



## Project Highlight: Restoring Power to Puerto Rico through Partnerships and Deka Solar batteries.

### THE BACKGROUND

After the devastation of Hurricane Maria, the island of Puerto Rico was left without power for eight long months. It was a tremendous hardship for the residents.

### THE CHALLENGE

Determine the most effective solution specific to infrastructure and power to methodically start to help those dealing with the aftermath and bring them back to a standard of living we take for granted.



### THE CLEAR SOLUTION

Partnering with the community and local business to start to slowly rebuild from the devastation. The Puerto Rico Community Foundation (FCPR) and the non-profit organization, SOMOS Solar, collaborated with a key Deka Solar customer, Maximo Solar Industries. Through a non-governmental citizen's group, Para La Naturaleza, they were introduced to representatives of the Toro Negro Community. The subdivision of Ciales, comprised of 28 homes without electricity, was the first project. Together they would develop an efficient micro-grid solar system for the region, through the community Toro Negro, Inc., in a remote area of Puerto Rico. This was the first time that such a system was being managed by a community-based organization whose members were also the residents.

*“This project serves as a beacon for additional community solar project and microgrids in Puerto Rico and USA.*

*Helping communities achieve energy resilience is very important for both the present and future generations.”*

*– Maximo Torres, Maximo Solar*

Congressmen Raul Grijalva

*"This is an important model we wanted to see and understand."*

## THE RESULTS

This project brought much-needed relief to the community. It has been a huge success, not only for the recovery effort, but as an essential element in reducing dependency on the electrical grid and thus preventing similar occurrences in the future. Maximo Solar Industries was integral in driving the success of this project with their proactive approach to install solar energy and storage facilities in this community. The total project cost was nearly \$400,000 of which Maximo Solar was a significant contributor. This included system design, installation (including 312 of our Deka Solar 8L16 batteries), training and maintenance services. The **Deka Solar 8L16** was a great solution for this project as it offers reliable, low-maintenance power where frequent deep cycles are required, and minimal maintenance is desired. The project has been viewed as an example and showcase, and visited by prestigious universities (such as Duke), other communities, congressmen and senators.

## THE CONCLUSION:

Partnership and working together builds strong communities. East Penn Manufacturing and its wholly owned subsidiary, MK Battery, are proud to have been a part of such a project to help the wonderful people of Toro Negro, Inc. get back on their feet after a natural disaster of monumental proportions. When we all come together, we can do wonderful things.



## *Deka Solar 8L16*

**PROPOSITION 65 WARNING:** Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Batteries also contain other chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. **WASH HANDS AFTER HANDLING.**



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