From: Troy Otsuka  
Date: January 5, 2020  
Re: Docket No. A87-610 - Waiawa Solar Power Project  
Hearing Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020  

Dear Commissioners:

I write in strong support of Kamehameha School’s and their desire to operate a solar farm on lands at Waiawa, Ewa, through December 2059 to help the state meet its renewable energy goals by 2045.  

- The Waiawa Solar Power project is expected to generate enough renewable energy to power about 14,000 homes;

- This project will benefit communities, consumers and our environment by helping Hawaii transition to a clean energy economy powered by the sun;

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony.

Troy Otsuka
From: Peter Breeze  
Date: January 5, 2020  
Re: Docket No. A87-610 - Waiawa Solar Power Project  
Hearing Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020  

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- This project will benefit communities, consumers and our environment by helping Hawaii transition to a clean energy economy powered by the sun;  

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony.

Peter Breeze
Dear Commissioners:

I write in strong support of Kamehameha School’s and their desire to operate a solar farm on lands at Waiawa, Ewa, through December 2059 to help the state meet its renewable energy goals by 2045.

- The Waiawa Solar Power project is expected to generate enough renewable energy to power about 14,000 homes;

- This project will benefit communities, consumers and our environment by helping Hawaii transition to a clean energy economy powered by the sun.

Thank you.
Gary James

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Aloha Commissioners,

I write in strong support of Kamehameha School’s desire to operate a solar farm on lands at Waiawa, Ewa, through December 2059 to help the state meet its renewable energy goals by 2045. I understand the Waiawa Solar Power project is expected to generate enough renewable energy to power about 14,000 homes, and that will benefit communities, consumers and our environment by helping Hawaii transition to a clean energy economy powered by the sun.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony.

Peter Lee
Aloha,

I am writing to inform you of my strong support for Kamehameha Schools to operate the solar farm located through December 2059. The project will help the state meet its renewable energy goals and benefit communities as well as the environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony.

Jonathon Grems
Re: Docket No. A87-610 Waiawa Solar Power Project

Dear LUC Commissions:

I am writing to support Kamehameha Schools' efforts to operate a solar farm in Waiawa, Ewa. Their work will propel the state toward its goals in 100% renewable energy by the year 2045.

I believe the work will benefit our state immensely and cut down on electricity costs for the state while utilizing free solar energy afforded to us in our beautiful and sunny state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support.

Sincerely,
Karen Lee
January 8, 2020

Land Use Commission
State of Hawaii, Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804

RE: A87-610 Tom Gentry and Gentry Pacific, Ltd. (Successor Petitioner- Kamehameha Schools), Motion for Modification of Decision and Order and Time Extension

Dear Land Use Commissioners:

Blue Planet Foundation supports the approval of Kamehameha Schools’ Motion for Modification of Decision and Order and Time Extension (Docket A87-610) as it relates to the development of the Waiau Solar Power project, in particular allowing for flexibility to enable long-term use of the solar farm to maximize its contribution to Hawai‘i’s clean energy future.

Blue Planet Foundation is a Hawai‘i-based nonprofit organization. We work to clear the path for local, clean, renewable power. Through our advocacy for clean energy adoption, we seek to make our communities stronger, our energy more secure, our environment healthier, and our economy more robust.

Hawai‘i is experiencing the consequences of climate change that is largely driven by the combustion of fossil fuels. Last year over 270 high temperature records were either broken or tied statewide. A torrential downpour on the North Shore of Kauai in April 2018 not only broke the local rain gauge, it broke the U.S. record for the most rain over a 24-hour period. Some of Hawai‘i’s infrastructure, including critical roadways, are literally eroding away. While Hawai‘i’s direct contribution to climate change is small, we have the opportunity to lead the globe in clean energy and climate solutions. Indeed, we already are.

Blue Planet was the lead advocate for Hawai‘i’s “first in the nation” 100% renewable energy law in 2015. We felt strongly that the state needed to set a long-term clean energy vision to better align our planning, foster collaboration, and help unlock investment in renewable energy infrastructure. Since this policy became law, six other states and territories have adopted similar 100% carbon-free targets. Beyond simply "doing our part" and ensuring low-cost, low-carbon electricity to Hawai‘i’s residents and businesses, we see our progress toward 100% renewable energy as a model and inspiration for actions well beyond our shores.

Blue Planet is working aggressively to ensure that everyone can—and does—participate in our clean energy future (see, for example, our "We Are 100" initiative at WeAre100.org). But we recognize the need for large renewable energy projects, such as Waiau Solar, to capture
economies of scale and make significant steps toward 100% renewable. We are excited that the most recent round of utility scale contracts offer prices for solar plus energy storage that are far less than the cost of generating electricity from oil. Waiawa Solar will be providing its clean energy at approximately 10-cents per kilowatt-hour for the initial 20-year contract term.

Waiawa Solar will provide enough clean energy to power approximately 14,000 homes on O'ahu. It will consistently contribute about 1.5% toward Hawaiian Electric's renewable portfolio standard.

Blue Planet supports efforts to capture the full value of large-scale solar projects over their entire useful life. Modern solar generation equipment has a useful life of 30 to 40 years, and renegotiated power purchase agreements after the conclusion of the initial agreement may offer more favorable rates. State decision makers should consider these long-term benefits when deliberating renewable energy projects.

Hawai'i's shift to a 100% renewable energy future is already underway. While the electric utilities, residents, and businesses need to do their parts on our way to 100% clean energy, the state is a major partner in this transformation. Blue Planet Foundation respectfully requests your favorable consideration of Kamehameha Schools' motion regarding the Waiawa Solar Power project.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these comments.