

**From:** [MICHELLE DREWYER](#)  
**To:** [DBEDT LUC](#)  
**Subject:** Sacred Earth Assembly Church Related Activities Dr. Lew Abrams and Maria G. Abrams SP19-410 (SUP2 2017/0011) TMK: (2)-2-8-003: 075 4505 Hana Highway, Haiku, Maui  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 5, 2019 11:47:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to State Planning Department.pdf](#)

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Aloha:

Could you please post this additional letter.

Thank you,

Michelle L. Drewyer

# Michelle L. Drewyer, Attorney at Law

A Law Corporation

P.O. Box 791434

Paia, Maui, Hawaii 96779

(808) 280-7126

Email: MauiLaw@hawaii.rr.com

November 5, 2019

To: Mary Alice Evans, Director of Planning via fax 808-587-2824

From: Michelle L. Drewyer

RE: Sacred Earth Assembly Church Related Activities Dr. Lew Abrams and Maria G. Abrams SP19-410 (SUP2 2017/0011) TMK: (2)-2-8-003: 075  
4505 Hana Highway, Haiku, Maui

Good Morning Ms. Evans:

I urge you to reconsider your support of the special permit for the Sacred Earth Assembly Church. I note that you indicated the following in your letter:

**B. The desired use would not adversely affect surrounding property.**

**According to the application, the proposed project is not anticipated to directly or indirectly affect adjacent uses. The Petition Area is approximately 25.54 acres. The surrounding uses are agricultural lots and uses to the north and east. On the south and west sides there are residential agricultural lots and Hana Highway.**

**Church services may impact the surrounding agricultural uses however; we note that the Planning Commission's Condition Nos. 4 and 5 provide for limits on hours of operation and amplification of sound or music.**

Please revisit the public comments on the State LUC page and the neighbor's testimony from the Maui Planning Commission hearing. All neighbors are opposed to the granting of the special permit. I have suffered a decade of noise pollution. Additionally, there is ample evidence that Mr. Abrams has been and continues to be a nuisance in the manner he operates his events. Please see examples submitted to the State LUC as rebuttal to Mr. Abrams testimony that he only holds small events with exception to the New Years Eve party. That he does not charge for the events.

That traffic is minimal and no sound affects his neighbors. His testimony is patently untrue. Given the testimony presented, I cannot see how you can make this finding.

**C. The use would not unreasonably burden public agencies to provide streets, sewers, water, drainage, schools, fire, and police resources.**

According to the application, the proposed church use is within an existing agricultural building. It is serviced by an individual wastewater system with the capacity to service 100 people. The access driveway off Hana Highway is shared, and the 14.8-acre church site is fenced and separated and serviced by its own loop - road.

The public testimony and letters from neighbors all indicate that the access driveway off Hana Highway is dangerous. Please see prior testimony from the Maui County Planning Commission hearings as well as the letters posted on the State LUC site. At the very least there should be an inquiry about the number of accidents in this area. There is a blind turn right before the turn off the shared driveway. I have often had to continue past my drive, as I would have been rear-ended. This is not a safe condition.

Please take the time to read through the minutes of the Maui County Planning Commission and the letters and exhibits submitted to the State LUC. Mr. Abrams has been holding events that disrupt this neighborhood for a decade. He has had several zoning violations and fines imposed of \$524,000. This is not a person who deserves to have a special permit issued. The Maui Planning Department and the Maui Planning Commission made serious errors in their handling of this case. There were letters and evidence omitted in opposition to the special permit at the request of Mr. Abrams attorney. Letters in opposition were not accepted by the Maui Planning Department to pass on to the Maui Planning Commission. This request for a special permit does not meet the necessary requirements to have a special permit issued. Please take the day to read the entire file and letters and re-think your position.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,



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**According to the application, the proposed project is not anticipated to directly or indirectly affect adjacent uses. The Petition Area is approximately 25.54 acres. The surrounding uses are agricultural lots and uses to the north and east. On the south and west sides there are residential agricultural lots and Hana Highway.**

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Thank you for your attention to this matter,



Michelle L. Drewyer

**From:** [MICHELLE DREWYER](#)  
**To:** [DBEDT LUC](#)  
**Subject:** SP19- 410 SACRED EARTH ASSEMBLY (MAUI COUNTY DOCKET NO. SUP1 2019/0001/SACRED EARTH ASSEMBLY)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 5, 2019 2:53:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter Manawai Association .pdf](#)

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Aloha:

Could you please add this to the record. Attached is permission to submit from the author.

Mahalo,

Michelle Drewyer

VZW Wi-Fi 2:42 PM  
+1 (808) 281-1697

iMessage  
Today 2:36 PM

Hi Michelle. Good talking with you today. As I am not at home and cannot access the letter that was sent to the planning commission would you please submit it in the behalf of myself and the Manawai Homeowners Association?  
Thank you very much  
Dawna Richmond  
MHOA President

The sender is not in your contact list.  
Report Junk

iMessage

Manawai Homeowners Association  
Manawai Place, Haiku, HI 96708

[manawaihomeowners@gmail.com](mailto:manawaihomeowners@gmail.com)

August 5, 2019

To: Director Michele McLean

Re: State Land Use Commission Special Permit, DOCKET NO. SUP2 2017/0011

Dear Madame Director and members of the commission:

The Manawai Homeowners Association would like the commission to address the concern of the surrounding neighborhoods that were not notified of the hearing for the special use permit notated above. We understand that there is a rule for notifying neighbors within the 500 feet limit, but the actions in previous years by the owners, Lew and Maric Abrams have created disturbances to our neighborhood many, many times and we believe our concerns should be heard.

For a number of years in the past, we have been adversely impacted by the activities of the Ahimsa Sanctuary. Large gatherings with the use of PA systems, music and drumming would go on all night and was eventually shut down in 2015 because of multiple complaints and zoning infractions. Since then, we have enjoyed the peace and quiet for that is normally associated with AG land properties.

Our association has 21 members and we believe that allowing the Abrams to get a special permit in the AG district to build a church, will bring all the same problems back with no recourse from neighbors. Allowing high-density activities of any kind will greatly impact us in an adverse way.

We watched the hearing online and it is obvious by Mr. Abrams testimony they do want to bring back large gatherings 2 to 3 times a week at different hours of the day and night. Flyers from their past gatherings show that tickets were sold to all events, bands would be playing and dinners served. Mr. Abrams also stated that although 30 -50 people might be attending he also said there may be times when 100's of people would be attending, possibly several times a month. This is not acceptable for any of us. New Year's gatherings did not end at 10:00 as he stated, but would go on all night and well into the afternoon of the next day with constant drumming.

We believe that their past actions should be a warning sign that they will most likely do the same activities again.

Finally, our question to the commission is this: Respectfully, would you allow this to happen next to where you live?

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Manawai Homeowners Association Board of Directors