NEWS RELEASE July 7, 2016 MEDIA INQUIRIES: Allison Getty | (703) 875-4357 agetty@ustda.gov

## **USTDA SUPPORTS ENERGY STORAGE IN LATIN AMERICA**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to Interconexión Eléctrica S.A. (ISA), an electricity transmission company in Latin America, to identify opportunities for large-scale battery storage in Brazil, Colombia and Mexico. ISA has selected Quanta Technology, LLC (Raleigh, NC) to conduct the feasibility study, which will develop a plan for providing large-scale battery storage across Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.

Energy storage is an emerging technology designed to reduce stress on power grids, facilitate the integration of renewable energy and provide ancillary services to the electric power system by storing energy during times of low demand and deploying it during times of high consumption. This project will provide ISA with technical, environmental, regulatory and economic analyses and recommendations for adding large-scale battery systems into its portfolio for the selected countries.

"This is the first energy storage grant that USTDA is supporting in Latin America and we are excited to work with ISA and Quanta Technology on this important project," said USTDA Regional Director Nathan Younge. "This grant complements the ongoing efforts of Brazil, Colombia and Mexico to further develop their renewable energy capabilities."

Ralph Masiello of Quanta Technology added, "Quanta Technology is extremely proud to have been selected by ISA to perform this project as it regards an innovative new technology being explored in Latin America. As one of the leading technical consultants in energy storage, we have conducted many similar successful projects and look forward to collaborating with ISA in this work."

"Energy storage is one of the crucial technologies shaping the transformation of the grid," emphasized ISA's CEO Bernardo Vargas. "ISA is committed to lead that transformation in Latin America and, by innovating in our portfolio of services, support the development and energy security of the communities we serve. It is an honor for us to partner with the U.S. Government and to have the assistance of world-class consultant, Quanta Technology, to carry out this important project for the future of our company."

## **ABOUT USTDA**

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.