



Manila Rural, Docket A15-799, Public Testimony

James Wisthoff to: luc
Cc: mariah

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State of Hawaii Land Use Commission
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804
Re: State Land Use Commission
Docket A15-799
Makila Rural Community EIS

Commissioners:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Makila Rural development referenced above. I understand the testimony at this point only relates to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and will limit my comments to that subject. I have lived on Maui for over 16 years and in Launiupoko for 13 of those. Here are but a few of the reasons to stop this development.

1. Water is a valuable resource on our island. Our area is serviced by a private water company. In the recent past we have been asked to conserve water due to shortages in supply. The developers are noncommittal on how the water source will be improved. They are talking about potentially tripling the area population.
2. Traffic is a continually growing issue for the west side. There are regular occasions where traffic is backed up from Lahaina to Maalaea. The proposed Lahaina by pass extension will help alleviate some of this problem but will not even completely resolve the issues we have now, much less accounting for future developments such as this.
3. Traffic coming from our neighborhood already backs up at the light to enter the highway. The developers are proposing three new intersections on Kai Hele Ku including a new traffic light at the bypass, an intersection for Makila Rural and a new intersection for the Ag lot development currently being developed.
4. Ag land on the island receives a lot of scrutiny. As owners of Ag land we are regularly scrutinized for our Ag uses on our land. We have E classification lands - the poorest classification. The proposed Makila Village is classified as B - one of the most productive and easy to farm. The area is currently laid out for 11 large Ag lots. Why would the commission allow some of the best Ag land available be reclassified to Urban and Rural?
5. The developers will provide an expert that says run off will not have a negative affect on the ocean and reefs. I urge the Commission to require an unbiased expert be hired to provide additional testimony. With enough money, you can find an expert to say whatever you need.
6. An sewage treatment plant between our subdivision and the beach is unacceptable. The developers again are being very noncommittal in their responses and saying they will research treatment plants that do not produce and odor, or affect the ocean. They can say that now, but who will be there to ensure compliance when it comes time to spend the money and there is a significant cost difference. I can see our area ending up like

Kaanapali where it smells like a public toilet every time you drive by. It is criminal that we have allowed that to happen and that nothing is being done to resolve it. Lets not destroy more of our beautiful island.

I hope the commission can see the folly of this plan and make every effort to stop it. The developers should stick with the original published plan of developing large Ag lots.

Thank you for your time and service to the community.

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