June 19, 2019

Ms. Leimana DaMate
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 131
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813
Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

Dear Ms. DaMate,

Subject: Request for review of Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA)
        Keālia Mauka Homesites
        Keālia and Kapa‘a Ahupua‘a, Kawaihau District, Kaua‘i
        TMKs: [4]4-7-004:001; 4-7-003:002, 006; 4-6-014:026 and 031

We respectfully request Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) review of the enclosed Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA), prepared by Cultural Surveys Hawai‘i (CSH) for the Keālia Mauka Homesites project. Keālia Properties, LLC, proposes to develop a 235 lot residential subdivision on 53.4 acres of land in Keālia, Kaua‘i, adjacent to an existing residential subdivision. The developer plans to sell improved lots, ranging from about 5,600 SF to 7,300 SF in size, and targeted at local residents.

The 53.4 acre site is currently in the State Agricultural District, and the project requires a State Land Use Commission (LUC) District boundary amendment (from Agricultural to Urban District). The project also includes utility/roadway improvements, all of which are proposed within public rights-of-way. The off-site utility improvements are not part of the LUC Petition. The attached figure shows the Petition Area and the off-site improvement areas.

The LUC has recently requested that the CIA be transmitted to AMAC for review and comment. The CIA was included as part of the April 2018 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that underwent a 45 day public review. DLNR was among the agencies that submitted DEIS review comments.
While we regret that the request for AMAC review has come to our attention so late in the EIS process, we are confident that the CIA meets the requirements of Chapter 343 HRS and Act 50 to consider potential effect on cultural beliefs, practices and resources. In fact, the CIA was updated since the DEIS was published, in response to community comments, and to include the areas affected by off-site utility and roadway improvements.

Currently, our schedule calls for submittal of the Final EIS to the LUC and the Office of Environmental Quality Control on July 11, 2019. The LUC hearing for the project is scheduled for July 24/25. We would be pleased if we are able to share AMAC’s comments at that time.

You can contact me by phone (457-3158) or by email (sezer@hhf.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Scott Ezer
Vice President

Cc: Bert Saruwatari, State Land Use Commission
Petition Area and Off Site Improvements

Keālia Mauka Homesites

Final Environmental Impact Statement
Kealia Properties, LLC