

MAKAKILO/ KAPOLEI/ HONOKAI HALE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 34

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813 TEL: (808) 768-3710 • FAX: (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: http://www1.honolulu.gov

August 17, 2011

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Tanoue,

SUBJECT: FILE NUMBER: 2011/GEN-8

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on the Department of Environmental Services' application to amend Special Use Permit No. 2008/SUP-2.

At its July 27, 2011 meeting, Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34 voted in **opposition** to the amendment of Special Use Permit No. 2008/SUP-2 which would delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 330-5769.

Sincerely,

Leland Ribac for George S. Yamamoto

Chair

GSY:jks



DPP 7

Scanned 867117

Colleen Hanabusa

August 13, 2011

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Via email: info@honoluludpp.org

Re: 2011/GEN-8 Amendment of SUP 2008/SUP-2

Dear Mr. Tanoue:

I write in opposition to the application of the City's Department of Environmental Services' (ENV) request to delete the July 31, 2011 deadline as set forth in condition no. 14 in the October 22, 2009 Decision and Order of the Land Use Commission, State of Hawai'i (LUC).

As you are aware, in two prior proceedings, I was permitted Intervenor status in the proceeding before your Planning Commission which then automatically became a contested case hearing. The LUC then granted me Intervenor status.

Though I no longer represent the 21st Senatorial District which includes the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL), I have over 10 years of institutional knowledge about it. This is why I now write in opposition to yet another application by ENV to continue the operation of WGSL. I do so with the awareness that you will probably approve it over my and others objections. This has, after all, been the pattern.

The Application is flawed

Notwithstanding, I wish to call your attention to the fact that ENV now refers to the 2008/SUP-2 as one for a 92.5 acre expansion. The SUP in question was really for 200.622 acres and I object to this inaccurate depiction. The significance is that the prior SUP's have now been withdrawn. This new SUP covered the entire 200 acres. To ignore this fact means that the original sites are not covered by any orders or permits.

Specifically, in December 2008, the then Director of ENV, Eric S. Takamura filed a NEW Special Use Permit ("NEW SUP") with your Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to permit use of the total area of 200.622 acres of what is known as Waimanalo gulch as the site for a landfill. He requested permission for:

The construction and use of approximately 92.5 acres within the City's Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill property for continued landfilling

purposes. In addition, to the expansion of the area of landfilling, the proposed project will involve the development of landfill associated support infrastructure (e.g. drainage, access roadways, landfill gas & Leachate collection and monitoring systems, stockpile sites and other related features, a public drop-off center, and a landfill gas to energy (LFGTE system. **The Special Use Permit will cover the entire 200.622 acre Property.** [emphasis added.]

In the interest of full disclosure, I believe this is due to the fact, that there remains pending at the Intermediate Court of Appeals, an appeal on the sufficiency and adequacy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which was finalized on only the 92.5 acres and not on the entire 200.622 acre property.

To accept this Application in its present form, you need to address whether you have properly permitted the project; or alternatively, if a permit exists for the underlying 107.5 acres. As well, the objection continues as to whether there has been an environmental impact statement prepared as required for a landfill project.

This Application Is Without Authority

It is important to note that ENV appears uncertain as to whether it can seek modification from the Planning Commission which requires the preliminary step of seeking approval from DPP. At page 2 of Mr. Steinberger's letter of June 28, 2011, he states:

... in light of the lack of specificity in the applicable rules, enabling both the Planning Commission and the LUC to consider Applicant's request will reduce the possibility of a procedural challenge. Finally, if the Planning Commission determines that it does not have the authority to consider this request, it may so conclude and direct Applicant to seek consideration from the LUC.

This application for modification is brought pursuant to Section 2-49 of the Rules of the Planning Commission, which provides:

(a) A Petitioner who desires a modification or deletion of a condition imposed by the commission shall make such a request to the commission in writing. This request shall be processed in the same manner as the original petition for a SUP. A public hearing on the request shall be held prior to any commission action. . . .

It is clear that the rule cited is applicable only to "a modification or deletion of a condition imposed by the commission." The commission referred to is the Planning Commission. The Hawaii Supreme Court has ruled on many occasions that when the Constitution, Statute and/or Rule are/is plain and unambiguous it shall be given its plain and ordinary meaning. *Blair v. Cavetano*, 73 Haw. 536, 836 P.2d 1066, reconsideration denied, 74 Haw. 650 (1992), Emp. Ret.

Mr. David K. Tanoue August 13, 2011 Page 3

System v. Budget Dir. Ho, 44 Haw. 159, 352 P.2d 861 (1960), Spears v. Honda, 55 Haw. 1, 449 P.2d 130 (1968).

When interpreting administrative rules, it is a well established that:
The general principles of construction which apply to statutes also apply to administrative rules. As in statutory construction, courts look first at an administrative rule's language. If an administrative rule's language is unambiguous, and its literal application is neither inconsistent with the policies of the statute the rule implements nor produces an absurd or unjust result, courts enforce the rule's plain meaning.

Cases relied upon are: *International Bhd. Of Elec. Workers, Local 1357 v. Hawaiian Tel. Co.,* 68 Haw. 316, 323, 713 P.2d 943, 950 (1986); *Allstate Ins. Co. v. Ponce*, 105 Hawai'i 445, 454, 99 P.3d 96. 105 (2004).

The Planning Commission did not impose Condition 14, it was the LUC. As stated in Mr. Steinberger's letter at 8, "[n]otably, the 2009 Planning Commission Decision does not contain any expiration date." Therefore under Hawai'i case law, the Planning Commission (and therefore DPP as well) is without jurisdiction over this modification and/or deletion.

It is important to note that in 2008, the facts were different. There the Planning Commission did arguably have the authority to modify its Decision and Order of 2003 because it contained the deadline of May 1, 2008. (Steinberger letter at 6-7).

ENV and the City has got to be accountable

The finding of an alternative site and the time needed is truly an tired argument. WGSL epitomizes arrogance, the lack of political will, and NIMBYism. It also shows how decision makers can shrug their shoulders and extend the life of the landfill under the guise that there is just not enough time to site an alternative.

What is even more troubling is that this Application is devoid of a thorough discussion of how this landfill has plagued the surrounding community and has been mismanaged.

Take for example the impact of the rains experienced early this year. There is no excuse for the release of the waste into the ocean. Clearly it should not have happened IF the City and its operator, Waste Management (WMI) did what they promised and were ordered to do.

Let us review the characteristics of Waimanalo Gulch. As deceptive as the name "Waimanalo" because it is in the Kapolei/Nanakuli area, so is the word "Gulch." Many must believe that there is an indentation in the land which the City is filling for its landfill. Waimanalo Gulch is about 200 acres and is described by the City's experts as "steep," "narrow," "steeply sloping." It is at its widest point 1000 feet, and at its narrowest, 500 feet, about 1½ football fields. It starts at 70 feet mean sea level (msl) then extends up the mountain to 940 msl. It extends about 4500 feet up the side of a mountain. The gulch portion was filled up a long time ago. That is why the landfill is going up the side of mountain.

Mr. David K. Tanoue August 13, 2011 Page 4

The total rain fall we just experienced in January was estimated at 9 inches. WGSL is required to control run-on and run-off from a 25 year storm. This means 24 hours 9.2 inches of rain. So why were we faced with a "lake" of water which had to be discharged into the ocean along with all of the waste that it had allegedly dislodged?

Because, logic tells us that water flows very quickly and strongly off the side of steep narrow land mass such as Waimanalo Gulch. Remember it is not a gulch anymore.

Logic also tells us that because there is a stream albeit, ephemeral, it is a natural flow to the ocean over the landfill. One can also assume that in heavy rains, water flows as it has in the past. The stream is on the eastern slope and the concrete culvert intending to capture the water is on the western slope. There are drainage ditches on the eastern side. These inadequate drainage systems were to take the water to a sedimentation pond which drains into three large culverts under Farrington Highway, then dumps into the ocean in front of Ko Olina. I do not believe the EPA would give the City a permit to dump sediment and waste into the ocean.

Logic further tells us that when you interfere with the flow of water, there will be problems; especially if you cover up parts of the culvert. The City did exactly that.

Because when you excavate our native soil then build us a mountain of opala, there will be stability issues. To address this, the City constructed three stability berms at WGSL. One is for the ash monofill area and is called the "toe berm." The others are the E-1 berm and the Western or Westside berm. The E-1 berm was constructed in late 2005 to 2006 and the West berm in 2006-2007. The E-1 and Westside berms were a function of the 14.9 acre expansion which was the first extension for 5 years after which the landfill was to close. Since there is no gulch to fill, there are stability issues for a landfill being built up a steeply sloped mountain. With each expansion of the landfill, a berm will also have to be extended.

What is most frightening is that the City's expert said critical to stability of the landfill is the liner. This is why surface water control plans are critical to a landfill. Imagine what water seeping through the landfill unto the liner does to its integrity. The City had messed up on a liner earlier and that also required the construction of a berm.

We do know that the State was aware that the City had not paid attention to the issue of storm water run-on and run-off. Count XV of the Notice of Violation filed in 2006 against the City said it failed to monitor and update a surface water management plan. The State had not received any update since 2003. The City was required to show how they complied with the Clean Water Act and to show a storm water pollution plan. The City's excuse is it couldn't find the updates, could you give the same excuse to the City when it requires you to do something?

So, where are we on the storm water run-off and run-on control issue? Nowhere, because according to the City--who has no problem exceeding the heights, having a notice of violation of 18 Counts, then again fined last year for \$424,000 for again, the wrong liner and building the west berm too high. To add insult to injury, the City states it could not proceed to build the necessary surface water management system because it is allegedly outside the permitted footprint. When has a condition of a permit stopped the City before? The irony is that a high berm will allow the City to justify giving us yet a higher mountain of opala.

Mr. David K. Tanoue August 13, 2011 Page 5

Permit me to summarize the violations and to bring your attention to others. First, City has ignored its obligations are that on January 31, 2006, the Department of Health of the State of Hawaii ("DOH") issued a Notice of Findings of Violation ("NOV") and Order against WMI and the City and County of Honolulu. The NOV consists of 18 Counts (Violations). There was a settlement reached with the DOH on December 7, 2007. The provisions are set forth in the Settlement Agreement; and the violations were reduced to \$1.5 million (with alternative payments) and corrective actions. Then, on April 5, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") issued a press release the Waste Management Hawai'i ("WMH") and the City are in violation of the provisions of the Clean Air Act. Findings and Notice of Violations ("EPA NOV") was issued. There remains outstanding the issue of heightened temperatures at WGSL where it landfill gas wells record temperatures in excess of 131°F. This has not been resolved to the best of my knowledge. In addition, there remains the concern raised as to leachate and its disposal in the Waianae Sewage Treatment plant. Last year, the DOH fined the City another \$424,000 for again the wrong liner and failing to build the water control system.

Conclusion

It is very difficult for me to watch yet another Application be approved by DPP when you have got to be aware of the violations and the blatant disregard for public health and welfare on the part of WMI, ENV and others in the City. This particular Application, however, affords you as the Director of DPP, the right to deny it on a clear procedural matter. The Planning Commission is without jurisdiction under its Rules to modify an Order that it did not issue. In fact, the Order itself remains under challenge by the City before the Hawai'i Supreme Court and there is no record of the Planning Commission accepting the LUC's Decision and Order. Under the rulings of the Supreme Court referenced above, this Application must be denied.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Colleen Hanabusa

Colleen Hanabusa



August 12, 2011

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

> Re: Project File Number 2011/GEN-8 Waimanalo Gulch Landfill

Dear Mr. Tanoue:

As General Manager of Resort Management Company, LLC, which provides various management services at the Beach Villas at Ko Olina, consisting of 247 residential and six commercial owners, I am taking this opportunity to express opposition to the Department of Environmental Services' application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.

We are very concerned that the application once again ignores our outcries against repeated extensions of landfill operations over the last 15 years. Our property was built relying on the promised pending closure of the landfill. With the removal of the deadline, we will have to continue to suffer from the adverse impacts of that operation, including heavy truck traffic, noise, odors, windblown litter and scarred views from the resort. The Department of Environmental Services' application ignores the State Land Use Commission's efforts to close

the landfill and force the City to find an alternate site to serve the City's long term needs.

The State Department of Health continues to express concerns about leachate, asbestos, grade stability and methane gas production. There is little explanation of how violations of both Federal and State laws in the operation of the landfill will be prevented. How can we be assured that such violations will not continue?

Enduring the adverse impacts of the landfill as well as health concerns any longer is not acceptable to us. We implore you to deny the application.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very serious matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on my 24-hour mobile phone at 366-9900 or jyamaoka@resortmanagementco.com.

Sincerely,

Joseph Yamaoka General Manager,

Resort Management Company, LLC



August 13, 2011

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting
City and County of Honolulu
650 South King Street, 7th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Project File Number 2011/GEN-8, Waimanalo Gulch Landfill

Dear Mr. Tanoue:

As the General Manager of Watabe Wedding Corporation, Hawaii Branch, which provides the operation of wedding service to the three chapels located to 3 of the 4 lagoons at the Ko Olina Resort, please allow myself to take this opportunity to express opposition to the Department of Environment Services' application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.

We have continued to contribute to enhance the tourism market by serving thousands of Japanese wedding couples, celebrating their once in a life time memories here at the Ko Olina Resort. Ambience is very essential and to see debris, such as disposed medical needles, garbage bags coming in from the landfill and the whiff of the sour smell of the landfill across the street is just not one of the impressions we would like to deliver to our clients. They especially chose this location as their wedding site to experience bright sun reflecting to the blueness of the ocean and smell free environment.

With the removal of the deadline, future wedding couples will continue to suffer from the adverse impacts of landfill operations, including heavy truck traffic, noise, odors, windblown litter and scarred views from the ocean.

We do understand the necessity of Landfill operation. But we have been patient for the past years. Therefore, I think it is a time to seek another location by considering the negative impact that will impose in the future.



Thank you for the opportunity and allowing us to share this very serious situation. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself at nagamine@watabe.com.

Sincerely,

Masaki Nagamine

Hawaii Branch General Manager

Watabe Wedding Corporation

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DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting
City and County of Honolulu
650 South King Street, 7th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Waimanaio Gulch Landfill, Project File # 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue:

We understand that the Department of Planning and Permitting is currently reviewing an application to extend the July 31, 2012, deadline for the closure of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill.

As home owners in the Ko Olina Resort community, we urge you in the strongest possible terms to oppose any extension to the July 31, 2012, deadline. The Waimanalo Gulch Landfill poses a hazard to the health and well-being of the residents of the Waianae Coast and of Ko Olina and jeopardizes the significant economic contributions of the Ko Olina Resort.

In our view, the following factors make it unwise to continue the operation of Waimanalo Gulch Landfill beyond July 31, 2012:

- Waste Management of Hawaii, the landfill's operators, have a history of 20 violations, as cited by EPA and DOH, and have been assessed over \$3 million in fines on WMH. This long history of negligent behavior and apparent disregard for public safety call into question their fitness to continue to operate a landfill for the City and County. What assurance is there that they will change their behavior?
- The particular construction of the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill makes it
 much more vulnerable to serious spills than a landfill where the opala is in
 a hole in the ground. Waimanalo Gulch is a natural drainage-way and relies
 on several berms to hold the mountain of opala in place. Moreover, the site
 was built to landfill construction standards lower than those now in effect.

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- The landfill is in close proximity to growing residential areas and presents an ongoing threat to the health and safety of all residents of the Waianae Coast and Ko Olina Resort through the potential for spills and ground water contamination. The growth of population and homes in the 22 years since the landfill was opened have made its location increasingly unsuitable.
- The Waimanalo Gulch Landfill is a threat to the significant economic contribution that the Ko Olina Resort makes to the City and County of Honolulu and to the state of Hawaii. An independent economic analysis of Ko Olina Resort done b CB Richard Ellis in January of this year shows the following economic benefits of the resort:
 - Current direct spending of \$520 million annually and 2,800 jobs locally.
 - Current indirect spending of \$280 million and 1,500 jobs.
 - o Future direct spending estimated at \$925 million and 5,200 jobs.
 - o Future indirect spending estimated at \$501 million and 2,800 jobs.
 - Future construction spending, direct and indirect, estimated at \$5.7 billion and 43,000 jobs.
 - Current tax revenue to the City and County of \$20 millionannually and \$40 million to the State.
 - Projected tax revenues of \$55 million annually to the City and County and \$71 million to the State.

A single disastrous spill or series of spills could significantly change these figures, bringing to a halt future construction and driving tourists and homeowners from Ko Olina at alarming rates.

On a personal note, we would like to say that we experienced the January 2011 spill. It was not a pretty sight. Quantities of medical waste and other landfill debris were seen in the water and on the beaches of Ko Olina and along the Waianae Coast. The water and beaches were closed to the public. The beaches of the hotels and time shares were empty, and business slowed at the Ko Olina marina, restaurants, hotels and timeshare. We wondered at the lost revenue, not

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only for the hotel and restaurant owners, but also in terms of the trickle-down effect on resort workers and community businesses.

Finally, we want to note that the time for action by the City and County is long overdue. We are aware that it takes several years to locate and construct a new landfill. However, we also realize that the city and County have been aware of this timeframe for some time and have failed to make substantial progress to identify a new landfill or to find other ways of dealing with the waste. The increased incineration of medical waste and increased recycling are steps in the right direction, and we urge the construction of a third burner at HPOWER and expanded recycling. We also urge the city to consider new technologies used in other cities and countries. We happen to have spent considerable time in both Japan and the Netherlands and are aware of the countries' use of innovative technologies which minimize landfill usage. There is no reason that Hawaii cannot be equally forward-looking in its waste management.

The time has come for the city and county of Honolulu to do what is right and prudent in this matter. Please use your authority to see that the landfill is closed on July 31, 2012.

Thank you very much,

Claim van Wingerden
Pieter and Claire van Wingerden

Kai Lani, Unit 23D, Ko Olina





August 10, 2011.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning & Permitting
City & County of Honolulu
650 South King Street, 7th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU.

Re:

Waimanalo Gulch Landfill Project File No.: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue,

Honu Group Inc., a Honolulu based and locally owned commercial real estate development and management company, strongly opposes the Department of Environmental Services' application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL).

As evidenced by the wastewater catastrophe in January of this year, continued use of WGSL presents calamitous environmental, social, economic, health and safety risks to all of West Oahu. While we understand that waste disposal is a fundamental need of every society, the inherent dangers of the site - Waimanalo Gulch is a *canyon fill*, a natural drainage-way, combined with the operator's record of negligence to effectively manage and maintain the site, prove that the continued use of WGSL is simply not a viable long-term solution.

At best, no amount of best management practices can completely mitigate the adverse effects of operating WGSL. Given the long history of violations by its operator, Waste Management of Hawaii, the risks and dangers associated with operating this conyon fill exponentially increases. If the landfill is allowed to remain open, the surrounding environment, ocean, beaches and marine life, and the community's health and welfare are not safe and vulnerable to severe harm.

Use of WGSL also presents a real and ever-present threat to nearby Ko Olina Resort 's continued viability. The Resort's current operations generate more than \$500 million and contribute 2,800 jobs annually to the local economy. WGSL threatens and maligns these ongoing and future economic benefits for the people of Hawai'i.

The City and State cannot afford to have another landfill disaster on its hands. The Leeward community's economic viability, growth, health and safety are at stake. The City's efforts should be directed at protecting these interests, ensuring West Oahu's future is neither compromised nor undermined.

Cordially,

Honolulu, Hawaii 96803

PO Rox 2686

P 808.550.5559 mail@honugroup.com www.honugroup.com

Mona Abadir Chief Executive Officer

Honu Group Communications, LLC.

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August 11, 2011

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning & Permitting City & County of Honolulu 6560 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, Hi 96813

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLU.

Re: Waimanalo Gulch landfill Project File No: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue,

My name is Alan Nakamura, employee of Ko Olina Resort. I am in complete disagreement with the Department of Environmental Services to delete the application of the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease the disposal of solid waste at Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.

For years I have observed rubbish trucks pass the resort with an abundant amount of trash and debris flying from their trucks that litter Farrington Hwy and the resort. We are continuously picking up the debris on a daily basis and found that it is a never ending task to control.

I strongly believe the only way for the people to be responsible for the environment and their community is to have their own landfill in their own district. Transporting their opala to another neighborhood is absolutely without a doubt, not the solution.

Thank You for your time and consideration in resolving this crisis.

Sincerely, 'NG Aka

Alan Nakamura

Ko Olina Golf Course Superintendent



Ralph F. Harris, President

Ko Olina Fairways - Association of Apartment Owners 92-1527-H Alinui Drive Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

> Phone: (808) 679-0085 Email: rfh@hawaii.rr.com

August 10, 2011

<u>USPS First Class</u> Fax: (808) 768-6743

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning & Permitting City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Waimanalo Gulch [Kapolei] Sanitary Landfill

SPECIAL USE PERMIT NO. 2008/SUP-2 (Expiration Date July 31, 2012)

Applicant: Department of Environmental Services

City and County of Honolulu

Landowner: City & County of Honolulu

Operator: Waste Management

Location: Waimanalo Gulch, [Kapolei] Oahu, Hawaii

Tax Map Key: (1) 9-2-003:072 and 073

File Number: 2011/GEN-8

Ko Olina Fairways Association of Apartment Owners in OPPOSITION to The City and County of Honolulu's Application to extend the disposal of MSW at the Waimanalo Gulch [Kapolei] Sanitary Landfill.

Gentlemen:

As President of the Ko Olina Fairways Association of Apartment Owners ("AOAO") representing 280 townhouses at Ko Olina Resort, I am responding on behalf of our associations' members to be heard by the City Department of Planning & Permitting regarding the City's submission of a Permit Application to expand the disposal of MSW past the termination date of July 31, 2012. The Ko Olina Fairways Association of Apartment Owners joins our community master association, the Ko Olina Community Association (KOCA), in **OPPOSING** the City's Permit Application.

The State Land Use Commission ("SLUC") has already ruled that the Landfill must close by July 1, 2012. It appears that the City, again without a plan or alternative site, has decided to seek yet another angle to extend the life of the dump.

Daniel K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning & Permitting City & County of Honolulu August 10, 2011 Page 2 of 2

The City continues to pursue this site for over eleven (11) years, without a plan, without alternative sites, without alternative methods, and without alternative technologies to integrate into a comprehensive waste management plan for the Island of Oahu. The Waimanalo facility has already contaminated the shoreline including the delivery of medical waste on beach goers from Ko Olina to Waianae. The location and condition of the facility is a disaster looming for more taxpayers' dollars to clean up future overflows.

I hope the decision makers at the City Department of Planning & Permitting will take the time (un-announced) to drive the roads and highways through Kapolei and then towards Kahe and see the litter and filth that accumulates daily from the trash trucks delivering to the Landfill at Waimanalo Gulch, Kapolei. I am sure you would not allow these condition near your home. Please reject the application for expansion past July 2012.

Sincerely, for Ko Olina Fairways

Association of Apartment Owners

Ralph F. Harris

President

cc: Ko Olina Fairways Board of Directors and Homeowners

US Mail - First Class Other Interested Parties

"11 AUG 12 A10:25

DEPT OF PLANNING And Permitting City & County of Honglu.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permiting
City and County of Honolulu

Reference No.: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Director Tanoue, PLEASE **DO NOT** APPROVE THE WAIMANALO GULCH SANITARY LANDFILL'S APPLICATION TO DELETE THE JULY 31, 2012 DEADLINE FOR DISPOSAL OF MUNICPAL SOLID WASTE. THE WAIMANALO GULCH SANITYARY LANDFILL HAS HAD EXTENSION AFTER EXTENSION WITH A RESULTING CONTAMINATION OF OUR BEACHES IN KOOLINA LAST YEAR AFTER A HEAVY RAIN. I SINCERELY BELIEVE IF WE HAVE ANOTHER HEAVY RAIN THIS PROBLEM WILL CONTINUE TO ARISE. MILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAVE BEEN SPENT TO MAKE OUR BEACHES BEAUTIFUL AND UNIQUE. DISNEY RESORT, MARIOTT AND BEACH VILLAS AS WELL AS EVERY CONCERNED HOMEOWNER AT KOOLINA AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS DO NOT WANT THIS TRAGEDY TO HAPPEN AGAIN-AND **YOU CAN PREVENT IT**.

I AM THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE KOOLINA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (KOCA) FOR BEACH VILLAS AT KOOLINA. EVERY OWNER I HAVE SPOKEN TO WANTS THAT LANDFILL CLOSED AS IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN YEARS AGO.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter

Alex Duarte. O.D., Ph.D. KOCHA Representative Beach Villas at KoOlina

HAWAI'I

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August 8, 2011

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning & Permitting City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Re:

Waimanalo Gulch Landfill Project File No: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue,

My name is Ken Williams and I am the Executive Vice President for the Ko Olina Community Association (KOCA). On behalf of KOCA, I hereby submit comments in opposition to Department of Environmental Services' application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.

Through the years, Ko Olina Resort has consistently opposed the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill. The following are, in large part, many of Ko Olina Resort's concerns over the past 10 years. Once again, KOCA submits its comments and vehemently opposes the deletion of July 31, 2012 deadline.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- WGSL is technically referred to as a "canyon fill" Waimanalo Gulch is a natural drainage-way where a stream would ephemerally run, draining an entire watershed above it.
 - o Canyon fills rely on multiple berms to hold the man-made mountain of opala in place.
 - This type of "fill" is inherently much more dangerous than a typical landfill where the opala is placed in a hole in the ground.
 - o Failure of these berms or of the drainage systems can be catastrophic as in what occurred in Dec Jan, 2010-2011 (see enclosed pictures).

HISTORY OF VIOLATIONS:

• Long history of violations by Waste Management of Hawaii (WMH) and resulting fines – there have been approximately 20 violations cited by EPA and DOH and over \$3 million in fines assessed since 2005.

- These violations have included extremely dangerous failures to construct and properly operate the cells, liners, leachate system, and gas collection system.
- o This long history of negligent behavior exponentially increases the risks and dangers associated with a "canyon fill".
- In 2010, after the DOH issued more violations for improper construction of landfill berms, WMH constructs a new cell (Cell E6) and enters it into operation.
 - Operation and filling of E6 occurs BEFORE the necessary drainage infrastructure is complete.
 - o DOH Clean Water Branch documents the unauthorized pumping of leachate into state waters in its Investigation Report dated 12/23/2010.
 - O City is ordered to issue a press release regarding the possible release of contaminated stormwater and leachate into state waters, but considers the posting of local beaches unnecessary. (12/23/2010)
 - January 12, 2010 11-inch rain storm dislodges unknown quantities of municipal solid waste (MSW), sewage sludge, leachate and medical pendent analysis conducted by waste from the landfill into the coastal waters.
 - Medical solid waste includes sharps, chemotherapy wastes and pathological wastes.
 - By the morning of January 13, 2011 significant quantities of medical waste and other landfill debris was washing up in the Ko Olina Lagoons.
 Quickly this waste spread to beaches up the Leeward Coast and east as far as Nimitz Beach.

FISCAL & ECONOMIC BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

- Fiscal & Economic Benefits Analysis, Ko Olina Resort & Marina, Honolulu, HI an independent analysis conducted by CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) in January,
 2011 notes (copy of analysis is enclosed):
 - Current operations of Ko Olina Resort generate \$520 million in direct spending annually and provide 2,800 jobs locally. Additionally, this generates indirect and induced benefits of \$280 million and 1,500 additional jobs locally and statewide.
 - o Future developments at Ko Olina will almost double the benefits generated by existing Ko Olina Resort, generating \$1.4 billion in total annual economic activity (\$925 million directly and \$501 million indirect and induced) and supporting 8,000 jobs (5,200 directly and 2,800 indirect and induced).
 - Construction period impacts for future proposed developments at Ko Olina will include over \$3.7 billion in direct spending, creating 26,700 jobs. Indirect and induced economic impacts of this same spending will include an additional \$2 billion and 16,900 jobs.

- At a total of \$5.7 billion and 43,000 jobs, this will be approximately equal to Honolulu's rail project.
- Existing development at Ko Olina generates \$20 million in tax revenue to the City & County of Honolulu, and \$40 million to the State of Hawaii, annually.
- O At full build-out, Ko Olina will generate \$55 million in annual tax revenues to the City & County, and \$71 million to the State.
 - This does NOT include the construction period tax revenues which will generate an additional \$193 million in one-time revenues to the City and State combined.
- Waimanalo Gulch Landfill threatens all of these ongoing and future economic benefits.

SUMMARY:

- o Enough is enough. The City and Waste Management have gone too far.
- o Proven track record of incompetence and negligence.
- The fill is just too risky and unstable to continue, especially given the operators' record of failures.
- We know waste disposal is a fundamental need of every society, but this
 operation -- given the operator's terrible track record for ineffectively
 managing this inherently dangerous site -- is not a viable long-term
 solution.
- It seems that for political and revenue-generating reasons, the City will not voluntarily opt for any alternatives to WGSL – no matter how safe it has proven itself to be.
- WGSL represents a real and ever-present threat to the continued viability
 of Ko Olina Resort & Marina including all hotels, timeshares, residences
 and commercial operations therein.
 - Economic and fiscal benefits listed above.
- o Enough is enough.

KOCA offers the following suggestions as alternatives to disposal of waste:

- Viable Alternatives:
 - o Third burner at HPOWER
 - Expanded recycling
 - o Transshipment of waste as a temporary measure.
 - Other technologies plasma arc, plasma gasification, etc.
 - Community transfer stations and community landfills (only if absolutely necessary.)

David K. Tanoue, Director August 8, 2011 Page 4

If Waimanalo Gulch Landfill is granted an extension and continues to operate as it has in the past, the negative economic and environmental impact on the Leeward Coast and Ko Olina Resort will continue. Therefore, for the reasons stated above, Ko Olina Resort vehemently opposes Department of Environmental Services' application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline allowing disposal of municipal solid until the site reaches capacity as allowed by the State Department of Health.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

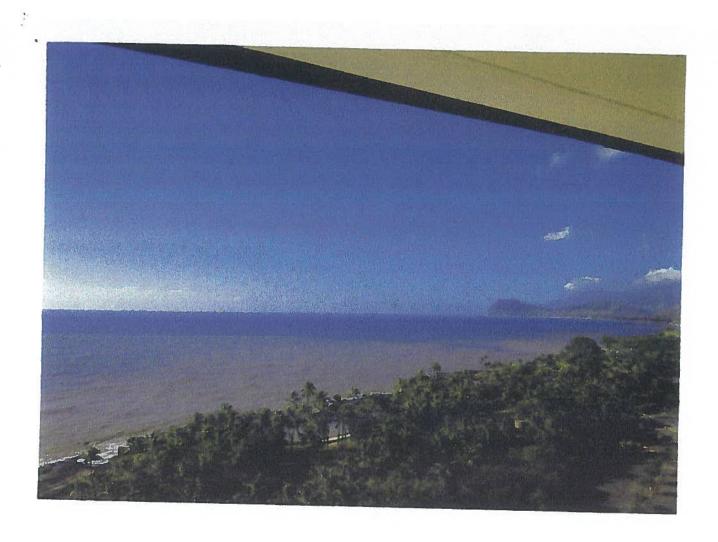
Sincerely,

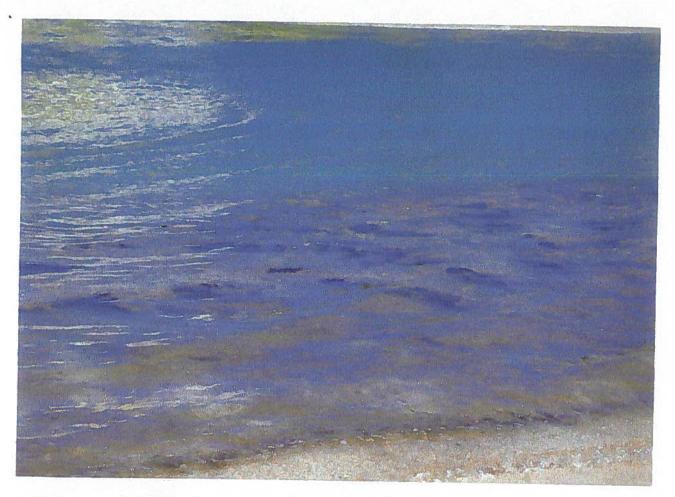
Ko Olina Community Association, Inc.

Ken Williams

Executive Vice President

Enclosures



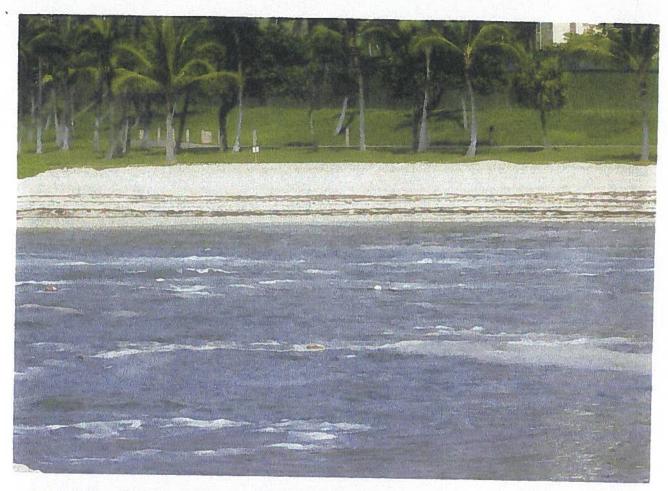




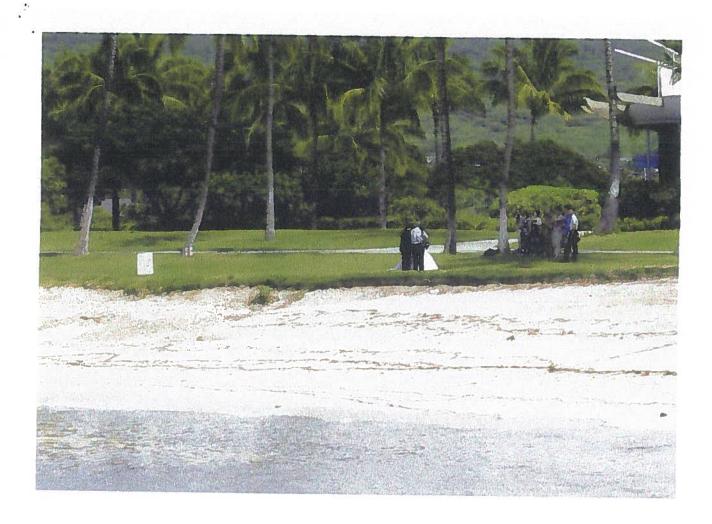


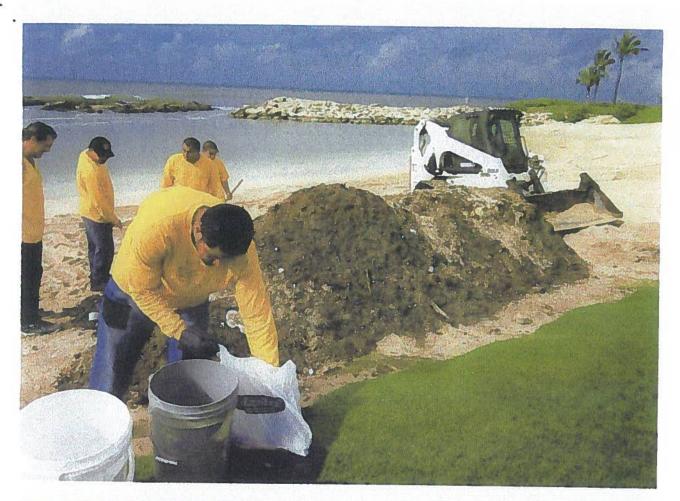


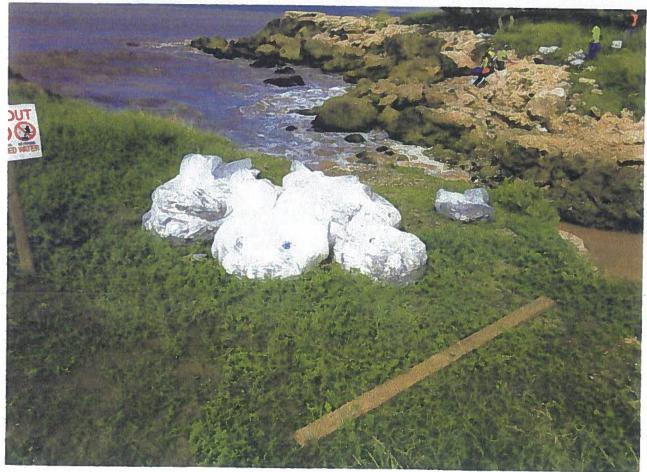


















Commercial Contracting Hawaii

91-329 Kauhi Street, E-1 • Kapolei, HI 96707 Phone 808-682-0055 • Fax 808-682-2476 Lic. #BC21683 RECEIVED

"11 AUG -1 P1:50

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting
City & County of Honolulu
650 South King Street, 7th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

August 1, 2011

Via Fax - 808-768-6041

Reference No: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Director Tanoue,

We cannot continue to extend the closure date of Waimanalo Gulch Landfill. Nor can we continue to expand the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill. All that represents is an easy way out and not at all a solution to the problem of dealing with Oahu's trash.

We need to expand our resources and explore new technologies. It's absurd to hear the city say they need an additional 15 years while alternative technologies are developed. Why does the west side of the island have to continue to endure the burden of the entire islands trash? We need to be aggressive in finding alternative solutions. Other cities have been successful; we should look to them as role models for our situation.

At the very least, we need an alternative location, if not several to eliminate some of the truck traffic, blowing rubbish, and sometimes foul smells, that are all too often noticeable everywhere around the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill.

We implore you to do the right thing and not take the easy way out as so many of our politicians have done in the past. July 31, 2012 is the deadline for disposal of municipal solid waste, let's keep it that way.

Sincerely,

Harriet Bloom

Harriet Bloom Vice President Commercial Contracting Hawaii

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July 20, 2011

11 JUL 25 A9:35

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director

Department of Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu

650 South King Street, 7th Floor

Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Application to Amend Special Use Permit No. 2008/SUP-2

Dear Director Tanoue,

We are writing to express our opposition to deleting the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. We have already seen the previous deadline deleted even after we and many of our neighbors urged that it not be. Since then, we have watched the landfill get bigger and bigger. The communities on the Leeward side have experienced more and more environmental degradation (smells, dust, dirt, blowing trash bags), recent environmental health hazards (contamination from medical waste resulting in beach closings) and economic loss (devaluation of real estate directly related to the landfill's presence).

We have watched as the City and County have done little and then asked for extension after extension. An earlier mayor-appointed Task Force refused to identify another landfill site. Now Mayor Carlisle's new Task Force is falling further and further behind it's schedule in naming an alternate landfill site. We are appalled by the lack of political leadership evidenced by these delays and the lack of concern that those of us on the west side of Oahu are still living with a "temporary landfill" that opened 20 years ago.

We are not naïve. We understand that it takes about seven years to permit and develop a new site. But we ask that you to do the right thing and stand firm on closing the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill on July 31, 2012. And if you will not, then we urge you to work with other departments to set a firm deadline THAT CANNOT BE APPEALED IN THE FUTURE and attach deadlines to each step that is necessary for opening a new landfill as soon as possible. We further urge you, if it is at all within your power, to set significant fines along the way if any of those intermediate deadlines are not met. We are convinced that only if severe penalties are set with which any mayor must comply, will the Waimanalo Landfill be closed.

Sincerely.

William Barnes

Cc: Mayor Peter Carlisle, Councilman Tom Berg, Mr. Ken Williams



July 25, 2011

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill, Reference No: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue

The Association of Apartment Owners of The Coconut Plantation in the Ko Olina Resort and Marina adamantly oppose any extension of the permit for the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill from receiving municipal solid waste beyond July 31, 2012.

We have written numerous letters opposing the continued operation of the WGSL because of the environmental damage caused by it. The most recent incident was the discharge of medical waste into the ocean; consequently, our lagoons were closed for use until the Health Department declared they were safe to use. Our daily lives are impacted by its close proximity. Therefore, it is important to select another site located away from the Leeward Coast, rather than extending the permit.

An economic study was completed by a third party that projects revenues and jobs generated within the Resort will contribute revenues to the City and County greater than that will be realized from the extended use of WGSL. The Disney Resort will open in August and attract many tourists to the Islands. Another disaster could potentially influence its success and in addition lessen the future value of our homes as well. Specific details of the study can be provided by the Mr. Ken Williams, Ko Olina Community Association, Inc.

I recently took a tour of WGSL and saw the dam built high above the landfill to divert drainage over the dump to a channel. This is supposed to avert another incident like that of December 2010. Our residents have experienced tremors from blasts to expand the landfill, noise of the trucks, loose trash littering Farrington Highway and H1 that fly out of the garbage trucks, and dust from the landfill.

We recommend that the permit not be extended because of the above cited reasons.

For the Board of Directors AOAO The Coconut Plantation

S. B. Teramoto

President

cc: Councilman Tom Berg

Mr. Ken Williams - Ko Olina Community Association

5/29/'11 SUN 05:34

Fax message to [808] 768-6041

Attention:

Mr. David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th floor Honolulu, HI 96813

REFERENCE NO.: 2011/GEN-8

Mr. Tanoue,

2011/2011

) 18087686041

OEPT OF PLA

My wife and respectfully oppose the proposal to delete the July 31, 2012 which will allow disposal of municipal solid waste and thereby allow disposal until the site reaches capacity.

(13036523466

Last week I was contacted by a criminal investigator for the EPA. They said they were conducting an examination surrounding the spillage of medical wastes and other ground water drainage through the Ko Olina resort property and onto the beaches near Ko Olina. I sent to her various email communications with county and city officials and pictures related to the December 2010 and January 2011 rain events and subsequent closure of beaches at Ko Olina.

We have a home directly behind the major drainage area on the 12th fairway of Ko Olina Golf Course and have been visiting since our purchase date of 2003. We have seen a notable increase in the amount of water during rain periods and at the end of last year the flood waters came within 2 feet of breaching the embankment protecting the Coconut Plantation development we live in. I have absolutely no doubt that the scarification of the Dump's hillsides have resulted in this increased water flow. The water flows last winter had a distinct "dump" odor. Mr. Joe Whalen of Waste Management informed me that it was perhaps the sludge that was being dumped that day which we smelled! I don't think so.

Your Department needs to await the results of this investigation from the EPA, it needs to investigate drainage issues with independent companies and or the Army Corps of Engineers to ascertain why this flooding is increasing, and needs to investigate the management and relationship between Waste Management and the City and County of Honolulu to ensure it is and independent and fair relationship. The conflict of interest is so dramatically obvious that I believe any liability for flood damage and health related issues will rest squarely on the shoulders of the city and county of Honolulu.

You must reverse the path that your government officials have taken in the path relating to promises made to close the dump, continuous infractions involving Waste Management and a general to "kick the can down the road" and then at the last minute conclude that you have no options but to continue to expand the dump.

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5/29/'11 SUN 05:34 (13036523466)18087686041 # 2/ 2

We think an independent commission should be established to study what happened in the past, what is happening now and what the county should do in the future with its solid waste.

Again we hope you will consider this and if you have any questions related to the above you may call me.

Sincerely yours,

Mario Beekes V (92-1092 Olani Street Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone contact (303) 588-0611

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11 AUG 15 A9:00

TO:

David K. Tanoue, Director

Department of Planning and Permitting

ING DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU. City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor

Honolulu, HI 96813

Fax No: 808-768-6041

FROM:

Duke Hospodar

808.671.3680

SUBJECT:

Project File Number 2011/GEN-8

Waimanalo Gulch Landfill

DATE:

August 13, 2011



10 August 2011

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

> Re: Project File Number 2011/GEN-8 Waimanalo Gulch Landfill

Dear Sir,

I'm writing to you in regards to Reference No: 2011/GEN-8.

My name is Duke Hospodar and I am the Director of Resort Operations and its Aloha Team; we are tasked with risk management and safety at the Ko Olina Resort.

We understand that the City & County of Honolulu, Department of Planning & Permitting is currently reviewing Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill's application to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline for disposal of municipal solid waste and thereby allowing disposal until such site reaches capacity as allowed by the State Department of Health.

On behalf of our 52-member Aloha Team staff, and more importantly our resort community, we'd like to voice our strong opposition to any extension of the Waimanalo Landfill. The adverse effects of the landfill to our community have gone on far too long. My team is/has not only experienced the odors, noise, flying trash and dust that emanated from the ongoing operation of the landfill, but we have also been the central conduit of community complainants in regards to such.

The day-to-day policing of the flying trash becomes tolerable, and the improvisation of facts extended to our guest inquiries regarding the airborne odors seems to part of the norm; but the events of 13 January 2011 were beyond our imagination. For over a month, I was required to put my team on the frontlines of disgust, as we attempted to mitigate the danger & impact to our public beachgoers, residents and hotel guests. Vials & bags of blood, syringes and medical waste that had breached the Waimanalo Gulch were so numerous along our shoreline that in took four (4) 20-foot bins to contain the waste. We experienced first hand what can happen when so called best operational practices go awry. Zoning and permitting a dump so close to our coastal waters is, in and of itself, a poorly thought-through action... extending and/or expanding this landfill knowing its record, the environment and developing landscape is not only irrational, but poses a real and potential health threat to humans, animals and sea life.

I do so hope and trust that our elected & appointed officials will have the courage and leadership to honor their word, or at the very least understand & accept that this community has honored and upheld its end of the deal and sustained unwarranted impact by continuous extensions.

If the closure of the dump had taken place when it was originally scheduled, this catastrophic breach would not have happened. Please do not allow this to happen again. Please honor the promise that the dump will close. Please do not delete the July 31, 2012 deadline for disposal of municipal solid waste

Thank you for your perusal and consideration of my testimony.

Very truly yours,

Duke Hospodar-Director Resort Operations-LLC Ko Olina Aloha Team 92-1480 Ali`inui drive Kapolei, Hawaii, 96707 808.671.0273 James Handsel 92-1130 Olani St. #4 Kapolei HI 96707 August 12, 2011

"11 AUG 15 A10:27

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONGLU

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning and Permitting City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Reference No: 2011/GEN-8 -

Dear Director Tanoue:

We are residents of Ko Olina and we enthusiastically request the City and County of Honolulu to comply with its obligation to close the landfill next year.

We heard the general manager of the landfill testify that there was room in the landfill for anther 30 years.

When the landfill was scheduled to close seven years ago, we were told there was no time to find an alternative because it takes seven years to develop a site. The extension was allowed but no action was taken to start the process of developing an alternative.

Here we are again. Same lack of options, same shortness of time, same old story. While in the mean time, we have been subjected to the stifling foul odors & hazardous medical waste run off.

Enough is enough! Close the landfill and get on with developing other options.

Sincerely

James Handsel



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES '11 NUE 15 A9:00

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLU.

August 12, 2011

Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: File Number: 2011/GEN-8

I submit my comments in opposition to the application to amend Special Use Permit No. 2008/SUP-2 to delete the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste at Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill.

First, the deadline to accept comments should be extended to allow my community sufficient time to submit comments. The Waianae Neighborhood Board did not have this item on its Board meeting agenda on August 2nd and therefore weren't afforded an opportunity to discuss this issue and take a position on the matter before the response deadline. At a minimum, the public comment period should be extended to allow the community a reasonable opportunity to submit comments on this issue.

Additionally, the Planning Commission must deny this application because it does not have the authority to modify the State Land Use Commission's Order dated October 22, 2009, which added the July 31, 2012 deadline to cease disposal of municipal solid waste. This City Department cannot remove a condition placed upon a Special Use Permit by a State agency. Thus, this application is inappropriate and must be rejected.

Finally, I would like to express my deep concern that this administration continues to disregard commitments made to my community to close Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill and seriously consider other sites outside of the Leeward Coast since our community has tolerated the landfill and the waste from the entire island for over 20 years. Despite recommendations from both this Planning Commission and the State Land Use Commission to consider alternative sites from 2003, the City administration has continued to claim that they lack sufficient time to locate alternate sites. This practice is simply unacceptable, especially in light of past violations resulting in a \$1.5 million settlement and recent contamination and closure of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill earlier this year.

TO:97686041

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding my comments, feel free to contact my office at 586-8460.

Sincerely,

Jo Jordan, Representative 45th District

Waianae, Makaha, Makua

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"11 AUG 22 A10:15

DEPT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING CITY & COUNTY OF HONCLU

August 12, 2011

David K. Tanoue, Director Department of Planning & Permitting City & County of Honolulu 650 South King Street, 7th Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Waimanalo Gulch Landfill Project File No: 2011/GEN-8

Dear Mr. Tanoue,

My name is Lance Jeffery I manage the Ko Olina Weddings & Events located at Ko Olina Resort, I adamantly oppose the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill. The gulch is a natural drainage stream and because of the mismanagement of the area it has proven in the past that it has the ability to pollute our waters and beaches.

A chronic history of violations by WMH has resulted in millions of dollars in fines and should be further proof that the landfill is a catastrophic economic and environmental hazard that leaves debris and medical waste on our beaches

Ko Olina Weddings & Events has been adversely affected by the presences of the landfill and the problems created from the negligent operation of the area. Please consider my comments and understand that I oppose the deletion deadline of the July 31, 2012 deadline!

Sincerely,

Ko Olina Weddings & Events

Ence Seffery

Lance Jeffery