8 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL AND SHORT-TERM USES OF HUMANITY'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

8.1 Short-Term Uses

The proposed project alternatives would involve short-term uses of the environment during the construction phase. These uses would have both positive and negative impacts. Construction activities associated with the proposed project alternatives would temporarily require use of resources, including water, energy, fuel, etc.; however, impacts from the increased use of these resources are anticipated to be minimal.

In the short-term, the proposed project alternatives would also result in positive benefits to economic uses in the local area. The economic impacts of project construction would include the impact of expenditures on construction materials, and on earnings of construction workers and professional service providers during construction.

8.2 Long-Term Productivity

In the long-term, the proposed project alternatives and associated improvements would have beneficial impacts on long-term productivity of the Honouliuli wastewater system due to the WWTP expansion for handling flows from future population growth and development.

A substantial amount of financial resources would be required to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed project. The funds would be drawn from a generally limited pool of assessment and operating fees. Therefore, the capital improvement and annual operating costs associated with the proposed facility improvements would result in an increase in sewer rates for the wastewater system customers on Oahu. However, as stated in Section 5.13.1, annual expenditures from operations of the proposed project would result in ongoing increases in economic output, employment, and earnings, and ongoing increases in fiscal revenues. The operation effects from the proposed project would be beneficial, providing regional economic benefits including long-term positive effects on employment, productivity and income in the region.

If the proposed upgrades were not implemented, the result would be failure to comply with the Consent Decree requirement and comply with permit effluent limitations. In addition, wastewater reuse will provide beneficial reduction of the consumptive use of other water resources. Therefore, long-term productivity would be increased by implementation of the proposed project.

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