

Quinones, Natasha A

From: Hakoda, Riley K
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2021 10:25 AM
To: Quinones, Natasha A
Subject: FW: Testimony for 9/9 LUC Hearing on Item VIII Action SP21-412 Mahi Solar
Attachments: 09092021 LUC SUP 2020_SUP-7 Mahi Solar LLC.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

add

From: Alivado, Shannon <shannon.alivado@hawaiianelectric.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:18 AM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Cc: Hakoda, Riley K <riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for 9/9 LUC Hearing on Item VIII Action SP21-412 Mahi Solar

Aloha Chair Scheuer, Vice Chair Aczon and Members,

Please find Hawaiian Electric's written testimony providing comments for Agenda Item VIII Re Mahi Solar.

Please confirm receipt.

SHANNON ALIVADO
Director, Government Relations
O: (808) 543-4548
C: (808) 722-4153
shannon.alivado@hawaiianelectric.com

Hawaiian Electric
PO Box 2750, Honolulu, HI 96840



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, copying, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender immediately by reply e-mail and destroy the original message and all copies.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
STATE OF HAWAI'I LAND USE COMMISSION**

**Special Use Permit – 2020/SUP-7
Mahi Solar, LLC**

Thursday, September 9, 2021
9:00 a.m.
Zoom Webinar Virtual Meeting

Rebecca Dayhuff Matsushima
Director, Renewable Acquisition
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Aloha Chair Scheuer, Vice Chair Aczon and Members,

My name is Rebecca Dayhuff Matsushima, and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (“Hawaiian Electric”) with the following comments regarding the Mahi Solar, LLC (“Mahi Solar”) project, and its application for a Special Use Permit.

This project was selected through a competitive request for proposals process, resulting in a power purchase agreement (“PPA”) executed by Hawaiian Electric in September 2020. The PPA was approved by the State of Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission in December 2020. This renewable, dispatchable, solar plus energy storage project proactively incorporates compatible agricultural activities within the project area.

The current Mahi Solar project is a 120 MW solar facility paired with battery storage and is expected to generate enough renewable energy to serve roughly 37,000 homes.

As the Land Use Commission may be aware, the state's renewable portfolio standards ("RPS") law requires Hawaiian Electric to have an RPS of 40% by 2030, 70% by 2040, and 100% by 2045. The Mahi Solar project is vital to meeting those renewable energy goals as it is estimated to contribute an annual average of 4.14 percentage points toward Hawaiian Electric's RPS on O'ahu and 3.12 percentage point toward Hawaiian Electric's consolidated RPS through 2045. Timely approval of the Mahi Solar project is particularly important to help offset the power production that will be lost due to the required closing of the AES coal-fired plant in 2022.

In addition, the PPA is expected to provide numerous benefits to Hawaiian Electric's customers, including monthly bill savings, fixed pricing not subject to the volatility of fossil fuel prices, reduced fossil fuel consumption and fuel supply reliability risk, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and grid stabilizing services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Mahi Solar project.