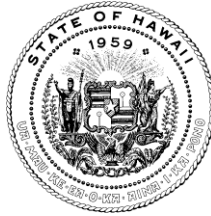


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DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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January 18, 2022

Ka'āina Hull, Director  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
Project No. 2019PR30597  
Doc. No. 2201DM01  
Archaeology

Riley Hakoda, Planner/Chief Clerk  
State Land Use Commission  
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Office of Planning and Sustainable Development  
235 Beretania Street #406  
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[Riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov](mailto:Riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov)



Dear Mr. Hull and Mr. Hakoda:

SUBJECT: **Chapter 6E-42 Historic Preservation Review  
State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission Special Use Permit SP17-408  
AES Lawa'i Solar and Storage Project  
Archaeological Monitoring Report  
Lāwa'i and Kōloa Ahupua'a, Kōloa District, Island of Kaua'i  
TMK: (4) 2-6-003:001 por.**

This letter provides the State Historic Preservation Division's (SHPD's) HRS 6E-42 review of the revised draft archaeological monitoring report (AMR) titled, *Archaeological Monitoring Report AES Lawa'i Solar and Storage Project, Lāwa'i and Kōloa Ahupua'a, Kōloa District, Island of Kaua'i TMK: (4) 2-6-003:001* (Harismendy et al., March 2021). Previously, SHPD reviewed and accepted an archaeological monitoring plan (Kamai et al. 2017) for the project in a letter dated February 9, 2018 (Log No. 2017.02615, Doc. No. 1801SH11). SHPD received the revised draft AMR on March 8, 2021 (Submission No. 2019PR30597.002).

Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc. (CSH) conducted archaeological monitoring for the project and prepared this AMR at the request of SHPD, and AES Distribution Energy and its affiliate AES Lawa'i Solar, LLC. The project involved constructing a 28 MW direct current (DC)/ 20 MW alternating current (AC) ground-mounted solar PV system, coupled with a 20 MW 5-hour (100 MWh) BESS, and related interconnection and ancillary facilities. The major components are Solar PV panels, BESS Containers, inverters and a project substation; these components occupy a total of 196 acres. Additionally, the project included two construction staging areas totaling approximately 14 acres. The total acreage of the project area is 221 acres. Ground disturbances included bulldozing, grading (foliage clearing and removal of modern rubbish), trenching for electrical installations and drainages associated with retention basin, mass excavations for retention basin, access road improvements, driving stanchions for solar panels, and building earthen platforms for the battery storage facilities.

The archaeological monitoring was conducted from October 2018 through February 2019. The AMR includes maps of the project area, summaries of historical land use and previous archaeological investigations conducted in the

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area, and the results of the archaeological monitoring. The results section indicates no historic properties were identified during the archaeological monitoring work. The report documented soil stratigraphy observed within the project area, photographs, drawn soil profiles, and a map showing the locations of the soil profiles. Additionally, the report provides 13 representative profiles indicating the general stratigraphy consists of 1 to 3 stratigraphic layers consistent with evidence of prior sugar plantation soil disturbances. Stratum I consisted of a modern A horizon of old forest debris intermixed with plantation developed (plow zone) A horizon. Stratum II and III consisted of an intact natural C horizon sediment.

The AMR report meets the requirements of HAR §13-279-5. **It is accepted.** Please send two hard copies of this document clearly marked FINAL, along with a text-searchable pdf copy of the report and a copy of this letter to the Kapolei SHPD office, attention SHPD Library. Please also submit a text-searchable pdf copy of the Final AMR to HICRIS Project No. 2019PR30597 using the Project Supplement option and a copy to [lehua.k.soares@hawaii.gov](mailto:lehua.k.soares@hawaii.gov).

**SHPD hereby notifies the County** that this archaeological monitoring report is accepted and that pursuant to HAR §13-284-9(c) and HAR §13-284-10(3), the work described within the archaeological monitoring plan has been successfully concluded and documented in the archaeological monitoring report. The HRS 6E historic preservation review process is now concluded for this project.

Please contact Deidra Moore, Oahu Archaeologist, at [deidra.moore@hawaii.gov](mailto:deidra.moore@hawaii.gov) for matters regarding archaeological resources or this letter.

Aloha, *Alan Downer*

Alan S. Downer, PhD  
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: William Folk, Cultural Surveys Hawai'i Inc., [wfolk@culturalsurveys.com](mailto:wfolk@culturalsurveys.com)  
Cameron Haughey, AES Corporation, [Cameron.haughey@aes.com](mailto:Cameron.haughey@aes.com)