



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

October 3, 2017

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State Land Use Commission  
P.O. Box 2359  
Honolulu, HI 96804

SUBJECT: DR17-59 Monsanto Company, A Delaware Corporation - Petition for Declaratory Order to Designate Important Agriculture Lands - Kunia, Oahu, Hawai'i.

Dear Chair Wong and Commissioners:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the four county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 150+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports** Monsanto's petition to designate lands in Kunia as Important Agriculture Lands as these lands have historically and currently provide pasture for our ranchers.

With the rapidly developing West side of Oahu, the fact that Monsanto is voluntarily designative lands as IAL is crucial to prevent further development of these very fertile lands. This potential designation provides for the preservation of agricultural lands for the future, for all types of agriculture use. Currently, two ranches lease pasture lands from Monsanto. Maintaining pasture lands on Oahu is critical to the well-being of our industry and very important to the overall effort of providing beef for local consumption.

We ask the commission to approve this petition and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Dale Sandlin  
Managing Director

