They differentiate us, and every decision is made based on how it will affect our employees, our customers and our communities,” said Earl “Duke” Austin, Jr., CEO of Quanta Services. “We are here for the people of Puerto Rico because they deserve better. Better reliability, better customer service and better safety and training.”

During the groundbreaking ceremony, which was attended by various Government officials, including Canóvanas Mayor Lornna Soto and Public Private Partnerships Authority Executive Director Fermín Fontanés, it was announced that the first class of 16 employees will receive full scholarships at the LUMA College, funded by the parent companies.

Last December, the first five Puerto Rican LUMA College graduates completed a 15-week technical course at the NLC campus in Edgewater, FL. They also received full scholarships and payment of all their expenses to complete the course, which is designed to teach line technicians how to safely build, maintain and operate the electrical grid. Using a three-phase educational model, NLC students receive training aimed at developing the knowledge, skills, and the behaviors they will need to exhibit in the field to stay safe.

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