

"Leading the Way in Delivering Air Force Installation Energy Assurance"

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AFCEC awards ESPC for Joint Base Langley-Eustis

By Sarah McNair

AFIMSC Public Affairs

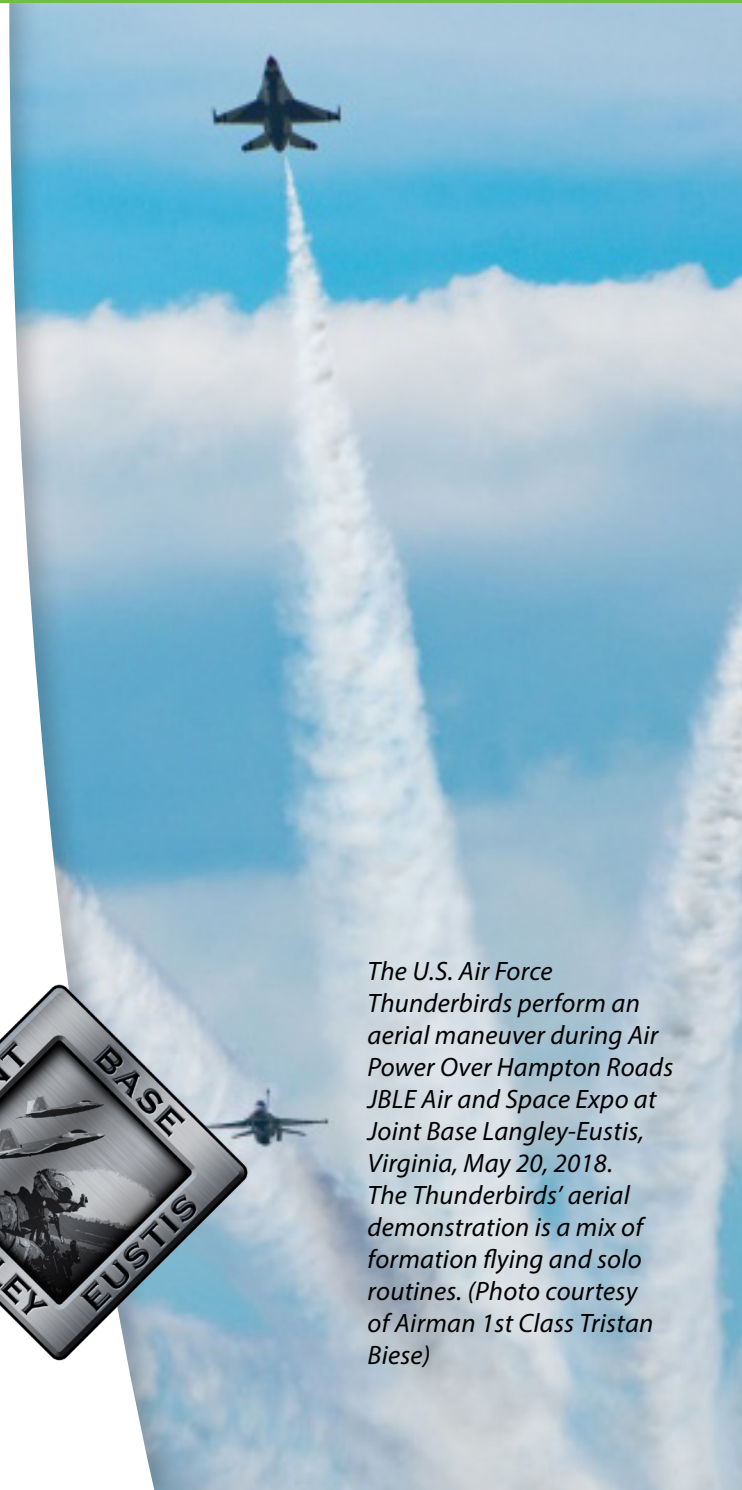
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Florida — Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, is receiving energy efficiency and resiliency updates through a recent Energy Savings Performance Contract Award. The project will reduce energy consumption and maintenance costs while increasing resiliency, efficiency and reliability for the installation.

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center, a primary subordinate unit of the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center, collaborated with the installation, Defense Logistics Agency – Energy and Energy Services Companies to determine the scope of work that best fits JBLE's energy assurance needs.

"This project is designed to enhance the installation's energy resiliency, reduce energy intensity, lower utility expenses, provide better quality of light and reduce thermal intrusion and extrusion [energy loss] throughout the facilities being upgraded," said Richard Sunday, project manager for AFCEC's Energy Directorate.

On Nov. 30, 2020, DLA-E officially awarded the \$16.2 million ESPC Task Order to Energy Systems Group, LLC for the JBLE project that includes upgrades to 159 buildings, totaling more than 4.3 million sq. ft. by incorporating two Energy Conservation Measure upgrades. The project will generate an average annual

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The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds perform an aerial maneuver during Air Power Over Hampton Roads JBLE Air and Space Expo at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, May 20, 2018. The Thunderbirds' aerial demonstration is a mix of formation flying and solo routines. (Photo courtesy of Airman 1st Class Tristan Biese)



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RED HORSE Squadron teams up with Navy Seabees to construct B-Hut energy test site

By Sarah McNair

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TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — A recent construction project, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, provides a test bed for next generation energy technologies.

The barracks huts project brought together crews from the 823rd Air Force Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer, known as RED HORSE, and Navy sailors from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Eleven, known as Navy Seabees.

The RED HORSE-Seabees mission was to construct two B-Huts, at Tyndall to determine how to improve the energy efficiency of the structures.

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Airbase Technologies Branch conducts all phases of the research, development, test and evaluation and acquisition processes for the Air Force civil engineering enterprise. The advanced energy and utilities team, led by Reza Salavani, evaluates new energy technologies for meeting future CE operational needs.

The joint crews, manned by eight Airmen from nearby Hurlburt Field and 17 sailors from Gulfport, Mississippi, fabricated two fully functional Air Force standard B-Huts in only 12 days. The project provided a unique opportunity for the crews to work side-by-side and exchange best practices and lessons learned, said Lt. j.g. Pat Collins, Seabees lead.

Both Collins and RED HORSE lead Tech. Sgt. Tim Nelon agreed that the cross-feed of information was valuable. While RED HORSE teams have worked with Navy Seabees on previous deployments, the

operational tempo that the teams work under rarely allows for an exchange of ideas regarding improvements in construction materials and methods, they said.

"Feedback from the team was positive and reaffirmed the value of cross-training opportunities like this prior to upcoming deployments," said Nelon.

The B-Huts were outfitted with a full electrical package and provisions for heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

B-Huts, commonly used by the U.S. military at temporary locations around the globe, typically aren't energy efficient, Salavani said.

"These structures will be used as a starting point to explore and innovate energy technologies that will improve the energy efficiency of rigid wall shelters," said Salavani.

While efficient use of energy is a priority across the Department of Defense as a whole, it is also particularly important when it comes to the safety of U.S. military personnel utilizing B-Huts. There is a high rate of casualties associated with refueling convoys transporting fuel, which is needed to sustain B-Hut operation.

"Reducing fossil fuels consumption reduces the amount and frequency of fuel deliveries to forward operating bases at dangerous locations," Salavani said. "Developing a way to improve their energy efficiency, which is the objective for this exercise, would not only reduce operational costs but also decrease risk probability of attack, making forward operating bases less vulnerable to adversaries and keep our Airmen safe," he said. [G](#)



Air Force RED HORSE and Navy Seabee crews joined together to construct barracks huts, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, Nov. 20, 2020. The two B-Huts will undergo research, development, test and evaluation by AFCEC's Airbase Technologies Branch to find ways to improve energy efficiency. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force)



Les Martin, Division Chief of Program Development for AFCEC's Energy Directorate, at the time, presented multiple sessions at the 2018 Energy Exchange in Denver, Colorado. (Photo courtesy of Sarah McNair, AFIMSC Public Affairs)

Energy Division Chief promoted to Civil Engineer Deputy in the 14th CE Squadron

By Sarah McNair
AFIMSC Public Affairs

Leslie "Les" Martin, who served the Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Energy Directorate as Chief of the Program Development Division at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., since 2011, transitions to CE Deputy Director, at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

The mission of the 14th CE Squadron at Columbus Air Force Base is to provide a sustainable environment, infrastructure,



Colonel Leslie Martin

readiness and emergency response in support of the installation's mission to train skilled pilots. As the Deputy Base Civil Engineer, Martin is now the senior civilian engineer for the squadron which provides planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance support, fire, environmental protection and emergency management response support across the base. The 14th CE Squadron also partners with the Hunt management team to provide housing management and maintenance to 453 base housing units.

"All of this is accomplished through conscientious management of the 5,981 acres, three runways, 157 facilities, 328 dormitory units and all of the base infrastructures, which are valued at \$1 billion with an annual budget of \$12 million, said Martin. "Although, I will miss my AFCEC team and colleagues, I am excited to have this opportunity at Columbus."


Martin is a career civil engineer and retired Air Force colonel who began his military career in 1983. Upon retiring from the Air

Force in 2011, he began his civil service endeavor with AFCEC. When he took over program development the Air Force was in a state of strategic pause for its energy savings performance contracts and utility energy service contracts, and it was up to the individual installations to execute these energy projects on their own. Les and his team, which consisted of only two part-time staff members, developed the Air Force's ESPS/UESC program, its policies and playbooks.

"Until then, installations executed ESPC/UESCs on their own without higher-level oversight, guidance or support for installations interested in initiating these energy savings projects," said Martin. "My job was to develop Air Force energy savings programs to be managed under the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, at the time. We wrote the Air Force ESPC and UESC Playbooks and beat the bushes to advertise that the Air Force was back in the ESPC and UESC business."

The program has since grown to support 10 full-time engineers and awarded over \$1.4 billion in projects, including the Air Force's largest \$243 million Tinker ESPC project, which was the largest federal government energy savings project at the time.

Additionally, under Martin's leadership, the Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program grew from \$35 million to \$70 million per year. The Facility Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization energy program has also grown to become an option for installations competing for maintenance funds through the Air Force Integrated Priority List.

"Mr. Martin was one of the finest leaders I've ever worked for," said Maj. Nate Thomsen, AFCEC's Deputy Energy Director. "His dedication, professionalism and concern in building relationships with the people he worked with was inspirational. I cannot thank him enough for his mentorship. He was a great boss and will be greatly missed by everyone on the Energy team." 

AFCEC program manager named Energy Manager of the Year

By Sarah McNair

AFIMSC Public Affairs

Editor's Note: The award for Region II covers 10 states including: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Mike Ringenberg is the Association of Energy Engineers Energy Manager of the Year for Region II.

He is AFCEC's Energy Savings Performance Contract and Utility Energy Service Contract program manager in the energy directorate.

Ringenberg is receiving the award to recognize his dedication and performance in the energy industry, said Ben Hough CEM, LEED AP Practice Lead for Lindahl Reed, Inc., who nominated him for the award.

In the last five years, Ringenberg's "exceptional leadership has expanded the Air Force's program from five to more than 50 projects worth approximately \$1.4 billion," said Les Martin, Division Chief of Program Development for AFCEC's Energy Directorate, at the time.

"Mike's efforts are directly responsible for significant increases to energy resiliency across the Air Force," Martin said. "Noteworthy accomplishments include \$188 million invested in distributed energy generation, almost \$94 million in renewable energy distribution, \$81 million in energy and utility distribution, and \$69 million in boiler and chiller plant improvements, made possible because of his third-party finance program."

Ringenberg manages a team of project managers, certified energy managers and engineers who are responsible for the development and execution of a project from concept development and proposals through construction and implementation. His team also retains responsibility for the review and validation of annual measurement and verification reporting to ensure savings are fulfilled for the agreed term of the project.




Mike Ringenberg, AFCEC ESPC/UESC Program Manager and Tom Laney, AFCEC Energy Project Manager exploring exhibits at the 2018 Energy Exchange Conference in Denver, Colorado. (Photo courtesy of Sarah McNair, AFIMSC Public Affairs)

The ESPC/UESC program secured significant energy savings of more than 2,300,000 million British thermal units per year for the next 20 years. This savings will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 194,000 metric tons, which is equal to eliminating 41,000 cars from the roads or planting over 250,000 acres of trees.

"The outstanding leadership by Mike and the success of his program have clearly established the Air Force as leaders in federal energy management," said

Hough. "His actions reflect positively on AFCEC, the Air Force, the Department of Defense and the United States."

The Association of Energy Engineers is a nonprofit professional society with over 18,000 members across the world. Its mission is to promote scientific and educational interests across the energy industry and encourage sustainable energy developments. The AEE Regional Awards, typically presented annually at the AEE World Energy Conference and Expo, were awarded virtually Nov. 18. 

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energy savings of 58,882 million British thermal units and a total guaranteed cost savings of \$25 million over the contract performance period, which covers the cost of the ESPC improvements.

The project scope of work includes interior and exterior LED lighting and building envelope improvements. A construction kick-off meeting is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 6, 2021.

Air Force readiness requires resilient energy to meet critical mission needs and support the Warfighter. The ESPC program is another tool installations can use to make smart energy decisions, optimize energy using 21st century technologies and support mission assurance through energy assurance. To date, AFCEC Energy has collaborated with contracting groups to



develop and award over \$1.4 billion in energy savings contracts. Installations interested in pursuing energy projects

are encouraged to reach out to AFCEC through the Reach-back Center at (888) 232-3721 or AFCEC.RBC@us.af.mil. 

If you would like to nominate someone to be profiled in an upcoming issue, please contact us at AFIMSC.A.Workflow@us.af.mil.

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Reach-Back Center
(888) 232-3721
DSN 523-6995
AFCEC.RBC@us.af.mil

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Please send your comments, story ideas and photos to afimsc.pa.workflow@us.af.mil.



AFCEC Director Brig. Gen. John Allen

AFCEC Deputy Director Col. John Tryon

Energy Director Col. Elizabeth (Michelle) Harwood

Public Affairs Mark Kinkade

Editor Sarah McNair

Layout & Design Jim Martinez