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State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission



Thomas-Ryan Cleek, Aloha 'Āina

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Oppose Special Use Permit Extension for Waimānalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill

My name is Thomas-Ryan Cleek. I am a native to Honokai Hale, near Maka'iwa Gulch, the valley adjacent to Waimānalo Gulch. I have lived in Honokai Hale for my entire life and continue to reside there.

We all remember what happened in 2010, when a torrential downpour washed medical waste being stored at the Waimānalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill into the ocean. No one wants that to happen again.

I think it is crucial that the City & County of Honolulu take deadlines seriously. Giving an extension to the Special Use Permit is not going to nullify the negative repercussions of a potential flash flood.

The City & County of Honolulu needs to find an alternative site for waste, per the November 2010 deadline. It is clear that Waimānalo Gulch does not have the capacity to store O'ahu's Municipal Solid Waste, hence the application for expansion.

It is imperative that we always take the preservation and maintenance of important natural systems and habitats into consideration, and account for the impact of this proposed reclassification of Waimānalo Gulch.

Mahalo for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of my community.