

# Testimony before the Land Use Commission AGAINST permitting D.R. Horton to proceed with the Ho'opili Subdivision

October 23, 2015

Stuart Scott, Honolulu Resident since 1987

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Land Use Commission:

I lecture internationally on climate change, its causes and effects, as well as the human response and **lack** of response, and work at and around the UN climate negotiations.

Human induced climate change a scientifically proven fact, despite the minions of well-paid lobbyists, think tanks, PR firms and *denialist* tactics influencing the US Congress and mainstream media outlets.

Please do not confirm an unwise decision made before we knew the stakes, when the Urban Growth Boundary was drawn on a paper map, and all flat land on Oahu looked the same; prime real estate for housing development.

More than most of the United States, Hawaii's citizens understand climate change. But also more than any other State, Hawaii lies in harms way by its isolation and dependence upon importation of 95% of our needs.

Climate change is projected to create a drought pattern that will devastate agriculture on the mainland 48 states within the next few decades. The drought maps in my written testimony, derived from research published in 2012 by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, amply establish this point.

'Food security' is not a clever catch phrase. It is a real concern and names the peril we and our children face. Within the next few decades of climate change the world will become unable to produce anywhere near enough food to feed the expected population. The US is **not** immune. We are rich and powerful but our domestic agricultural product will wither, as it is now doing in California's historic drought, and spread across the American heartland as the drought maps show. Hawaii is a net agricultural client of the US mainland and other countries, most of which will be struggling to feed their own people.

In addition, the world is waking up to the scientific consensus that 60-80% of all remaining oil reserves must be left in the ground to avoid **runaway** climate change and dire *inescapable* consequences. As nations move to limit the burning of fossil fuels, transportation costs will rise. Flying in perishable food will not be an option. Do not take for granted that Costco will always be there.

I hope you will have the wisdom and foresight to reverse past ill-advised decisions. Do not allow this travesty against all current and future generations on Oahu.

The people of Oahu, our children and our children's children, are relying upon your wisdom, independent judgment, and resistance to the pressures that D.R. Horton can bring to bear. They have influenced our elected officials with overwhelming levels of campaign contributions to every single member of the City Council. Money is a powerful drug. It can buy all sorts of propaganda, commonly known as advertising, and there is always someone willing to tailor an *expert opinion* to a wealthy client's needs.

Those who came today to support the Ho'opili subdivision have been given time off with pay, provided transportation and lunch, provided directly or indirectly by D.R. Horton.

Those of us who came today to oppose the Ho'opili subdivision are not paid or reimbursed to do so. We come out of conscience. Our numbers are limited because the much larger number of people who share our feelings are students, workers unable to take the day off, not informed about this hearing and its importance, or simply unable to get here. We are their surrogates. And we appeal to you to leave the Honouli'uli lands perennially in agriculture for the sake of current and future generations on Oahu.

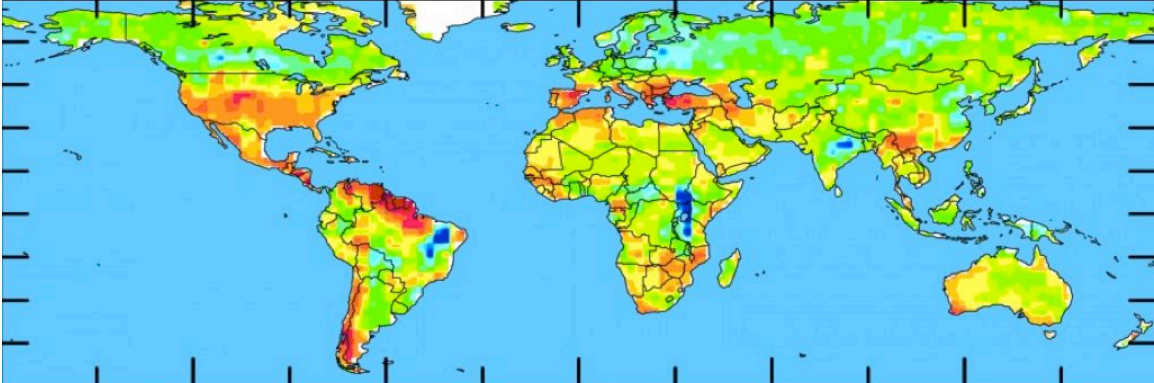
Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stuart Scott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Stuart Scott

Attachment: Drought Maps

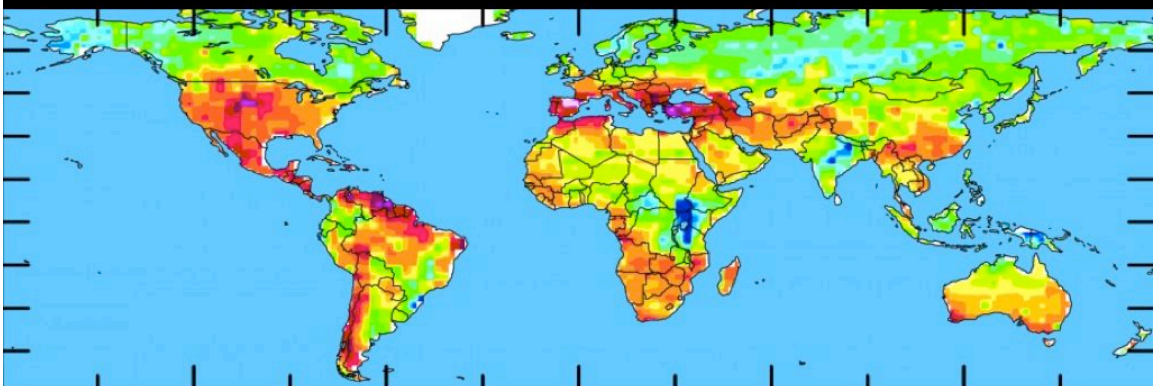
## Preceding Drought Conditions 2000 – 2009



Dry  Wet

Source: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, 2012

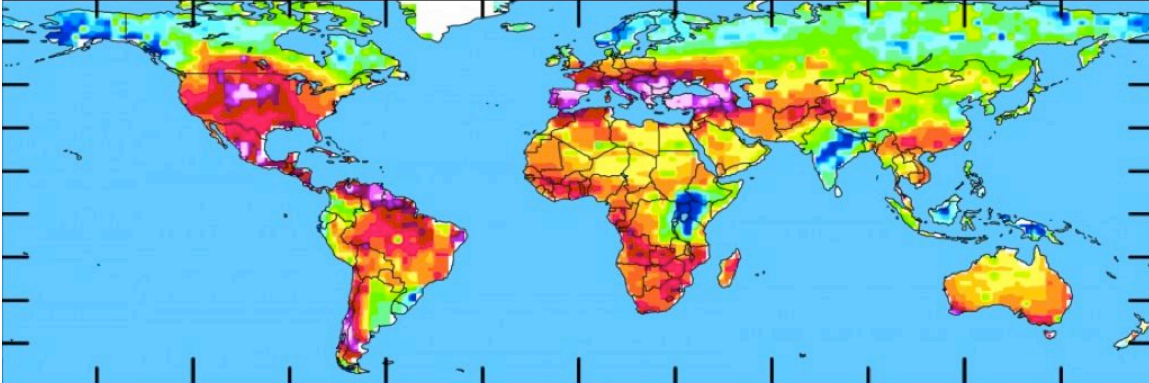
## Predicted Drought Conditions 2030 – 2039



Dry  Wet

Source: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, 2012

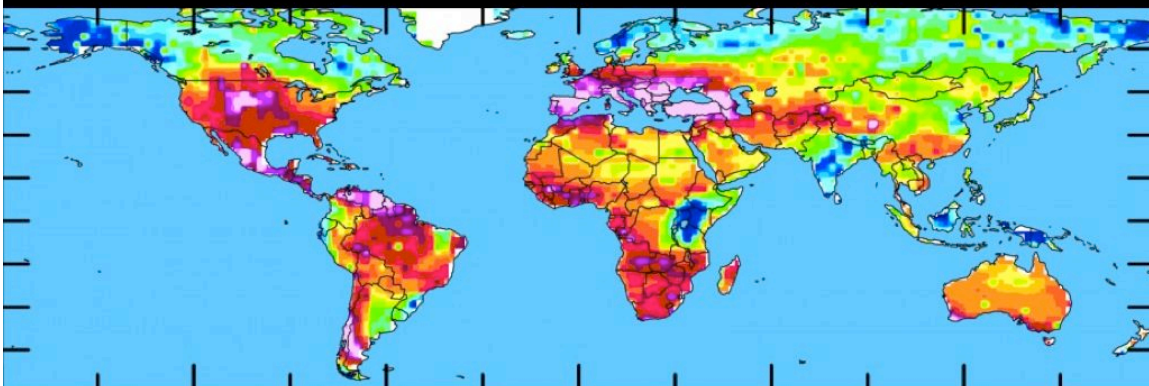
# Predicted Drought Conditions 2060 – 2069



Dry  Wet

Source: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, 2012

# Predicted Drought Conditions 2090 – 2099



Dry  Wet

Source: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, 2012