Daniel E. Orodenker, Executive Officer
State of Hawai‘i
Land Use Commission
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 406
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment, State Special Permit (SP97-390) Amendment, and County Special Use Permit (CUP 2008/003) Amendment for the Proposed Central Maui Landfill Facilities Project at TMK (2) 3-8-003:019 (por.) and 020, Pu‘unene, Maui, Hawai‘i

Dear Mr. Orodenker:

We thank you for your letter of March 19, 2018, providing comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Applications for State Special Permit (SP97-390) Amendment and County Special Use Permit (CUP 2008/003) Amendment for the Proposed Central Maui Landfill Facilities Project. The County of Maui (COM), Department of Environmental Management (DEM) offers the following information in the order of your letter:

1. Although Parcel 20 was originally included in the boundary of the subject permits as a future expansion area, it is not owned by the COM. The parcel is currently owned by Komar Maui Properties I, LLC, which we understand has plans to develop the property independent of the COM. As the COM cannot utilize the property for the Central Maui Landfill, the deletion of the applicable portion of Parcel 20 from the subject permits is being requested.

2. In response to your comment regarding cultural interviews, a third interview has been conducted with a person who worked in the area and retired from Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company, which will be included in the Final EA. Also, Cultural Surveys Hawaii (CSH) has been retained to prepare a Cultural Impact Assessment Report for the proposed project which will be included and discussed in the Final EA. Three (3) additional interviews have been conducted by CSH as part of the CIA.

By letter dated March 15, 2018 the State Historic Preservation Division issued a no historic properties affected determination and accepted the revised draft Archaeological Assessment dated October 2017.
3. There are no civil defense warning sirens at the Central Maui Landfill, however, communication is maintained between the Central Maui Landfill and the DEM’s main office in Wailuku, as well as the COM Emergency Management Office by telephone (land line and cell phone), email correspondence, radio, and news releases on radio. Should an emergency occur either at the landfill or externally, these communication channels will be utilized to inform employees and users of the emergency. The Final EA will include the information noted above.

4. A survey and accompanying metes and bounds descriptions of the amended SP97-390/CUP2008/003 permitted area will be prepared by a registered/licensed professional surveyor and included in the Final EA.

5. We note your acknowledgement that a portion of the project area was designated as Important Agricultural Land in 2009 when it was owned by Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. However, since Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co. ceased their sugar cane cultivation operations in 2016, the land has remained fallow.

We appreciate the input provided by your Department and will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Final EA. Should you have any questions or require further information regarding the proposed action, please feel free to contact our planning consultant, Colleen Suyama of Munekiyo Hiraga at (808) 244-2015.

Sincerely,

ERIC A. NAKAGAWA, P.E.
Director of Environmental Management

EN
cc: Elaine Baker, Department of Environmental Management
    Ali Mehrazarin, A-MEHR
    Clayton Yoshida, Department of Planning
    Colleen Suyama, Munekiyo Hiraga