

STATE OF HAWAII
LAND USE COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

House Conference Rooms 310 and 312
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Approved
12/2/77

July 14, 1977 - 9:30 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Stanley Sakahashi, Chairman
Charles Duke, Vice Chairman
James Carras
Colette Machado
Shinsei Miyasato
Shinichi Nakagawa
Mitsuo Oura
Carol Whitesell
Edward Yanai

STAFF PRESENT: Gordon Furutani, Executive Officer
Daniel Yasui, Planner
Michael Marsh, Deputy Attorney General
Dora Horikawa, Clerk Reporter

Ray Russell, Court Reporter

APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS

Chairman Sakahashi announced that he had appointed the following Commission members to the various boards and councils:

Commissioner Whitesell, member of the Policy Council of the State Plan

Vice Chairman Duke, member of the Coastal Management Policy Committee

Commissioner Nakagawa, member of the Council for the Housing and Construction Industry

FINAL DECISIONS ON PETITIONS

It was reported by Counselor Marsh that on the petitions by Makawao, Inc. (A77-429) and Paradise Hui Hanalike Association (A76-419), none of the parties had registered any objections and therefore it would be appropriate for him to issue final Decisions.

ACTION

SP77-265 - GEOTHERMAL EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Application for a Special Permit to allow the drilling of
exploratory geothermal wells at Opihikao, Puna, Hawaii

With the aid of the posted maps, Mr. Yasui oriented the Commission to the subject parcel under discussion and also presented a summary of the subject request.

Some of the concerns expressed by the Commissioners involved the question of the proximity of the residences in the area to the drilling site; the adverse effect of the release of steam to the residents; and the noise and sulphur dioxide levels resulting from the proposed use.

Mr. George Sheets, attorney representing the petitioner, provided the information that a preliminary report by Dr. Siegel and his wife had been published relative to the levels of lead mercury and impact of sulphur. It was admitted by Mr. Sheets that some portions of the State air quality standards had been exceeded; however, there were not excessive sulphur oxide, and that the operation was in compliance with most of the air quality standards,

In response to questions posed by the Commission, both Mr. Sheets and Mr. Douglas Craddick, Vice President of the corporation, furnished information concerning measures that will be instituted to deal with some of the adverse effects resulting from the drilling operation, and also offered basic information regarding details of the operation.

Commissioner Carras moved to approve the Special Permit, subject to the conditions imposed by the Hawaii County Planning Commission and the additional condition (recommended by Commissioner Whitesell) that petitioner shall be responsible for close monitoring of the environmental effects of the project under varying conditions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oura and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN

Commissioner Carras nominated Commissioner Duke for the position of Vice Chairman based on Commissioner Duke's participation in Commission matters and his confidence in Commissioner Duke's abilities.

Commissioner Machado nominated Commissioner Yanai because of his fair and just posture as evidenced by his past record and because he possessed the necessary ability to chair the meetings in the Chairman's absence.

Commissioner Nakagawa moved that the nominations be closed, which was seconded by Commissioner Oura and unani-
mously carried by voice vote.

It was generally agreed by the Commission members that election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman should be held in January of each year. It was also felt that the Commission should draw up rules and regulations regarding the operation of the Commission including the responsibilities of the Commission on various matters.

Chairman Sakahashi announced that Commissioner Duke had been elected as Vice Chairman by secret ballot.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.