

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI  
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
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January 22, 2018

Ms. Suzanne Case, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 2359  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Re: Designation of Kekaha lands as Important Agricultural Lands by petition

Dear Chairperson Case:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation ("ADC") manages and controls approximately 5,000 acres of agricultural lands on the Mana plain in Kekaha on Island of Kauai under Executive Order 4007. The Kekaha Agriculture Association is an agricultural cooperative association organized under Chapter 421, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and is ADC's agricultural infrastructure licensee and operator ("KAA"). The KAA has requested that it be allowed to petition the Land Use Commission ("LUC") for a declaratory order to designate some of the Kekaha lands as important agricultural lands ("IAL"). Although certification of incentives expired last month, bills are already before the legislature to extend the incentives.

We intend to present this request to the ADC board of directors; however, we have informed the KAA that the Board of Land and Natural Resources has jurisdiction over matters that affect the fee simple interest in these lands. Accordingly, we ask that you consider allowing the KAA to petition the LUC for IAL designation. Attached is an overview of the benefits to be derived from IAL designation, prepared on behalf of the KAA.

We look forward to working with the DLNR in this novel approach to designating state lands as IALs. Please contact Myra Kaichi, 586-0186, of our office with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

James J. Nakatani  
Executive Director

c: Ian Hirokawa, DLNR  
Joshua Uyehara, KAA