

Dana Naone Hall
2087 Wells Street
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793
Telephone: (808) 244-9017
Email: idhall@maui.net
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Via Email

dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov.
Chairperson Jonathan Scheuer and
Members of the
Land Use Commission of the State of Hawaii
P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96814-2359

Re: Order to Show Cause and Reversion to Agriculture District
Items V. and VII. on the July 14 and 15, 2021 Agenda of the SLUC
Action – OSC; A 11-790 Kula Ridge, LLC (Maui)

Dear Chairperson Scheuer and Members of the Land Use Commission of the State of Hawaii:

Sometimes, not often, approved projects, which faced strong opposition over a long period of time, prove to be unfeasible and are withdrawn, without the need for acrimonious and expensive contested cases and appeals. The Kula Ridge project is on track to becoming one of these rare projects.

I support the Order to Show Cause for Docket No. A11-790 and the reversion to the Agriculture District of the project lands previously reclassified from the Agriculture District to the Urban and Rural Districts, pursuant to §15-15-93 of the Commission's Rules. The letter from Mr. Welch establishes that there has been a failure to perform a condition by the Petitioner. Mr. Welch states that the current owner does not wish to construct the project.

I actively opposed the proposed Kula Ridge project beginning in 2008 with the preparation of archaeological studies and environmental documents pursuant to Chapter 343 HRS. I was, and am still, concerned about the protection and preservation of the unique historic sites and complexes on the property. The plan to provide potable water for the project from a well located miles away in Makawao was always problematic. I opposed the approval of the project by the Land Use Commission as of February 21, 2012. The protection and preservation of the historic sites and complexes in situ on the property outweighs any of the purported public benefits that were alleged to accrue from the project.

I have held my breath ever since the approval of this project in the hope that this ill-advised project would never be implemented. As the facts have now developed, this hope can become an eventuality through the Order to Show Cause and reversion of the project lands to the Agriculture District, actions by the Commission that I strongly support.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dana Naone Hall

Dana Naone Hall

Cc: Isaac Hall (via email)
Thomas Welch (via email)