

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Project

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Project

From: Martha Staff [mstaffhi@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 5:59 PM
To: info@honoluludpp.org
Subject: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Project

CAUTION: Email received from an EXTERNAL sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

Dear People,

I oppose this project. Do you recall that in 2011, when Ho'opili housing got kts victory, that the Land Use Commission at City Council assured the public that all lands above the freeway would be kept in Agriculture. The state plan was to double food production in Hawaii by 2020. With 2 months til the end of 2020, I understand NO progress has been made toward this goal. (Who the hell is in charge of seeing that progress is made toward this kind of goal? Do you just expect to wait until everyone forgets the promise and the goal?)

There are many places to put a solar project. This project should not go on good farmlands, class B or C.

I oppose this project.

aloha,

--

Martha Staff

UH Faculty retired
Resident of Oahu since 1979.
mstaffhi@gmail.com<mailto:mstaffhi@gmail.com>

Here we are again in this Mystery.
Let me look anew and see with vastness, ease and joy

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: glads bautista [gladshawaii@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 5:44 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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"I strongly oppose this project." eep Ag land Ag Land!!!!

Mrs. Glads Bautista

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: "I oppose this project."

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: "I oppose this project."

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: "I oppose this project."

From: Mahina Lealao [mlealao@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 8:52 PM
To: info@honoluludpp.org
Subject: "I oppose this project."

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Aloha,

"I oppose this project." For the sake of our Hawaiian People and 'Aina!!

Mahalo!

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Pearl Johnson [pearlchangjohnson@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2020 3:16 AM
To: info@honoluluodpp.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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Please do not approve this project. Solar farms do not need to be on grade B and C agricultural land. They can be put anywhere--not on land that grows food.

--
Pearl Johnson
45-090 Namoku St, apt 1304
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing the AES West Solar Battery Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing the AES West Solar Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing the AES West Solar Battery Project

From: Judith Gooch [phdprof16@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2020 6:43 AM
To: info@honoluluudpp.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing the AES West Solar Battery Project

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I oppose of using precious ag land for this purpose. Do not misuse our land.

Dr. Judith K.Gooch

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 3:30 PM
To: Chong, Blanche
Subject: FW: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Leon Siu [leonhits@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2020 9:31 AM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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To:
The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) City and County of Honolulu

Re: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

Aloha kakou,

I categorically oppose the AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project for the following reasons:

The project is contrary to The City and County of Honolulu's Land Use Ordinance (LUO).

It violates the designated use of AG-1 (Restricted Agriculture) zoning district and removes this vital agricultural land from being used for agriculture.

Increasing the capacity to grow food should be the number one priority for Hawaii. It is critical to reduce the dangerously high – 90% – dependency on imports.

The wind turbines could be located in many other places on Oahu that does not take lands away from agricultural use.

For these reasons and more, I oppose the proposed AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project.

Aloha aina,

Leon Siu

Aiea, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: My Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche **On Behalf Of** Department of Planning and Permitting
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 3:42 PM
To: 'Raul Bautista'
Cc: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: RE: My Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

I am in receipt of your email and it is being sent to the Planning Commission for record and file.

Blanche

From: Raul Bautista [<mailto:raulmakakilo@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 10:15 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: My Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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To whom it may concern,

"I strongly oppose this project."

Thank you,
Raul Bautista

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche **On Behalf Of** Department of Planning and Permitting
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 9:46 AM
To: 'Margit Von Schafnitzel'; Takara, Gloria C
Cc: Dr. Kioni Dudley
Subject: RE: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

I am in receipt of your testimony and it is being sent to the Planning Commission for their record and file.

Thank you,
Blanche

From: Margit Von Schafnitzel [<mailto:mroscha@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2020 8:32 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Cc: Dr. Kioni Dudley <drkionidudley@hawaii.rr.com>
Subject: AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

CAUTION: Email received from an EXTERNAL sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

Dear Sir or Madam,

this is my **Testimony opposing the AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project.**

Respectfully,

Margit Von Schafnitzel
92-831 Makakilo Dr. # 63

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Kraintz, Franz

From: Takara, Gloria C
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: Kraintz, Franz; Wong, Dina L
Subject: Testimony opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

From: Chong, Blanche **On Behalf Of** Department of Planning and Permitting
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 11:31 AM
To: 'Victoria Cannon'
Cc: Takara, Gloria C
Subject: RE: Testimony opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

I am in receipt of your email and it is being sent to the Planning Commission to record and file.

Blanche

From: Victoria Cannon [<mailto:makakilovsc@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 7:37 AM
To: info@honoluluodpp.org
Subject: Testimony opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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Aloha, I oppose the AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project as it should NOT be constructed on any prime or otherwise against land.

Victoria Cannon

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Michele Lincoln <lincolnmichele@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 7:28 AM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony

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Testimony opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project.

It is admirable for Hawaii to lead the nation in clean energy. However, responsible stewardship of natural resources is more than just energy production. COVID-19 has shown how vulnerable we all are to unforeseen circumstances. Hawaii's tourism driven economy must be balanced with other industries in the future. Agriculture is a historically proven industry that will provide much needed employment along with food security. Think about it, we as a species can live without electricity but food is essential for survival.

Every decision establishes a precedent for future projects. If this project is allowed to go forward covering such a large percentage of important agricultural land then you can easily see how this could be detrimental for Hawaii's future agriculture industry. If instead agricultural land was used for growing food then the infrastructure to process and distribute the produce would have roof-tops available for the solar panels.

Solar panels prove to be an efficient source of clean energy but are quite ugly to look at in scenic vistas. People come to Hawaii for many reasons and one of them is its beautiful landscapes. Solar panels on parking structures and building's roof-tops work great and are more aesthetically pleasing. Your decisions on this matter will affect all of the islands as we move toward energy efficiency. Please oppose this project and encourage farming with solar panels incorporated into construction infrastructure instead.

Thank you for your consideration,
Michele Lincoln
Lahaina, Hawaii
(808) 385-3157

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Hula Sk8r <healthyyouandplanet@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 7:41 AM
To: info@honoluludpp.org
Subject: "Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project"

CAUTION: Email received from an **EXTERNAL** sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

Dear Committee Members:

I will make this short. I vehemently opposed the Ho'opili project and how it ruined class A farmland used for food production.

So now you are asking to take 97 acres of food producing farmland, that solar and battery farm can be put elsewhere.

You are negatively affecting property values on the West Side.
And reducing our ability to be food sustainable.

Mahalo for allowing me to share my testimony.

Aloha,
MeleLani Llanes
Makakilo, O'ahu
Registered voter.

To: info@honoluluDPP.org.

From: Sheila Valdez
94-010 Leolua Street C205
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
808-454-7336

I oppose this project.

Aloha,

My name is Sheila Valdez, Chair of Na Wahine o Lihue Kunia, I represent the cultural descendants of Waianae Uka Honouliuli mauka.

The wahi pana of Honouliuli Ahupua'a is deeply rooted in spirituality and cultural values. These are of Maui lands and land of Lo Ali'i, it deserves to be recognized from a Hawaiian perspective, worthy to preserve in place for posterity's sake and not continue to develop on historic properties.

While Honouliuli is rich in cultural values, it was also sustainable as the breadbasket for the west side.

We need more food production instead of solar farms.

Mahalo,

Sheila Valdez
Na Wahine o Lihue Kunia

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Natalie aka Bike Mom <the-green-one@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 08, 2020 11:36 PM
To: Young, Raymond
Cc: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: comment re West Oahu Solar Plus Storage Project SUP
Attachments: Testimony DPP AES Solar Project 11-9-20.pdf

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Aloha Raymond,

Attached are my comments in opposition to the AES solar project. Would you please include them (attachment only) with the SUP application?

Please confirm receipt of this email, and *please do not post* this transmittal or my email address online.

Pedaling Toward a Bicycle-Safe Hawaii -- Same Roads, Same Rules, Same Rights

A hui hou, Natalie

Natalie Iwasa
Honolulu, HI 96825
Phone 808-395-3233 (land line)

Unless expressly stated, this email is intended for the sole use of the person or persons I sent it to. As a professional, volunteer and neighborhood board member, I have various responsibilities, and those responsibilities at times may create conflicts of interest. Therefore, any opinions stated in this email are mine and do not represent those of my firm or any other organizations I may be a member of.

TO: Department of Planning and Permitting

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

DATE: Monday, November 9, 2020

SUBJECT: West Oahu Solar Plus Storage Project - **OPPOSED**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment regarding the proposed State Special Use Permit (SUP) for a 12.5-megawatt solar photovoltaic energy generation facility on approximately 98.846 acres within the State Land Use Agricultural District, Honouliuli, Ewa.

While we work toward the state's goal of 100% renewable energy by 2045, it is important we do not lose sight of our other needs, i.e., food sustainability. In 2011 prime agricultural land in the same area was approved for housing. We need to preserve remaining agricultural land for food production.

I oppose the placement of this facility on these ag lands. **Please do not approve the SUP.**

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Dr. Kioni Dudley <drkionidudley@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 3:08 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

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Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

Aloha,

Below is an op-ed article which I have submitted to the *Star-Advertiser* today.
I wish to submit it as part of my testimony opposing the AES West O'ahu Solar and Battery project.

Dr. Kioni Dudley

Solar Project vs. 2050 Famine in Hawai'i

By Dr. Kioni Dudley

Remember Governor Ige's goal in 2014 that we would double local food production by 2020? With about a month left in 2020, we have advanced some, but lost large farmlands and dairies on Maui, the Big Island, Kaua'i, and O'ahu, and probably are probably still about where we were in 2014, if not behind.

While one would hope that the state would double down and push ahead on all fronts, instead, to provide income for UH West O'ahu, they now want to put the AES West O'ahu Solar and Battery Project on 97 acres of precious *state-owned*, fallow farmland on the 'Ewa Plain just above the H-1 freeway.

Larry Jeft's Farm worked this property for years and found it "very productive."

It also either was part of, or adjacent to, the Golden Triangle, the highest producing farmlands in the state during sugar times.

The Land Study Bureau map designates the area as Class B land, not A. But it is outstanding for farming. The Golden Triangle was composed mostly of Class B lands. The real difference in West O'ahu is not in the high, or super-high, soil quality. The difference is the sun. Waimanalo and windward-side farms, and north shore and north slope farms get a lot of rain and cloud cover year-round. These Leeward lands get full sun almost every day. While those other areas produce two or three crops a year, the West O'ahu lands produce four, *or more*, because of the extra sunshine.

A few years back, we lost the 1,200 acres of this sunny farmland to the Ho'opili housing project, so there are few sun-filled acres left. We cannot afford to lose even one.

This solar project is gargantuan. New state law allows solar farms to occupy up to 20 acres of Class B land. This one occupies 97 acres!

A great advantage of this farmland is that there are crop cooling and packing and processing facilities right next door at Aloun Farms, which is looking to serve other farmers. The lands are also close to market.

We have learned with Rapid Ohia Death that when disease or pest infestations invade, there is no stopping them till there is no more to kill. These lands, which are contiguous with the farmlands of Kunia, are well separated from all the other farmlands on O'ahu, an important safety measure for future generations.

Former City Council Member Tom Berg recently sent AES 15 pages of YouTubes showing how he had tracked the endangered and protected *pueo* owl and Hawaiian bats in this very area. It's not just that the hard-surface solar panels will totally displace the trees and bushes where they sleep and rest during the day, there are major lights that can be seen for miles on the neighboring Bayer land that will reflect on the solar panels and blind, confuse, and kill these important species as they fly in the night.

But it is not only endangered species that will be destroyed. AES's project threatens the lives of *all of our people* who will be living thirty years from now. Although our national and state governments are ignoring it and hiding it from our people, the world is experiencing population-explosion and tremendous aquifer depletion. There are more and more people with ever less water for irrigating crops or drinking. By 2050, the UN says we must have two bites of food for every bite produced today. If that proves impossible, the UN estimates that 370 million will be starving in 2050. Those masses will migrate, and there will be great food wars. Clearly, at that time, there will be no food for Hawai'i to import from anywhere. Today, we import 90% of our food. We must become 100% food-self-sufficient by 2050 or have starving islanders. The state must create the necessary farming revolution. This *state land*—productive, sunny farmland—is the place to start!

Put solar on roofs.



Contact info:

Dr. Kioni Dudley
92-1365 Hauone Street
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707
Telephone and fax: (808) 672-8888
E-mail: DrKioniDudley@hawaii.rr.com

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Dr. Kioni Dudley <drkionidudley@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 3:46 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony opposing AES West O'ahu Solar and Battery Project

CAUTION: Email received from an **EXTERNAL** sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

This is my personal testimony to the members of DPP.

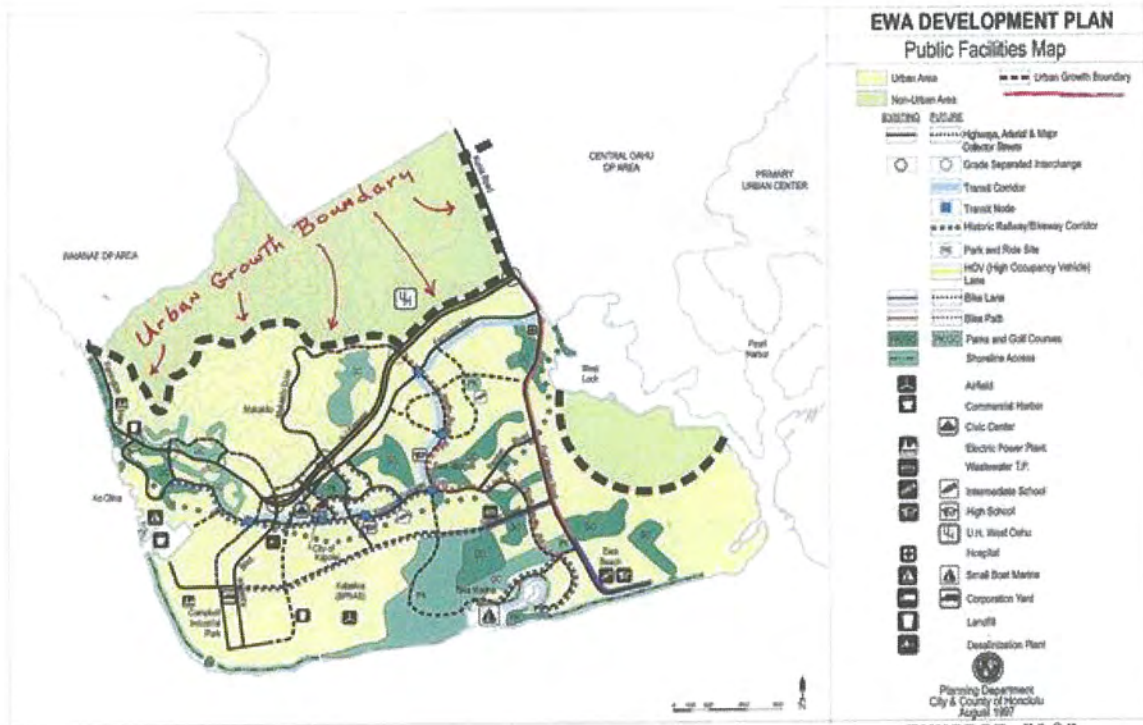
When we were fighting the battle to protect the Hono'uli'uli farmland from becoming the Ho'opili housing project back in 2012, there were two things happening at City Council, one after the other – approval of the 'Ewa Development Plan and approval of the Ho'opili project. The 'Ewa Development Plan meetings were first. We had more than twenty strong testifiers at each meeting. Again and again, we asked the Council to move the Urban Growth Boundary so as to keep the Ho'opili area outside of the urban area. We lost. The Urban Growth Boundary was established as running along the freeway. But in order to placate us, the Council promised again and again that that the area above the freeway would be sacrosanct, and that nothing would ever go in there but agriculture. Kathy Sokugawa was very much a part of those hearings. She said DPP was committed to preventing anything urban from going in there.

The material that AES has provided DPP for this CUP shows pictures from the freeway. You can see the solar panels from the freeway. We need places in Hawaii where tourists can enjoy the natural beauty. When one drives west on the H-1, as soon as they leave Waipahu, there is the beauty of the Wai'anae range. This cannot be allowed to be ruined by urban solar panels.

This land is Ag-1 land. The Project area is located within the AG-1 (Restricted Agriculture) zoning district. The purpose of the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural zoning district is **“to conserve and protect important agricultural lands for agricultural functions.”** This is one more reason why the project must not be permitted. AES is claiming that they are only Class B lands. But most of the Golden Triangle was Class B lands. It's the sun that makes the difference in the fantastic crop production. In more recent times, Larry Jeft has farmed these lands and says they are very fine, high producing.

Please read the op-ed article which I have submitted separately. It's final point is that we will need those sunny, high producing fields in order to save our people from starvation. Because of the current world population explosion and rapid worldwide aquifer depletion, there will be no food from anywhere to import in thirty years. If we are not 100% food self-sufficient, our people will go hungry. AES is saying they will only occupy the land for 25 years. But our food shortages will begin long before mid-century. We will need those fields in the next decade. We cannot afford to have them leased out for solar for 25 years. We need to put solar on rooftops and save our farmlands.

Dr. Kioni Dudley



Dr. Kioni Dudley
92-1365 Hauone Street
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707
Telephone and fax: (808) 672-8888
E-mail: DrKioniDudley@hawaii.rr.com

Hipolito, Ailene

From: Dr. Kioni Dudley <drkionidudley@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 3:54 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project #3

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Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project

Aloha,

Below is a Resolution which was presented at the Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale October meeting. The Board was meeting using Webcam, and three of our Board Members were not able to communicate with the Chair. When it came time for the vote, those three were counted as absent. The vote was four yes, two abstain, and three absent. The Resolution did not pass. Since then, one of those who was absent has told me that he wanted to vote for it, and will vote for it at the December meeting if I bring it up again. That would give us at least five Yes and the Resolution will pass. I wish to submit it as part of my testimony opposing the AES West O'ahu Solar and Battery project.

Dr. Kioni Dudley

Neighborhood Board #34 Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Resolution

Adamantly Opposing Development of AES' West Oahu Solar and Battery Project

Whereas, the world is experiencing a population explosion, with the population nearly doubling every forty years, and

Whereas, the United Nations is telling the world that in order to feed all people by 2050, we need to produce two bites of food for every bite produced today, and

Whereas, the United Nations is saying that in thirty years we will have 370 million people starving, and that there will be no food to import, and

Whereas, we in Hawai'i import 90% of our food today, and

Whereas, we must become 100% food-self-sufficient by 2050 or watch our people in the islands starve, and

Whereas, growing food on these particular West O'ahu lands will be essential in order to produce the food required for our survival, and

Whereas, the project land either is part of, or is contiguous with, what was known as known in sugar times as The Golden Triangle, the highest producing sugar land in the state, and

Whereas, the land upon which the solar panels will stand is Classified as B by the Land Study Bureau, just as most of the Golden Triangle land was Class B lands, yet was the highest producing in the state, and

Whereas, the farmlands on other parts of Oahu—Waimanalo, North Shore, upper Kunia—have cloud cover and rain much of the year and are thus able to produce only two or three crops a year, while these lands have full sun most days of the year and can produce four or five crops a year, and

Whereas, once the Ho’opili housing project is complete, these, and surrounding lands above the freeway, will be the ONLY full-sun lands left on the island of O’ahu and must be preserved, and

Whereas, major cooling facilities, and packing and processing facilities are already built, in use, and open to all farmers right next door at Aloun Farms, and

Whereas, these lands are close to market which is especially important for foods going direct to restaurants, Farmer’s Markets, etc., and is a great money and time saver for farmers, and

Whereas, O’ahu will need farmlands in totally separated areas in order to avoid spread of disease or pest infestations which often can’t be stopped as long as there is contiguous farmland to feed on. These lands, which are contiguous only with the Kunia farmlands, are well separated from all of the other farmlands on O’ahu, and can thus provide food should other farm areas be decimated in the future, and

Whereas, state law, Hawaii Revised Statutes §205-2, allows solar projects such as this on land classified as B or C by the Land Study Bureau, if the project is not more than twenty acres, yet this project is almost five times that size, at 97 acres, and

Whereas, according to City and County law, the Project area is entirely within the Restricted Agriculture (AG-1) zoning district, which has the most restrictive zoning in the state. The purpose of the AG-1 Restricted Agricultural zoning district is “to conserve and protect important agricultural lands for agricultural functions.” Solar farms are not listed as a permitted use of AG-1 lands. However, the Department of Planning and Permitting is allowing them on farmland by calling them “Type B utility installation.” According to the Master Use Table, Type B utility installations are permitted with issuance of a conditional use permit (CUP) minor permit. We again point out that this is an excessively large project on fantastic Class B land in the only remaining full sun area on the island where one or more additional crops can be produced each year, and

Whereas, around 2012, two major projects came before the City Council, one after the other – approval of the ‘Ewa Development Plan and approval of the Ho’opili project. At the ‘Ewa Development Plan hearings, more than twenty strong testifiers spoke, again and again, asking the Council to move the Urban Growth Boundary so as to keep the Ho’opili area outside of the urban area, and in active farmland. They lost. But in order to placate them, the Council promised again and again that that the area above the freeway, and outside the Urban Growth Boundary, would be sacrosanct, and that nothing would ever go in there but agriculture. We hold them to that promise now.

Whereas, solar projects can be put anywhere that there is sun. It is easier to put it on land that is flat or slopes gently, of course. And it is easier to get to if it is just blocks from the freeway. But the question is, do we need to make things easier for this project, or do we need to preserve these lands for crops that will allow our people to live? Let us emphasize, “for crops that will allow our people to live.”

For all of the above reasons,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Makikilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board sides with the need to reach 100% food self sufficiency for our people by 2050. We honestly feel that loss of these sunny, Class B, agricultural lands could make the difference of life or death for many of our descendants. We adamantly oppose the issuing of any Special Use Permit for this project by the

state Land Use Commission, and we adamantly oppose the issuing of any Conditional Use Permit by the City and County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Governor of Hawaii, the state Land Use Commission chair, the Mayor of Honolulu, all City Council Members, the Director of the City Department of Planning and Permitting, all other Neighborhood Board Chairs, and to the Star-Advertiser, Civil Beat, KHON, KITV, and Hawaii News Now.



Contact info:

Dr. Kioni Dudley
92-1365 Hauone Street
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707
Telephone and fax: (808) 672-8888
E-mail: DrKioniDudley@hawaii.rr.com

Hipolito, Ailene

From: hauoli83@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Department of Planning and Permitting
Subject: RE: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project"

CAUTION: Email received from an **EXTERNAL** sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

Aloha Blanche,

Mahalo for your response. Please tell me if my testimony will be considered by anyone at Planning Division before being recorded and filed.

Take care and stay safe.

Piilani Kaopuiki

From: Chong, Blanche <bchong2@honolulu.gov> **On Behalf Of** Department of Planning and Permitting
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 3:50 PM
To: 'hauoli83@hawaii.rr.com' <hauoli83@hawaii.rr.com>
Subject: RE: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project"

I am in receipt of your email and it is being sent to the Planning Division for their record and file.

Thank you,
Blanche

From: hauoli83@hawaii.rr.com [<mailto:hauoli83@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Sunday, November 08, 2020 8:43 PM
To: info@honoluluDPP.org
Subject: Testimony Opposing AES West Oahu Solar Plus Battery Project"

CAUTION: Email received from an **EXTERNAL** sender. Please confirm the content is safe prior to opening attachments or links.

Aloha,

Here we go again! The state is shirking its obligation to protect agricultural lands. Hoopili proved that prime land to feed our people was not important enough to save for farming. Now we find the need to consider a venture that will take more land away from consumer farming. When will it end? In 2014, Governor Ige declared doubling food production by 2020. How are we doing with that? Yes, there is land elsewhere on Oahu, but not of the food production quality of Ewa. Can you move the sunshine availability to Waimanalo? How about the fact that farming infrastructure is already in place? How about the effect of solar panels on our precious endangered

and protected pueo, owl. Is their survival not important? How about the fact that future demand for food worldwide will threaten Hawaii's ability to compete for limited supplies? Think about the very recent struggle for Personal Protective Equipment and medical supplies during the pandemic. The U.S. was not prepared and prices went through the roof. If we are not self-sufficient, we will become beggars, because, after all, Hawaii is just a bunch of dots out in the Pacific. The time to be courageous is now. Deny the project. Put the panels elsewhere – in the ocean, maybe. Put them on private and public buildings. Tax revenue may suffer, but our people will be safer and tax revenue can be obtained in other creative ways.

Mahalo for your courage.

Piilani Kaopuiki
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Honolulu 96826

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