

STATE OF HAWAI'I

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

OFFICE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

September 17, 2013

TO:

Mr. Daniel Orodenker, Executive Officer

State Land Use Commission

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

FROM:

Duane Y. Kashiwai, Public Works Administrator

Facilities Development Branch

Department of Education

SUBJECT:

SCD-TSA Kaloko Makai, LLC Second Draft Environmental Impact

Statement, Kaloko Makai, North Kona, Island of Hawai'i

The Department of Education (DOE) has reviewed the Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Kaloko Makai master-planned community (Project). We would like to offer our comments and concerns.

The DOE was involved in two meetings with the developers of this project several years ago. There have been no subsequent meetings, just some brief conversational updates. The DOE has not had its customary opportunity to review the sites selected for the three elementary schools to be located in the Project. The two most important parts of our standard review include a look at the topography of the proposed school sites and a look at the traffic patterns anticipated around the sites.

There have been no specific discussions with the developers about the language of an educational contribution agreement, which is the document that indicates DOE's satisfaction with proposed plans.

The DOE appreciates the many references in the EIS about the three school campuses being the center of the proposed community. This would have been another significant topic to discuss with the developer. Section 4.8.4 Schools discusses the Project's goal to "draw all segments of the community to the school, throughout the day, rather than limit their use for the children during the weekday school hours." The next sentence reads "Rather than stand-along, children-based facilities that tend to serve only a portion of the population, Kaloko Makai schools will seek to encourage community access and use for all of the schools, after the State DOE school day." (Emphasis added)

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Kaloko Makai schools will be required to follow DOE policy on community uses of school facilities. The DEIS does not acknowledge the DOE's need to provide a safe, controlled environment for its students. It will be the responsibility of the principals of the future schools to balance school safety and facility rules with the need to provide opportunities for community use.

We have one other concern about Table 3-2 on drinking and non-drinking water demand. The table refers to the Domestic Consumption Guidelines of the County of Hawaii, indicating that schools require 4,000 gallons per day (gpd) per acre or 60 gallons per student. (Emphasis added) The DOE's requirement in the educational contribution agreement is 4,000 gpd per acre of irrigation water and 60 gpd per person (students and staff).

We appreciate this opportunity to offer our comments on the DEIS. If you have any questions, please call Heidi Meeker of the Planning Section at 377-8301.

DYK:jmb

c: Jay Nakamura, SCD –TSA Kaloko Makai, LLC Earl Matsukawa, Wilson Okamoto Corporation