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TO: Kanani Fu, Housing Director, Kaua'i County Housing Agency

FROM: Elton Ushio, Emergency Management Administrator 

DATE: May 8, 2017

RE: KEMA Comments Regarding 201H Application for Lima Ola, 'Ele'ele, HI

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Aloha!

I am writing to convey updated emergency management input regarding the 201H application for the Lima Ola Workforce Housing Development on TMK No. (4) 2-1-001:054 in 'Ele'ele.

The County of Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency (KEMA) is satisfied with your response and actions relating to the monitoring and water level regulation of Kapa Reservoir, along with the inclusion of the County Housing Agency as a contact in the dam operator's Emergency Response Plan. This adequately addresses previously stated concerns relating to Kapa.

In addition, based on further review following my memo of June 6, we do not anticipate Lima Ola residents causing a strain on current shelter resources at 'Ele'ele Elementary School. This would be due to Lima Ola facilities being of new design and construction to the latest building code standards, making said facilities most viable for "shelter-in-place" considerations during tropical cyclone events.

The evacuation shelter facilities at 'Ele'ele Elementary School have not been specifically-designed or hardened for winds beyond a minor tropical event. They offer enhanced protection for those who would otherwise remain in a storm-surge inundation area, outdoors, in a vehicle or in old homes with wood frames or single wall construction built prior to 1993.

That said, we are satisfied with your inclusion of KEMA in planning considerations relating to the future community center, namely its possible use as an evacuation facility and/or emergency shelter resource. This could serve not only Lima Ola residents, but would also provide 'Ele'ele/Hanapēpē residents with a facility of resilient, modern design and construction.

Thank you for attention and follow-up on these items, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.