



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

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## **Honolulu District Provides Structural Assistance to State; Power PRT Mobilizes for Generator Deployment**

**For Immediate Release**

**October 17, 2006**

**By Honolulu District Public Affairs**

**(FORT SHAFTER, HI - NR 31-06)** Honolulu District is deploying a nine-man structural assistance team to the Island of Hawaii at the request of FEMA to provide technical assistance to local and state officials in assessing damage to infrastructure, including roads and bridges in the aftermath of the 6.7 and 6.0 magnitude earthquakes that rattled the Big Island of Hawaii on Oct. 15, 2006.

Honolulu District's acting Chief of Engineering and Construction Curtis Yokoyama leads the joint U.S Army Corps of Engineers / FEMA Structural Damage Assessment Team of volunteer Corps structural engineers from Honolulu District and five mainland Corps districts and divisions. The team expects to begin assessment services on October 17.

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## **2-2-2 CORPS FEMA**

Immediately following the earthquakes on Sunday, four members of Honolulu District's Emergency Power Planning and Response team (Power PRT) - Cindy Barger, Farley Watanabe, Steve Paahana and Joy Sakamoto - mobilized to the Pacific Ocean Division Emergency Operations Center at Fort Shafter to prepare for a potential deployment of power generators for emergency power assistance to the local or state agencies.

This specialized management cell team works with the 249<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), contractors, and local and state entities to assess, install and maintain emergency generators at critical facilities.

Following a request from the City and County of Honolulu, two-15 ton 560 kilowatt (KW) emergency generators from FEMA were installed by the 249<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion at the Sand Island wastewater pump station to serve as temporary backup generators while the pump station's normal backup generators are under repair. Under a memorandum of understanding, the city will provide maintenance for the emergency generators while installed at Sand Island.

Emergency Response team member Edwin Hargis deployed to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Diamond Head Crater as the Corps liaison to FEMA and the EOC.

Also, John Emmerson from the Corps' Pacific Ocean Division deployed Monday to the Island of Hawaii on a FEMA initial assessment team to assess the needs of Hawaii County beyond county and state capabilities.

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