



ENERGY CONNECTION



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**A MESSAGE FROM
THE COMMANDER
Brig Gen
Jimmy Canlas**

Team Energy,

It is great to finally be able to get out and meet some of you! Since taking command in June 2020, COVID has prevented my normal command familiarization tours. But, in recent months, I've been to Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Virginia and Texas to see the great support you're providing the Warfighter and our whole of government customers.

When I was in Texas, I had the honor of flying in the backseat of a T-6 Texan II at Laughlin Air Force Base! A highlight and throwback to my early flying days.

The base is the premier Air Force base for undergraduate pilot training program, which uses



the T-6 Texan II, T-38C Talon and the T-1A Jayhawk. It was fun to burn some JP-8!

I want to send a shout-out to the DLA Energy Europe & Africa and Middle East teams. Next month, I'll be visiting the two regional commands and want to thank you for all your support. We have a lot of activity planned for the trip including the DLA Energy Fuel Exchange Forum in Garmisch, Germany. This will be an outstanding event for our 13 foreign country partners as well as military organizations from U.S. and Europe. I look forward to meeting our outstanding employees and partners in the region.

I hope to get out to meet more of you in the coming months!

Walking in the DLA Energy Commander's steps

For four days in early October, procurement analyst **Darren Dunham** shadowed DLA Energy Commander Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas attending high level meetings and watching senior DLA leaders make influential decisions.

Dunham, a GS-14 within the Directorate of Supplier Operations, said he applied for the DLA Energy Shadow Program to gain a better perspective of the operations and strategic decision-making at the highest leadership level of DLA Energy.

"I wanted to see how the Commander collaborates and communicates within our organization and with other MSC's, J-codes, military services, and the DoD Joint Staff," he said.

Dunham attended several meetings with the Commander, watching him engage with DLA Energy stakeholders and seeing firsthand how he used employee inputs to leverage strategic decisions including during a meeting with a U.S. Senator.

The DLA Energy Shadow Program allows selected GS 13-15 employees to choose the senior leader they want to shadow for professional development opportunities, networking, and to gain a broader understanding of the whole of DLA Energy.

"People and culture are fundamental to our ability to address new challenges that threaten our global environment," Canlas said. "Our most important asset as an organization is our people. We have a responsibility to provide the opportunities to allow our employees to grow and excel."

Energy shadowing and mentorship programs are designed to provide individuals a "behind the scenes" look at the challenges, issues, and decision-making processes of senior leadership, said DLA Energy Training Officer Adrian Hines.

"I would highly recommend this shadow program with the Commander to anyone in DLA Energy who aspires to attain greater leadership responsibility within our organization," Dunham said.

To learn more about Dunham's shadow experience, [read this DLA News story](#). Employees interested in the Shadow Program can apply through the [Strategic Communications Group](#) (CAC required).



**HQC/NCR COVID-19 Reconstitution Status:
Phase 0 - HPCON B**



October as [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#).

This year's theme is "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion." The theme reflects the importance of appreciating differences and hiring individuals with disabilities.

Jason Searls in DLA Energy Quality Technical, got a "new leash on life" with his service dog, Hawkeye. [Read more in this DLA News story.](#)

CONDOLENCES

It is with great sadness that two of our DLA Energy friends and colleagues recently passed.

BPSD's Mr. Chris Guy passed away Tuesday, Oct. 12. Chris joined DLA in April 2009 and transitioned to DLA Energy in 2012. Chris was a retired Army Sergeant First Class, a father, and a grandfather.



Ms. Heather Kerns has been a member of DLA Energy family for the past 11 years. She began her career in Utility Services in 2010 as an intern and quickly became a valued teammate serving as a contract specialist and Contracting Officer for many utilities privatization contracts.

Please keep Chris and Heather's families in your thoughts during this difficult time. Remember, the [Employee Assistance Program](#) is available anytime at 1-866-580-9046.

2021 Federal Benefits Open Season

The 2021 Federal Benefits Open Season runs from November 8 through December 13.

During Open Season, you can enroll, cancel or make changes to your Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB), Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA), and Federal Employees Dental & Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) benefits.

[Learn more in this DLA Today Announcement](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Texas legislature introduced [HR 140](#), "Commending U.S. Army Reserve **Staff Sergeant Calvin Williams** for his service with Defense Logistics Agency Task Force Americas during Hurricane Ida."

"Congratulations to SSG Williams and the entire team for their hard work and dedication to this critical support effort." – Mr. David Kless, DLA Energy Deputy Commander

"Awesome recognition for SSG Williams and all of TF Americas!" – Brig Gen Canlas



SSG Calvin Williams conducting fuel reception in Broussard, Louisiana, during Hurricane Ida response.

The DLA Energy Advisory and Integration Council Supervisory Committee welcomes new leaders. Thank you for volunteering!



Champion
Steve Sturgeon



Chair
Jennifer Phillips Iribarren



Co-Chair
Carly Dubernas

"We appreciate these leaders for stepping up to continue to create an inclusive and thriving supervisory climate at DLA Energy."

– Mr. Dave Kless, DLA Energy Deputy Commander



Mark your calendars!



- Oct. 25-26:** DLA Energy Senior Leader Virtual Offsite
- Nov. 2:** DLA Energy All Hands and Supervisor's Town Hall
- Nov. 4:** Coffee with the Commander 9:30am and 5pm EST (GS-13/14 Division/Branch/Section Chiefs only)
- Nov. 9:** Donuts with the Deputy 8:30am and 6pm EST (GS-13/14, Division/Branch/Section Chiefs only)
- Feb. 17:** The 2020 and 2021 DLA Energy Hall of Fame

DID YOU KNOW?

Monthly DLA Energy SITREPs are posted on [DLA Energy's eWorkplace site](#) on the bottom of the page under Strategic Communication.

HQC 2021 VIRTUAL Halloween 5K RUN/WALK

ALL PARTONS HOUSED IN Headquarters Complex Fort Belvoir. No Registration needed. Just submit a screenshot of your time and milage to be entered.

Participants will have from October 25th - 31st to run/walk a 5K at their own pace and location of their choice.

Runners are encouraged to post screenshots of their final time to include distance of 3.2 miles, this is to verify winners. Runners are also encouraged to dress up in their best Halloween costume for the run/walk, posting these pictures as well.

MWR Prize bags will be given away to the fastest male/female and to the best costume.

OCTOBER 25 - 31, 2021

All submissions should and will only be accepted through the comment box of the HQC MWR Facebook page at <https://m.facebook.com/Defense-MWR>