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**To:** [luc@dbedt.hawaii.gov](mailto:luc@dbedt.hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** OPOSED - A10-786 Olowalu Town - Testimony of the Final-EIS, Reject the EIS  
**Date:** 11/19/2015 12:52 PM

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My name is Alan Brisley, I live at 2249 Kauhikoa Rd, Haiku, 96708. I am a regular volunteer at the Olowalu Cultural Reserve which falls within the boundaries of the Olowalu Town proposal. I have been a steady volunteer there for the last four years and have gradually taken on more responsibility for the care of the lo'i kalo and the plantings of native hawaiian and cultural plants. I have brought numerous groups out to help volunteer and learn about the history and traditional practices of my Hawaiian host culture.

I have been a commercial organic farmer for 18 years on the mainland and here I run a business called Aloha Foodscapes helping individual homeowners, schools and even the Maui Memorial Medical Center grow organic gardens and orchards. I also teach nature skills and awareness practices to youth and adults: animal tracking, scouting and invisibility, bird behavior, natural cordage, plant medicine, wild foods, friction fire etc. I have spent a lot of time exploring the Olowalu area from the reef to the ridges and fell a strong and growing connection to the place.

My greatest concern about the proposed town is the impact to the reef. 1500 homes plus ohana structures will mean acres and acres of impermeable surface creating massive run-off events during major rainstorms. In a quasi-urban density setting this will carry motor oil and other automobile waste along with yard chemicals, and other household generated toxic waste directly into the reef. I have seen how even under current use heavy rain floods into the reef, blanketing it with silt, debris and unfriendly chemicals. The Olowalu reef is arguably the most important "mother reef" in Maui nei, providing regenerative "seed" for all the other reefs. Part of the Olowalu reef's health is due to the large amount of fresh water that moves underground from the upper Olowalu Valley watershed. It is already tragic that the original path of the above ground stream was diverted to the north side of the point, depriving the reef of that important fresh water source. Now what will happen to the health and abundance of that fresh water with 1500 households plus ohanas consuming and contaminating water from that stream and water table (Olowalu well.) I do not believe the submitted EIS has addressed these issues in any substantial way.

If a so called "ahupua'a" style development is really being considered, the first priority should be protecting and restoring reef health, restoring the Olowalu Stream to its original course and repopulating it with native species. The second priority would be to restore the agricultural health, soil fertility and agricultural infrastructure of the Olowalu alluvial deposits for growing food for local consumption using best practices biological agriculture including traditional Hawaiian crops and agricultural practices. Modern western style housing that relies on wide areas of paved roads, sidewalks and impervious roof surface, high intensity water use, non-productive landscaping and the like should not be allowed on lands more suitable (and historically used) for agricultural production. These lands should be protected for their agricultural value with affordable housing options reserved for farmers and farm laborers only in the agricultural areas, and especially not for second homes for mainland dwellers.

Please declare the EIS as submitted to be inadequate, especially as regards impacts to the Olowalu reef system. Require the applicants to review their intentions toward "ahupua'a" style development especially as regards preservation of the most arable farmland. Require that they come up with a better plan.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Aloha, Alan Brisley