

Hakoda, Riley K

From: Denise Yamaguchi <deniseyamaguchi@hawaiiagfoundation.org>
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 10:54 AM
To: DBEDT LUC; Hakoda, Riley K
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support, Docket No. A92-683 – Ho’ohana Solar 1, LLC’s Motion for Modification and Time Extension
Attachments: Denise Yamaguchi Hoohana LOS[4].pdf
Categories: Red Category

Please see attached. D.

Denise Hayashi Yamaguchi
Executive Director
Hawaii Agricultural Foundation
3538 Waialae Avenue, #203
Honolulu, HI
deniseyamaguchi@hawaiiagfoundation.org
808-386-2538

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October 5, 2020

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Chairperson
Commissioners, Land Use Commission
State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission
State Office Tower, Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 406
Honolulu, HI 96813
Email: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov; riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov

Re: Docket No. A92-683 – Ho'ohana Solar 1, LLC's Motion for Modification and Time Extension

SUPPORT OF THE HO'OHANA SOLAR FARM

I am Denise Hayashi Yamaguchi and I have been an advocate of agriculture, farmers and policy initiatives that can support them.

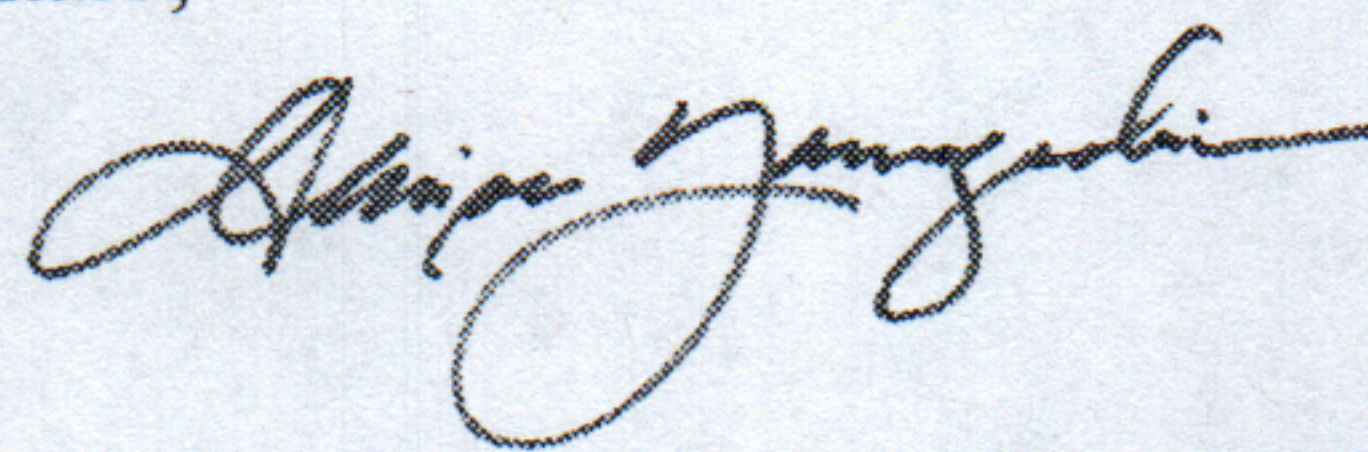
I have a passion to support and address the critical needs of the farming industry to create a sustainable sector that can thrive in the ever changing competitive market place. I see this as possible by providing education and outreach to children, partnering with the community and in doing so, help farmers.

The farmer of the future will need to utilize technology and partners to remain competitive on the islands. For instance, the environmental threats that the farmers have no control of can be mitigated with greenhouse structures with climate regulation controls, which can also control pests and temperature. Stable, lower costs of energy to consumers and businesses will be of great benefit, and an essential component to the viability of the farmer. As we move into stricter government food safety regulations, increasing customer compliance in safety, consistency and reliability mandates, the stand alone farmer will have a harder time meeting these standards, and meeting them in a cost competitive way. Lower energy costs and increased security in the area are all factors that can be the difference in allowing a farm to survive or not. I see this solar farm as a way of creating a very symbiotic relationship between farmers and energy producers. Additionally, the benefits offered to the Department of Agriculture Park can help to provide more benefits to more farmers.

Ho'ohana has planned for landscaping with a plant that can be a value-added agricultural crop to also not only provide opportunities for specific farmers but to helping achieve the state goal of increasing food production.

Please approve Ho'ohana Solar Farm's Motions, which will not only help the environment but will help to preserve the most valuable resource in the islands, the FARMER!

Mahalo,



Denise Hayashi Yamaguchi
Executive Director

Hakoda, Riley K

From: Christopher Delaunay <cdelaunay@prp-hawaii.com>
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:06 PM
To: DBEDT LUC
Cc: Hakoda, Riley K
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PRP Testimony regarding Hoohana Solar Project
Attachments: PRP Testimony_Hoohana Solar Farm_LUC_7 October 2020.pdf

Importance: High

Aloha,

Attached please find PRP's testimony in strong support of the Hoohana Solar Farm. Testimony is for the October 7, 2020 LUC meeting.

Thank you,

Christopher Delaunay
Government Relations Manager
DIRECT 808.380.8838
EMAIL cdelaunay@prp-hawaii.com



Pacific Resource Partnership
1100 Alakea Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813
www.prp-hawaii.com

Testimony of
Pacific Resource Partnership

State of Hawaii Land Use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Docket No. A92-683
Ho'ohana Solar I, LLC's Motion for Modification and Time Extension
Wednesday, October 7, 2020
9:00 A.M.

Dear Land Use Commissioners:

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a non-profit market recovery trust fund which represents approximately 7,000 men and women union carpenters and 240 large and small contractors. With our expertise in research, compliance, marketing, and project advocacy, we are committed to building a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs, and enhances the quality of life for all residents of Hawaii.

PRP writes in strong support of the Ho'ohana Solar Farm application, and we respectfully encourage the Land Use Commission to approve Ho'ohana Solar I, LLC's (Ho'ohana) Motion for Modification and Time Extension.

Hawaii faces an economic crisis without parallel in its history as a state. Ho'ohana provides a valuable opportunity to stimulate our economy, both by creating new jobs and by creating infrastructure which can help lower energy costs to consumers and businesses.

Recent forecasts by the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization (UHERO) anticipate significant shortfalls in employment numbers versus what it forecast a year ago. The declines will be steepest in 2020 and 2021. UHERO predicts that Hawaii employment will not return to 2019 levels before 2026. Ho'ohana will employ approximately 175 construction workers in 2021, a period when some of the worst shortfalls in employment are anticipated to occur.

Additionally, Ho'ohana will provide substantially more clean renewable energy than a solar project proposed in 2015 for this site. In 2015, a significantly smaller solar project (20 MW versus the current 52 MW), was proposed for this site. The 2015 solar project was anticipated to reduce imported oil consumption by 4.7 million gallons and carbon emissions by 46,000 tons annually; the recently proposed Ho'ohana project is expected to avoid the use of 10.6 million gallons of imported oil and 95,400 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually. When completed, this newly proposed solar project will be capable of generating enough energy annually to power approximately 19,100 homes, which will advance the State closer towards achieving its goal to generate 100% clean energy by 2045.



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WWW.PRP-HAWAII.COM

PHONE → 808.528.5557

1100 ALAKEA STREET / 4TH FLOOR
HONOLULU / HI 96813

TWITTER:
@PRPHAWAII

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
PACIFICRESOURCEPARTNERSHIP

(Continued From Page 1)

Further, PRP respectfully requests that this Commission decline to impose conditions which place a substantially greater obligation on Ho'ohana than what was required under the 2015 Order, such as the Office of Planning's proposed amendments requiring Ho'ohana to provide the non-potable waterline at the specifications negotiated between the Department of Agriculture and RP2, and to complete construction of the waterline before Ho'ohana obtains its building permit for the project. These proposed requirements would unreasonably put a financial burden on the project, and frustrate Ho'ohana's ability to remain on schedule and compliant with its contractual obligations with HECO.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony.