

## Hakoda, Riley K

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**From:** Lucienne de naie <laluzmaui@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:47 PM  
**To:** DBEDT LUC  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on Docket SP06-400 Pōhākea Quarry (Maui) for June 9, 2021 meeting  
**Attachments:** SCMG Comments Doc. SP06-400 Pōhākea Quarry (Maui).doc

Please find our comments from Sierra Club Maui Group on LUC June 9, 2021 Agenda ACTION Item V. **SP06-400 Pōhākea Quarry (Maui)**  
**We will also be testifying in person**

Lucienne de Naie  
[laluzmaui@gmail.com](mailto:laluzmaui@gmail.com)  
808 214-0147



From: Sierra Club Maui Group  
PO Box 791180  
Haiku, HI 96779

To: State Land Use Commission

Re: Docket SP06-400 Pohakea Quarry (Maui)

Aloha Chair Scheuer, Commissioners and LUC staff

Sierra Club Maui authorized the following comments to be sent regarding the upcoming Pohakea Quarry request for 15 year extension for a Special Use Permit in the County State Agricultural District.

We ask the Commission to not approve any extension of this permit. The quarrying operation is within close proximity of Pohakea Stream Gulch. Sierra Club has received citizen complaints over the last 10 years that the quarry operations are potentially impacting Pohakea stream gulch, through gradual undercutting along the banks of the gulch.

It is important that the Commission recognize the cultural importance of the Pohakea Stream area.

- 1) Pohakea stream gulch is the traditional Moku boundary between the Lahaina and Wailuku moku.
- 2) Pohakea stream gulch was overlooked by Pu'u Hele, the kinolau of the mo'ō deity Hele. Pu'u hele was visited by many great ali'i chiefs over the centuries as one of the most sacred places in central Maui. It too was a moku boundary marker for Lahaina-Wailuku districts.
- 3) Pohakea stream gulch provides habitat at higher elevations to rare and endangered native flora and fauna. Sierra Club visits some of these areas as part of service trips with Maui Cultural Lands to Hana'ula ridge (the Keheawa windfarm site.) We understand first hand the biological and cultural importance of Pohakea stream gulch.
- 4) Pohakea stream gulch has more natural flows returning since the end of sugar cultivation in central Maui ,and its flows contribute to the health of Kealia Pond National Wildlife refuge.
- 5) Pohakea stream gulch vicinity is reported by knowledgeable kupuna to have the remains of important Hawaiian ceremonial sites marking the moku boundary. These sites are currently not thoroughly investigated and are likely viewed as simply "piles of rocks" to be processed.

For these reasons, the continuation of business as usual at the quarry should not be approved by the Commission. We believe that the Maui County Planning Department also expressed concerns in 2019 comments to the commission.

The project needs a complete, accurate and impartial boundary survey to determine exactly where future quarrying activities are planned and if there are sufficient buffer areas between the Pohakea Gulch and the quarry area, to avoid any impacts.

The Commission should also require that proof be provided that the site has been cleared of abandoned equipment and vehicles that pose a fire hazard in this extremely high fire risk area.

Better archaeological review, by archaeological firms trusted by the Aha Moku council of Wailuku, and in consultation with the Aha Moku council , should be done.

Mahalo for your consideration of our comments

Lucienne de Naie

Conservation Chair, Sierra Club Maui Group