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DEPT OF PLANNING
AND PERMITTING
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Attorneys for Applicant
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES,
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)	FILE NO. 2008/SUP-2
)	
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL)	TESTIMONY OF STEVEN Y.K. CHANG;
SERVICES, CITY AND COUNTY OF)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
HONOLULU)	
)	
To delete Condition No. 14 of Special Use)	
Permit No. 2008/SUP-2 (also referred to as)	
Land Use Commission Docket No. SP09-403))	
which states as follows:)	
)	
"14. Municipal solid waste shall be allowed at)	
the WGSL up to July 31, 2012, provided that)	
only ash and residue from H-POWER shall be)	
allowed at the WGSL after July 31, 2012.")	
_____)	

TESTIMONY OF STEVEN Y.K. CHANG

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I. STEVEN Y.K. CHANG: BACKGROUND

1. My name is Steven Y.K. Chang and I am the Chief of the State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch. The Department of Health is located at 919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-4920.

2. I graduated from Purdue University in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and the University of Hawaii in 1976 with a master's degree in Civil Engineering. I have worked as a civil engineer at Sam O. Hirota, Inc. (a Honolulu Civil Engineering firm) and the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Whittier, Ca) I worked as both an Environmental Engineer and a section Supervisor with the Department of Health, Clean Water Branch for 12 years before becoming the Chief of the Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch.

3. I have been the Chief of the Department of Health ("DOH"), Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch ("SHWB") for the past 18 years.

4. As the Chief of the SHWB, I oversee the management of regulated solid waste generated within the State through environmental permitting, promotion of pollution prevention and waste minimization activities, and the development of partnerships with both generators and the regulated community. SHWB also works to prevent releases, or threats of releases, of petroleum, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment through aggressive enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.

II. WAIMANALO GULCH SANITARY LANDFILL: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT NO. LF-0182-09

5. As the Chief of SHWB, I am familiar with the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill ("WGSL" or the "Landfill") as SHWB is responsible for ensuring that WGSL complies with all

laws applicable to municipal solid waste landfills so as to protect human health or the environment.

6. Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 342H and the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 58.1, the City and County of Honolulu Department of Environmental Services (“ENV”), as the owner, and Waste Management of Hawaii, Inc. (“WMH”), as the operator, were issued Solid Waste Management Permit No. LF-0182-09 (“Permit”) for the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill, located 92-460 Farrington Highway, Kapolei, Oahu, Hawaii. See Permit attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit “A4.”

7. The Permit authorizes ENV and WMH to construct and operate the WGSL pursuant to the term, conditions, requirement, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Permit. Specifically, the Permit allows the WGSL to accept municipal solid waste (“MSW”) and ash for disposal at the MSW landfill and ash monofill until the date specified in the associated Special Use Permit (“SUP”) or until the landfill/monofill reaches its permitted capacity, whichever comes first.

III. WASTE DISPOSAL IMPEDED BY DEADLINE TO ACCEPT MSW

8. WGSL may accept MSW and special wastes (solid wastes which, because of their source or physical, chemical, or biological characteristics, require special consideration for proper processing or disposal, or both) for disposal. For example, WGSL may accept the following wastes for disposal, provided they meet specified acceptance criteria:

- Dead animals
- Sandblast grit
- Mattresses
- Outdated food or commercial products
- Petroleum contaminated soil
- Sewage sludge
- Grit and screenings from wastewater treatment plants
- Auto shredder residue

- Treated medical waste
- Sterilized foreign waste
- Pharmaceuticals
- TVs, monitors, and other electronic waste
- Other residential, commercial or industrial solid waste not disposed of at the Honolulu Program of Waste Energy Recovery (“HPOWER”) facility

9. If WGSL is required to cease accepting MSW on the July 31, 2012 deadline imposed via its 2008/SUP-2, many of the wastes mentioned above that are traditionally disposed of at WGSL will have to be disposed of at H-POWER, PVT landfill, recycled, or transported off-island. In some instances, there are no current options for on-island management.

For example:

- Automotive shredder waste. While SHWB does not preclude HPOWER from disposing of this waste, HPOWER has expressed reservations about processing this waste stream because it tends to burn at a very high temperature due to the composition of the waste, which would in turn cause problems with HPOWER’s machinery
- TVs, monitors, and other electronic wastes. Individuals currently disposing of ewaste with the City will no longer have this option and will likely have to incur high costs to return these devices to manufacturers or these devices will be illegally dumped to avoid such costs.
- Outdated food or contaminated products, pharmaceuticals, sterilized foreign waste (from ships and airplanes) and sterilized medical waste (except for medical sharps). These waste streams can currently be disposed of at HPOWER. However, medical and foreign waste must be sterilized and the medical sharps must be removed and disposed of separately. HPOWER does not accept medical sharps due to concerns regarding worker safety at the facility. The sharps would have to be shipped away as special waste at extremely high costs to the generators.
- Petroleum contaminated soil. This waste can be disposed of at PVT Landfill.

IV. JULY 31, 2012 DEADLINE FOR WGSL TO ACCEPT MSW MAY THREATEN HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

10. DOH is working with the City to determine alternative disposal options but there are in fact wastes that cannot be burned, recycled, reused or shipped – in particular sewage sludge. Because there are wastes that currently must be disposed of via landfilling and because

contingencies such as HPOWER's planned maintenance shut-downs, or emergencies created by natural disasters require alternative disposal options so as to efficiently respond to unanticipated contingencies, there is in fact still a need for a landfill.

11. SHWB is concerned that imposition of the July 31, 2012 deadline at the point in time when there are no disposal options for certain types of wastes may threaten human health and the environment.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing facts are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, December 13, 2011.


STEVEN Y.K. CHANG

BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of) FILE NO. 2008/SUP-2
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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL) CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT A COPY OF THE **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU'S FIRST AMENDED LIST OF WITNESSES** was duly served by either hand-delivery or U. S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following on the date below, addressed as follows:

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DATED: Honolulu, Hawai'i, December 13, 2011.



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SERVICES, CITY AND COUNTY
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