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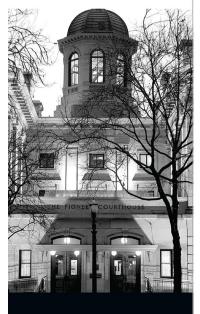
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STATE OF HAWAII

LAND USE COMMISSION

Hearing held on January 5, 2022

Commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Held via Zoom by Interactive Conference Technology

I. CALL TO ORDER

II.ADOPTION OF MINUTES

December 22-23, 2021 Minutes

III. Tentative Meeting Schedule

IV. PRESENTATION - OPSD STATE SUSTAINABILITY

COORDINATOR

Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan

V. RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

BEFORE:

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Happy New Year.

Today -- this is the January 5th, 2022

Land Use Commission Meeting, which is being held

using interactive conference technology linking

videoconference participants and members of the

public who are interested via the Zoom internet

conferencing program.

We're doing this, of course, to comply with ongoing state and county official operational directives during this still ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

For all meeting participants, I'd just like to urge you to speak slowly, clearly, and identify yourself prior to speaking for the record. Please be aware that this Zoom meeting is being recorded, and your continued participation is your implied consent to be recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded, you should exit the meeting now.

The Zoom technology allows the parties and each participating commissioner individual remote access to the meeting via our own personal digital devices.

Because of that, and often due to matters entirely outside of our control, occasional disruptions to connectivity may occur for one or

1 more participants of the meeting at any given time.

If this happens, please let us know.

Please be patient with us as we try to restore audiovisual signals, so that we can continue to conduct our work during the pandemic.

The members of the public who wish to testify during the public witness portion of any of the agenda items on today's agenda, and if you are accessing this meeting by phone, you can use the star sequence -- the key sequence star 9 to virtually raise your hand and star 6 to request to be unmuted. If you are accessing this meeting, however, via Zoom software, you just use the raise your hand function.

We will take breaks from time to time, approximately ten minutes every hour.

My name is Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, and I have the honor and pleasure of serving as the LUC Chair. We currently have eight seated commissioners of a possible nine. Along with me, Commissioner Dawn Chang, Commissioner Gary Okuda, Commissioner Edmund Aczon, Commissioner -- not commissioner. We wouldn't do that to him. Our Executive Officer Daniel Orodenker, our Chief Planner, Scott Derrickson, our Staff Planner, Riley Hakoda, our

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Chief Clerk, Natasha Quinones, our Deputy Attorney
 1
 2
   General, Dan Morris are all on the island of Oahu.
 3
             Commissioner Nancy Cabral is holding it up
   on Hawaii Island in Hilo. Is there even sun in Hilo
 5
   today, Nancy?
 6
             COMMISSIONER CABRAL: (Nods head
 7
   affirmatively.)
 8
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                Yay.
 9
             Commissioner Lee Ohigashi is on the island
10
   of Maui, and Commissioner Daniel Giovanni is on the
11
   island of Kauai. Commissioner Wong, of Oahu, is
   excused for today's meeting.
12
13
             Court transcriptions are being done from
   the Zoom recording.
14
15
             Our first order of business is to adopt
   the December 22nd and 23rd, 2021 minutes.
16
17
             Ms. Quinones, has there been any written
18
   testimony submitted on adoption of the minutes?
19
             MS. QUINONES:
                            Hello, Chair.
   morning. This is Natasha. No testimony has been
21
   received on the minutes.
22
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Okay. Is there anyone
23
   in the public who wishes to testify? And this is
24
   exclusively related to adoption of the minutes.
25
             I'm going to note for any members of the
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public who are particularly interested in the
 1
   important agricultural lands agenda item that is on
 3
   this agenda but on tomorrow's agenda. We will not
   be talking about IAL today. We will be talking
 5
   about the Oahu IAL issue tomorrow.
 6
             Right now, we're just talking about
 7
   adoption of the minutes. Is there anybody who's in
 8
   the audience who wishes to testify on adoption of
   the minutes? If so, either press star 9 if you're
10
   dialing in or use the raise your hand function.
11
             Seeing none, members, any comments or
12
   corrections?
13
             Commissioner Okuda?
14
             COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15
   When a vote is taken, may it be recorded that I
   abstain from December 22 because I was not present,
16
   but I will be voting in favor on December 23. Thank
17
18
   you.
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you.
19
             Commissioner Cabral?
20
21
             COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I'd like to make a
22
   motion to adopt the minutes as presented.
23
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                Is there a second?
24
             COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI:
                                      Second.
25
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Motion has been made
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for adoption by Commissioner Cabral and seconded by
 1
   Commissioner Ohigashi. Any discussion? Seeing
 3
   none, Mr. Orodenker, would you please poll the
   Commission?
 5
             MR. ORODENKER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
 6
   motion is to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Wong
 7
   is excused.
             Commissioner Okuda?
 8
 9
             COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Abstain on December
10
   22nd. Aye in favor of December 23rd.
11
             MR. ORODENKER: Okay. So noted.
             Commissioner Aczon?
12
13
             COMMISSIONER ACZON: Abstain.
             MR ORODENKER: Commissioner Cabral?
14
15
             COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes.
16
             MR. ORODENKER: Commissioner Chang?
17
             COMMISSIONER CHANG:
                                  Aye.
18
             MR. ORODENKER: Commissioner Giovanni?
19
             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Aye.
             MR. ORODENKER: Commissioner Ohigashi?
20
21
             COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Aye.
22
             MR. ORODENKER: Chair Scheuer?
23
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Aye.
24
             MR. ORODENKER: Thank you, Chair. Motion
   passes with six affirmative votes.
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That matter is also scheduled for February
 1
   Basin.
 2
   17th.
 3
             On March 9th, we -- we will be taking up
   the matter of TR21-72. Thursday, March 10th is
 5
   tentatively scheduled for either the Oahu IAL matter
 6
   or DR21-75, which is the Kaukonahua Ranch matter.
 7
             And I should note for the commissioners
 8
   that coming March, our meetings may be in a hybrid
   format where we have a location for the public and
10
   any commissioners who would like to attend as well
   by Zoom.
11
             March 23rd, we will be taking up A87-610,
12
13
   which is the KS Waiawa Solar Farm matter. And on
14
   March 24th, we will be taking up the Kanaha Hotel
15
   FEIS acceptance.
16
             On April 30th, we also have scheduled --
17
   April 13th, I'm sorry, we also have scheduled the
18
   Waiawa Solar Farm matter as well as April 14th.
19
   April 27th, we have the KAA IAL matter tentatively
20
   scheduled, and the 28th this (indiscernible) reopen.
21
   And that takes us through our April, Mr. Chair.
22
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you very much,
23
   Dan.
24
             Commissioners, are there --
25
             MR. ORODENKER:
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Oh --

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If so, please raise your hand using the raise your
 1
   hand function. Seeing none, we're going to
 3
   recognize Maryalice Evans, the Director of OPSD, and
   Danielle Bass, the Sustainability Coordinator.
 4
 5
             Who's going to go first? Maryalice?
 6
             MS. EVANS:
                          I'm going to introduce
 7
   Danielle, who probably needs no introduction to you.
 8
   She's our state Sustainability Coordinator, and she
   will be making a presentation to you on a matter
10
   that I think is very dear to your hearts as well,
   and that is the sustainability of our state.
11
             So go ahead, Danielle.
12
13
             MS. BASS:
                        Good morning. Happy New Year
   to everyone and the participants here. Thank you
14
15
   for offering me this opportunity to present the
16
   Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.
17
             My name is Danielle Maleaka Kai (phonetic)
18
   Bass, and I hail from the ahupua'a of waipana
19
   Wahiawa, Oahu, in the community of Mililani, so it's
20
   a pleasure to be here.
21
             I'm going to go ahead and share my screen.
22
   Okay. Can everyone see my presentation?
23
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Right now, we're seeing
24
   the presenter's view.
25
             MS. BASS: Oh, okay. Thank you.
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1
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: So you have to flip
 2
   screens.
 3
             MS. BASS: Sorry about that. Presenter
 4
   view, is that it?
 5
             COMMISSIOENR SCHEUER: There we go.
 6
   we've got it.
 7
             MS. BASS: Okay. Thank you so much.
 8
             So just wanted to let the commissioners
   know that after some consultation with the director,
10
   and out of tremendous respect to the charge and
11
   mission of the Land Use Commission, we decided to
   provide a very in-depth, comprehensive presentation
12
13
   of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, far more
   extensive than previous presentations in other
14
   venues. So we hope that this will provide much
15
16
   information to you all.
17
             And I will go ahead. So again, my name is
18
   Danielle Bass, the state Sustainability Coordinator
19
   of the Statewide Sustainability Branch in the State
20
   of Hawaii's Office of Planning and Sustainable
21
   Development.
22
             This is a relatively new position. I've
   served in this position since 2017 and during its
23
24
   creation. And we're going to go in and provide a
25
   bit of the different -- the adjustments and new
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support of the Hawaii State Legislature and the

25

governor of the State of Hawaii.

Not only was our office renamed as the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, but we also are charged to provide information to not only the governor but the legislature and the state and county agencies.

Specifically, our roles and responsibilities were expanded to provide sea level rise adaptation coordination, climate adaptation and sustainability planning and coordination, as well as environmental review.

You will see that, predominantly, our state Coastal Zone Management Program will be the lead entity for sea level rise adaptation coordination, and the development of the Statewide Sustainability Branch will work on other climate adaptive matters as well as sustainability matters for the state.

The environmental review will remain with the former OEQC staff, now renamed as the Environmental Review Program within the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

To provide a quick overview of the newly established Statewide Sustainability Branch, again, this was established just two years ago, and we've

been hitting the ground running.

This branch is currently staffed by myself; however, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development will be going in this legislative session with a budget request to --we're requesting for a sustainability land use planner as well as various sustainability and climate adaptation specialists to help support this branch in addition to a greenhouse gas sequestration specialist to also provide support to our state Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force, which is attached to our office and staffed by the Statewide Sustainability Branch.

So to provide a quick overview, this branch is tasked to develop, organize, promote policies and programs to assist Hawaii's -- to assist the meeting of Hawaii's numerous sustainability and climate policies and goals -- we'll be explaining that a little bit later in the presentation -- as well as identify, evaluate, and make recommendations regarding proposed legislation, regulatory changes, and policy modifications of the state of Hawaii and other bodies, for the purpose of encouraging activities that best sustain, protect, and enhance the quality of the environment, our

economy, and the community, for the present and future benefit of the people of Hawaii.

So going into the Hawaii 2050

Sustainability Plan, I'm going to explain to you the update process that we conducted at the Statewide

Sustainability Branch as well as the public outreach.

So first and foremost, why did we update the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan? There is a legal mandate pursuant to Act 146 of 2019, which is now codified as Part II in the Implementation Part of the Hawaii State Planning Act as Hawaii Revised Statute Section 226-65.

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is now codified to serve as the State's climate and sustainability strategic action plan to determine future actions and guiding the coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability and climate adaptation goals.

This plan will be updated every ten years. So with respect to this plan we just published. In June of 2021, the plan will serve from 2021 to 2030. The Statewide Sustainability Branch fully intends to update said plan pursuant to this law, at the end of this decade in preparation for the next decade of

2030 to 2040.

I'm just highlighting some of these charges. Now, going into the update process, when we were planning for the 2020-2030 Decade of Action, we knew at the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development that there were multiple expectations of us in the revision and update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

First and foremost, we needed to provide an extensive legal review of Hawaii's laws and plans as they relate to sustainability, our various climate mandates, and state agency and county plans statewide.

We knew we needed to provide extensive public outreach to try to match the 2008 public outreach of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. And we knew we needed to coordinate extensively with stakeholders to help us determine future actions for the state of Hawaii and identify gaps and recommend future actions to achieve within these next eight years in this decade, by 2030.

So I'm proud to report to you that we were able to review over 150 laws, policies, plans, and strategies. We conducted -- by the way, when I mention "we," I want to explicitly highlight the

tremendous support we had from ICF, a climate planning firm that is nationally recognized and also positioned here in the state of Hawaii.

This royal "we" I talk about, again, the Statewide Sustainability Branch is only staffed by one employee, myself, and so I couldn't have done this without the excellency of ICF to conduct this extensive community outreach.

So we conducted public surveys as well as provided nine virtual public outreach sessions during the Covid pandemic, which yielded over 800 public participants including 230 participating organizations and agencies.

During the review and coordination with our stakeholders, we distributed two drafts and provided two-week reviews per draft as well as five public presentations in the review of this, which actually yielded over 65 state and county reviewing agencies to provide us with that proper feedback for this comprehensive strategic action plan.

All to summarize that we were able to identify eight focus areas, highlight 17 case studies entitled "The Sustaining Hawaii Series," which highlights the resilience, sustainability, and economic challenges the state of Hawaii has

experienced when we discuss sustainability and 1 climate resilience as a state. 2 3 We identified 38 strategies to take on during this Decade of Action by 2030, as well as 5 over 250 recommended actions, all in a readable 117 pages. This is available by pdf online at 7 https://hawaii2050.hawaii.gov. We also have an interactive version with the same url, 8 https://hawaii2050.hawaii.gov/interactive. That's 10 the much more fun-looking and interactive version 11 for the public to take a look at. 12 So when we talk about our framework and 13 our product of the Hawaii 2050 plan, we knew that this isn't the state of Hawaii's first crack at 14 15 sustainability but more of an opportunity to align 16 multiple efforts. 17 First and foremost, the United Nation --United Nations has adopted 17 sustainable 18 19 development goals for this Decade of Action, to be 20 achieved by 2030. So we found this United Nations 21 Sustainable Development Goals framework to be a 22 common and wonderful framework for our plan to also 23 align with. 24 When we -- after using that 17 United

Nations Sustainable Development Goals framework, we

25

aligned various -- those 150 state laws, state

plans, county climate and sustainability plans, the

Aloha Plus Challenge, which is our voluntary

sustainability initiative as a state, as well as the

Sustainable Hawaii Initiative led by Governor Ige,

all to provide this result of Hawaii 2050 for this

decade.

When I've discussed the extensive

Stakeholder Coordination and Collaborative Public

Outreach, I just wanted to mahalo and list all of
the entities that helped us in this extensive

collaborative public outreach that our branch was
able to conduct.

Without the manoa and the (spoke Hawaiian) provided from these organizations, we wouldn't have the robust plan that we have, so I just wanted to provide a quick mahalo to these organizations and state, federal, and county agencies.

Also, when I discussed that we had collaborative work with over 65 state and county agencies, again, I want to mahalo all of these agencies throughout the state of Hawaii and throughout all of our counties for also pitching in, in this kakou effort to update the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan for this decade.

Since publication on June 2021 the

Statewide Sustainability Branch has met extensively
with our policy makers, state agencies, county
agencies, and has tried to provide as much public
outreach as possible, considering the capacity and
the staffing of this branch.

So we were able to present to multiple entities, organizations, task forces and commissions, including yours, as well as we were able to work with our many state agencies and county agencies that assisted us. Policy makers have been very interested in the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, and we've met with them over the interim in 2021 regarding the potential drafting of legislation.

So we do know and we are aware that the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan will be sited in the preambles of various bills this coming year.

And also, I really want to mahalo our media partners listed here. If it wasn't for them - again, this is a one-man branch, so you know, it's really that laulima concept of many hands make light work, so I just wanted to thank everyone for the -- to help provide the extensive community public outreach for our branch here.

Now, going into the recommendations of the
Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. I wanted to share
with you commissioners that this is going -- the
screen you see here is the first publication and
consolidation of all of our legal and statutory
sustainability and climate targets.

You're going to start seeing these statutory targets through -- codified from our policy makers and partners at the legislature where we need to achieve a sustainable outcome by a certain year. So what we were able to do through the development of this plan is we were able to actually collect all of this information in an easy two-page spread that is also available in our interactive website

Hawaii2050.hawaii.gov/interactive.

So if you want to know what we need to achieve by when, I strongly suggest you take a look at this. These are our guiding legal and statutory sustainability and climate targets that we need to achieve.

And there are quite a few that we need to achieve by 2030, in the next eight years, which include a statewide energy efficiency portfolio standard, doubling food production, our RPS that the

public is very much aware of, a clean transportation
goal for the state fleet to transition to zero
emission vehicles, local farm-to-school meal goals
of 30 percent by 2030 in all of our schools
statewide, as well as statewide departmental
procurement benchmarks for state departments to
procure locally produced food.

So when we looked at these various laws and the initiatives from many of our counterparts and partners across the state, we note -- and during this Covid-19 pandemic, we wanted to really highlight and elevate eight focus areas, simple eight focus areas recommended for this Decade of Action.

We know with climate change that we have global warming accelerating. We know that we need to become more resilient and adaptive, and we know we need to be a much more sustainable and vibrant economy here in Hawaii.

So we wanted to redirect and show these eight focus areas from the feedback we received from those 850 participants statewide to, first and foremost, promote a sustainable economic recovery through strategies including supporting local agriculture, green workforce development, and

regenerative and sustainable tourism.

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These are very common areas that we've heard throughout the media, throughout the public that this is what they want to see, and this is what they very much clearly communicated to our branch and the update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Also important, we need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. Not only do we have state targets and laws to meet those emission reduction standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but we've also identified other strategies through energy, transportation, and waste sectors to help direct us there. We also know that through the changing climate, we are seeing many changes in Hawaii's climate relating to heat issues and even sea level rise adaptive measures, wild fires, and drought. So we need to improve our climate resilience for the state of Hawaii by continuing to monitor and adapt to these climate impacts, by taking actions to increase the resilience of the natural and built environments and their occupants.

So in this focus area, we've identified multiple strategies to get us there. We also want to help direct the state to advance sustainable

communities to improve land use and access to green space, advance sustainable practices in our schools, and encourage sustainable buildings and infrastructures.

2.0

And while we're doing this, we need to continue to advance equity to ensure equitable access to our resources and address the affordable housing and homelessness crisis that our state faces We will not have a sustainable Hawaii if it's not affordable. We will not be a thriving sustainable state if it is not affordable for our own residents.

And we want to also improve gender equity. This is something we heard during the Covid-19 pandemic where there were many inequities found between the genders where many women had to not only provide workforce support but also childcare when their own children were not able to go to their schools. So we really need to continue to accelerate the improvement of our gender equity in the state of Hawaii.

I will always be a proponent for institutionalizing sustainability throughout our government as the state's Sustainability Coordinator to increase our government's capacity through institutionalized collaboration to address

sustainability and greening our government operations. So we need to walk the walk as we're talking this talk.

And while we're doing that, we need to also preserve this natural environment to include a focus on clean water, marine resources, and ecosystems and our natural resource protection.

Hawaii is a very special and unique place. That is why we all live here and we want to continue to live here and sustain. And by doing so, we will -- we can achieve that by preserving our natural environment and ensuring that we have clean water, which is becoming much of an issue right now, as many of you are aware.

Finally, we need to perpetuate our traditional ecological knowledge and values throughout the state as we tackle sustainability and climate challenges, which is a kakou effort.

So now that we've given an overview of these eight focus areas, let's dive a little deeper into the strategies to achieve these focus areas.

So in terms of the focus area to promote a sustainable economic recovery, as I discussed, a lot -- this does focus a lot on our -- the advancement and development and expansion of our agricultural

economy. We want to promote our farmer livelihood, support local markets and locally grown food, and promote sustainable, resilient farmland, practices, and infrastructure.

Not only do we want to focus on our agricultural economy, but we want to also invest in a green workforce development, beginning with our youth.

Now, a green workforce not only pertains to our conservation workforce, but it also expands to energy sectors, jobs like my own, and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, jobs that you're doing, commissioners, and the Land Use Commission staff are doing, jobs that our farmers are doing and the DOA is doing.

So we really want to look at this green workforce development, really, in an expansive opportunity for a way to redesign our operations and redesign our buildings and our infrastructure, transitioning from gray to green infrastructure.

We know that we need to foster development and jobs that sustains our families financially, support the diversification of our economy while reducing the environmental footprints of our tourism industry and support our native Hawaiian culture,

and reduce the impact of the tourism industry in our own local communities. We heard a lot about that in

2020 during our community outreach.

Other strategies for focus areas to reduce our greenhouse gas emission range from measure, manage, and plan for greenhouse gas emission reductions. For instance, the Department of Health Clean Air Branch always provides an annual report to measure our greenhouse gas emission inventory. So we know our emissions in the state of Hawaii, and now it's just a matter of bringing those emissions down. So we can do that by continuing to measure and manage and plan.

One recommended strategy we can do through this is actually look at our 2020 emissions and acknowledge that we have a 2045 zero-emissions clean economy target. And when I mentioned planning, we need to plan that gap from our 2020 emissions down to that zero-emissions mandate by 2045.

We can do this by incorporating climate change planning into decision-making processes, including your own at the Land Use Commission. And promote energy conservation and efficiency through our outreach communication and community public engagement while continuing to invest in the

deployment of clean energy technologies to reduce the reliance on our fossil fuels.

Of course, the state is beginning to expand the adoption of the zero emission vehicles through the recent purchase of our zero-emission fleet. And we know that other counties like the county of Hawaii are beginning to expand into hydrogen zero-emission vehicles.

We want to promote alternative modes of transportation and reduce the generation of waste, including plastic waste, while increasing the diversion of waste through recycling, reuse, and composting.

Moving on to the focus area to improve our climate resilience. We've identified multiple strategies here to integrate climate change adaptation and resilience considerations into planning and implementation. And we can do that through partnerships with the Land Use Commission when we are making -- when we are -- when our state is making those decision, we can start integrating those climate adaptive and resilience strategies.

Most importantly, as you are well aware, the Land Use Commission has adopted various rules to incorporate climate adaptation in just the review

that your agency is conducting.

Other strategies are to assess and communicate those impacts of climate change to our residents, businesses, and communities most likely impacted, so that we can identify those vulnerable communities and make sure that we are doing the best we can as government officials to ensure that those vulnerable communities are becoming resilient, and we acknowledge their potential impact.

We need to implement actions that improve our state's resilience through climate change. This is through opportunities to invest in stronger hurricane shelters, to just strengthen our hurricane shelters to category 5 hurricane levels and increase the resilience of vulnerable populations to the impacts of climate change and other shocks and stressors.

When we're thinking about these vulnerable communities like Hana, like Waimea, like Haena, and various land -- and the landslides that our state assets like these -- our beautiful maunas are doing when they have these landslides and cut off the access points for --

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Danielle, one moment.

MS. BASS: Yes.



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CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Dan, you have your hand
 1
 2
   raised.
            Oh, you do.
 3
             MR. ORODENKER: I'm sorry, Chair. I don't
 4
   know how that happened. I haven't touched my
 5
   computer.
 6
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                Okay.
 7
             Sorry, Danielle.
 8
             MS. BASS: No problem.
 9
             I'll try to speed up here.
10
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: I don't think it was a
11
             I think it was just -- I don't know what
   comment.
            Okay. Please continue.
12
   it was.
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             MS. BASS: Okay. Moving into focus area
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   of advancing our sustainable communities. This is
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   specifically to look at the urban and built
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   environment. Again, the Office of Planning of
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   Sustainable Development has been very strong in
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   pushing, and with the partnership of our county
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   planning departments, we really want to advance more
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   growth initiatives and multimodal transportation
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   efforts and systems. You can see that they're the
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   TOD Council and other various initiatives led and
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   co-led by the Office of Planning and Sustainable
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   Development.
25
             We also want to continue to advance
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I say this because by 2035, all of our state schools, all public schools in the state of Hawaii, as well as the entire University of Hawaii system, all campuses need to be net zero. That is one of those sustainability statutory and legal mandates pursuant to law.

So when we're thinking about, you know, opportunities to build new or retrofit our buildings, we really need to start advancing more energy efficiencies, clean renewable energies, and also put in a small caveat of water reclamation while we're thinking of this, because there are these mandates that we need to be net zero in energy by 2035.

And all of our state and county buildings need to be recycling its water, with the exception of potable and drinkable water, by the year 2045, so only ten years after that.

So when we're thinking about these opportunities of building and development and expansion of our -- of these buildings and the footprints of these buildings, we really need to find opportunities to drive our carbon emissions and our water consumption down while we're doing this,

through smart investments of energy efficiency, 1 clean and renewable energy, and water reclamation. 3 And we can do this by integrating sustainable design principles into these new and existing buildings. 4 5 Moving on to the focus area to advance our 6 equity. 2020 was a very challenging year due to 7 Covid-19, and we knew -- as the state of Hawaii, we heard loud and clear that we need to strengthen our 8 broadband access to support digital learning and online solutions, especially for our rural areas. 10 11 That connectivity, we need to make sure 12 everybody has equal access to be -- to the internet, 13 to Zoom, so that they can participate through government operations such as this, this hearing. 14 15 And so we want to definitely support and strengthen 16 broadband access and a landing site for our state. 17 We need to continue to improve the 18 economic and social sustainability of individuals through access to affordable housing. I said it 19 20 once; I'll say it again. A sustainable Hawaii 21 includes an affordable Hawaii. If we cannot, as 22 residents, afford to live in the state of Hawaii, 23 then we have not achieved the basic needs of 24 sustaining our lives here. We will be moving. 25 so that does not help us to achieve the sustainable

Hawaii that we all envision.

We need to continue to implement strategies that reduce homelessness in Hawaii, to advance livelihoods, and advance opportunities for all regardless of gender.

Going on to institutionalizing sustainability as a focus area. We need to invest in staff and other resources to coordinate and advance sustainability goals across the state and local governments.

As I've mentioned to you, Commissioners, the Statewide Sustainability Branch is currently staffed by one employee, and that is me. So when you think of the charge of the Statewide Sustainability Branch, we do need to invest in more than one employee to sustain the Sustainability Branch, if you will.

And we need to also ensure that we are investing in our county governments as well, so that those respective sustainability and climate agencies are also well sustained beyond the one and two employees that they may have, to advance these initiatives throughout our governments.

We need to update our state policies to reflect sustainability and climate change

priorities. Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, I, with the support of our Director, Maryalice Evans, we have been doing that for the last five years since in 2017, where we have been strong supporters to update our state policies inclusive of the Hawaii State Planning Act, to pivot to become and reflect the sustainability and climate change priorities and values that we of the state have.

And we need to continue to incorporate sustainability into our government operations.

Another focus area, to preserve our natural environment. Of course, it improves -- one strategy is to improve water quality through reduced pollution and dumping.

We really see this through big rain events and Kona lows right now when there is just an excess of water during these La Nina time periods where we have that excessive water, and you start seeing more mixture of pollution and various dumping in these water systems. And of course, the just knowing our ahupua'a of values, that that will go out into the ocean, so we need to continue to strive and reduce those pollution efforts and dumping, to preserve and protect our water quality throughout the state.

We need to support water reuse strategies as a state to conserve our water. I did mention that through La Nina events, we do have -- during the winter seasons, we do have these massive precipitation events, inclusive of the Kona low, and what we've seen the last few weeks in the various islands.

However, during La Nina events, we also see major drought during our summertime, which leads to wildfire. And we are seeing that in our other islands, specifically the Big Island and Maui. So opportunities to reuse our water and strategies to conserve our water are imminent for this Decade of Action.

We need to establish policies to protect our unique marine ecosystems as well as manage climate change impacts to our marine resources.

There are strategies listed in the Oahu -- or excuse me, the Ocean Resource Management Plan that can help us achieve that as well.

We c can also protect and manage our watersheds. DLNR is doing a fantastic job with partners like Kupu and the Watershed Partnership Program, so we need to continue to put our resources there and possibly even look at Greenpeace to start

financially supporting our watershed management.

And we need to continue to adopt strategies that protect land-based natural resources. Again, when we're thinking about why we live here in Hawaii and why people visit Hawaii, it is because of our beautiful natural system and our natural environment, these land-based natural resources, our water, our beautiful maunas. We need to preserve and protect them and adopt strategies to protect them as well.

And we need to continue to conserve working forest landscapes, protect our forests from harm, and enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Finally, the last focus area, it's very, very -- you know, to me, this is, of course -- this is to perpetuate our traditional and ecological knowledge and values.

We need to ground our climate and sustainability strategies in our cultural foundations. We need to remember -- you know, for those of us who are not indigenous of this land, we need to remember that this land has been sustainable once before prior to development through the ahupua'a systems, through our natural resources, and

we need to continue.

As we continue to advance and build our urban cores and build communities that we need to ground these values through -- ground our climate and sustainability strategies in our cultural foundation and perpetuate the TEK and the values of the Hawaiian culture.

Okay. So transitioning into specific land use recommended actions. That overview I provided to you of the 38 strategies and the 8 focus areas includes over 262 specific recommended actions, so it's very in-depth.

And as I was reviewing the plan to provide this presentation to you, Commissioners, I identified at least 80 recommended actions for you to consider. So I'm not going to list them line by line, but I was able to identify the specific strategies and the corresponding action identified Now, again, this goes to the general values that I discussed earlier. To continue to support and expand our agricultural economy and provide more agricultural planning and investment to meet our local food security targets, again, the state of Hawaii is charged to double local food production by 2030. So through these agricultural and economic

values, these are strategies that we can achieve.

Sustainable crop management practices, sustainable irrigation practices can provide environmental services and co-benefits to protect against soil degradation, providing our greenhouse sequestration, which our state is also tasked to achieve, and increase biodiversity in our soil fertility to maintain economic production of crops and animal protein to meet these doubling food production targets, and to continue to support lo'i farming to enhance our local foods productivity and growth to protect Hawaii's environment.

Also, we need to ensure the consistency of funding for agricultural infrastructure improvements, operations, and maintenance, as well as the purchase of fee interests for available prime agricultural lands before they are subject to non-agricultural development.

So you can see there are very specific actions we can take as a state to help get us to these strategies and focus areas.

Moving on to some more specific land use recommended actions. When we're thinking about our tourism economy as well as our general economy, there are opportunities where we can grow our

priority sectors in healthcare, technology, and skilled trades, to expand skilled trades to include sustainable agricultural opportunities, manufacturing sustainable development buildings and construction.

So to really just expand these vocations as we pivot towards that more sustainable outcome we plan to achieve, we need to have more investments in these vocations that we can ensure that we are recycling water and we can ensure that we are meeting our state goal to close -- to eliminate all cesspools by the year 2050. That's about 88,000 cesspools statewide that we need to eliminate.

So there are opportunities -- when we look at these big sustainability and climate targets, there are opportunities to invest in our vocational training to expand those economic opportunities as well.

In terms of our tourism industry, we can continue to protect and enhance the recognition of Hawaii as a green destination by mitigating tourism from a community standpoint in the destination management planning and process statewide to promote Hawaii's sustainability, natural resources, local agricultural, and climate resilience through

Hawaii's tourism, marketing, and branding. And this will contribute to the regeneration of Hawaii's natural beauty, resources, and culture.

When we think about sea level rise adaptation, again, we are islands in the middle of the Pacific. As an archipelago, we need to begin to provide a framework for a comprehensive sea level adaptation resilience plan.

Again -- specifically, for the Waikiki Special District area, that is something that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development is very excited to participate in and looks forward to future conversations, especially with the legislature, on this matter.

Not only do we want to focus on the Waikiki Special District, but we need to look at the entire state as a whole through those managed retreat opportunities. Again, our partners in the Coastal Zone Management Program have published a preliminary report on feasibility of managed retreat in the state of Hawaii.

I encourage you to go to the Office of
Planning and Sustainable Development's website to
take a look at that report, and we want to continue
that investigation and what does it take to -- when

we consider these managed retreat opportunities.

Additionally, as I mentioned before, we want to develop a Climate Action Plan. Now, that's to drive the greenhouse gas emissions down. When I say Climate Action Plan, that is a mitigation plan.

We have our current emission levels measured at 2020, and we have met those levels.

Pursuant to law, we have met the requirement of our 1990 emissions, and that is a wonderful success the state of Hawaii has achieved in the year 2020.

However, we have a state mandate to drive those emissions down to a zero-emissions clean economy target by 2045. So this is a wonderful opportunity to plan between that 2020 measurement to 2045 as how the state of Hawaii can get to that 2045 law. And once we plan it, we can follow up and follow through with the respective actions to get us there.

Going into more specific land use recommendations. We need to establish short- and long-term benchmarks to indicate how effectively agricultural and aquacultural activities can help us reach that state zero-emissions clean economy target by 2045 and explore establishing net zero greenhouse gas emission goals for all projects, including

public and infrastructure products to help us meet Hawaii's zero-emissions clean economy target.

This is a large target that we need to achieve by 2045, and so looking into opportunities to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions through all projects and find measurable benchmarks along the way, as well as that climate action plan I talked about will, again, help us get there. There are measurements and installments to get to 2045.

We can screen projects over a particular size for impact on climate change mitigation or the achievement of other sustainability goals and targets such as the ones I've listed in this plan.

Of course, thanks to the work of the Land Use Commission, we need to continue to give consideration to climate change planning in our land use planning. We thank you for that leadership to the Land Use Commission, and I want to just echo that leadership through all of our planning agencies statewide.

We need to, of course, increase solar battery -- solar and storage battery projects throughout the state. This will help us get down our greenhouse gas emissions as well as increase statewide rooftop photovoltaic installations when

we're considering new developments or redevelopments and encourage to expand that zero-emissions vehicle charging in public areas, commercial areas, workplaces, households, and apartment dwellings.

When we're starting to see a lot more zero-emission cleaning -- zero-emissions vehicle targets percolate in our statutes, and so we need to also build the infrastructure to encourage our public and encourage our consumers to use those technologies by building charging infrastructure as well as hydrogen charging stations.

Going into more specific land use recommendations. We've talked a lot about improving access to energy efficiency, renewable energy, and zero-emissions vehicle charging stations also to our rental units and our condos, implement those expanding infrastructure for ZEVs, zero-emission vehicles, to include that energy storage and increasing the availability of electric charging and hydrogen fueling stations.

I keep brining up hydrogen because while we in Oahu may be very interested in electric charging, there are counties within the state of Hawaii like the county of Hawaii which is very interested in developing hydrogen zero-emission

vehicle fleets and hydrogen charging stations. So I want to be inclusive of that when we're discussing the transition to a zero-emission vehicle fleet and zero-emission vehicle opportunities.

Multimodal systems and connectivity will help improve the pedestrian walkability, bike-ability of our communities, as well as bring those greenhouse gas emissions down, and modernized transportation planning to end the projects to enhance the quality for our community's reduction of transportation cost to residents, and minimize injuries and fatalities to improve our public health and quality of life, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions through these promotion of alternative modes of transportation.

We also -- when we're thinking about greenhouse gas reduction, specific land use actions we can think of are also to accelerate regional composting statewide. When we're starting to see that our landfills are also providing much of the methane emissions -- and of course, methane emissions are far worse than our carbon dioxide emissions.

So when we're discussing greenhouse gases, we need to also be mindful of our landfills and

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accelerate our regional composting statewide while
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   also expanding opportunities for methane capture in
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   our landfills, waste to energy facilities, as well
   as wastewater treatment facilities and our anaerobic
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   digesters.
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             The city and county of Honolulu has a
 7
   pilot project in Ewa which is currently capturing
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   the methane emitted from the wastewater treatment
   facility, and we can use that methane to convert for
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   renewable natural gas for consumers using natural
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   gases in their homes.
             We need to, of course, improve interagency
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   and inter --
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Danielle? Danielle,
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   sorry. If I can just --
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             MS. BASS: Sure.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: -- where are we at in
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   terms of -- I know that we normally take a break.
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   Where are we at in terms of your presentation?
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             MS. BASS: We have about five slides to
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   go.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Would it be okay to
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   take a break right now and then finish up, or would
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   you like to finish?
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             MS. BASS: I can just speed up, if you'd
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like, and we can take a break.

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Sure.

MS. BASS: Okay. So going into the next recommended actions, again, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development is working to coordinate across agencies for operational responsibilities over state facilities to identify existing and planning facilities that are vulnerable to our climate hazards, and we need to assess the options to increase the resilience of those facilities in our climate area.

Another very needed plan that we need to do to continue to conduct our climate adaptation is to develop a Statewide Climate Adaptation and Resilience Implementation Plan. And this is inclusive of the whole state. So we're starting to see our county partners begin to work on that at the county levels, and we would like to adopt a similar plan for the state.

We need to also incorporate regional managed retreat and strategic relocation analysis into our planning.

Moving on into other opportunities for recommended action. Again, we talked about hurricane sheltering, and we want to strengthen

hurricane sheltering as much as possible to become more climate resilient, incentivize the use of green roofs and implement green infrastructure design guidelines and policies, expand onsite rainwater harvesting and stormwater management, so that we can continue to reclaim and recycle our water.

And we can do this through underground cisterns as well as Eco-Blocks and eco-building development to promote decentralized water and sustainable energy to reduce the development's carbon and water footprints.

I believe this is -- we're getting close. You know, in terms of land use recommendations, we can look at innovative residential developments which reduce -- result in lower cost and sustainable use of resources and of more efficient use of land infrastructure and greater convenience of privacy.

And we can continue to update the Hawaii State Planning Act to reflect these current policies. Specifically, the state functional plan with a particular focus on energy, agriculture, conservation, recreation, transportation, and tourism to, again, modernize those functional plans to meet 21st century needs and sustainability and climate change targets.

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So when we're thinking about these land use recommended actions, again, we need to think of our sustainability and climate and statutory targets.

I mentioned before a 2050 cesspool reduction requirement where all cesspools need to be eliminated by the year 2050. So when we're looking at various communities and development opportunities, we need to start thinking of that statutory requirement when we're providing this planning and develop the infrastructure to support the elimination of those cesspools.

So Chair, I just want to finish. As you know, I provided this presentation, and we did want to make it comprehensive for the Land Use Commission because we find this to be very fitting with the many challenges the commission faces.

And so I hope this presentation was of benefit to the Land Use Commission. We want to end with this call to action. We have eight years in this Decade of Action declared by the United Nations. Eight years until 2030. That is so short, and we have so much to do.

And how we can get there while looking at our eight focus areas, our 38 strategies, and our

over 262 recommended actions, we can get there 1 through strategic prioritization of investments, 3 integrating our knowledge and work across all employee sectors through that kakou opportunity. 5 are just -- there's only a million of us -- 1.4 6 million of us throughout the state, and we must work 7 together to achieve all of these statutory 8 requirements of the state of Hawaii. 9 We also need to continue to develop those 10 metrics to enable measurement and tracking of 11 progress, so that we know we can achieve our 2030 12 laws by 2030 and have that realistic timeline to 13 work toward. 14 So with that, mahalo for this opportunity 15 to speak. I'm sorry it -- this presentation took so 16 I would encourage Land Use Commissioners and 17 members of the public who are watching this to visit 18 our website, https://hawaii2050.hawaii.gov, and 19 definitely look at our fun interactive version, 20 hawaii2050.hawaii.gov/interactive. 21 If anyone has any questions, I'm available 22 for questions. And mahalo for this opportunity to 23 present. 24 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you so much. 25 Such an incredible and thorough presentation.

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really excited for the conversations, so I just want
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   to give commissioners ten minutes, which we always
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   do every hour, and then come back for the robust
   discussion.
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             Does that work? Excellent. Okay.
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   10:02. We reconvene at 10:12.
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              (Recess taken from 10:02 to 10:12 a.m.)
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                Okay. It's 10:12.
   We're back in session and on the record.
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             Commissioners, questions for OPSD,
   Danielle and Maryalice, on the presentation?
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             I will start off by sharing that I had the
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   honor and pleasure of serving as the facilitator for
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   the virtual meetings on this project, so it was
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   really an excellent process. I enjoyed it greatly.
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             Commissioner Chang?
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             COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you very much,
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   Jon.
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             Danielle, I am so impressed with your
   obvious passion, and the presentation was extremely
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   comprehensive. Thank you so very much.
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   you're an office of one, it is quite amazing what
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   you've been able to do, so congratulations to you on
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   all the efforts.
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             I have three questions, and I'll just pose
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them to you and then you can take them and respond 1 The first is, are these strategies listed 3 in a priority, or are they given equal weight and consideration? I do note it's kind of like the Hawaiian 5 6 values are sort of the last one but suggests kind of 7 The second question is, how do you balance 8 9 sometimes, what I would call, competing sustainable 10 goals? For example -- and this comes from the Land 11 Use Commission -- we have use of ag lands for renewable energy projects. 12 13 Much of your presentation dealt with the importance of ag lands, and I totally support that. 14 15 But we have a lot of these several -- and, as you 16 can see, several solar projects are coming before 17 us, and many of them are using ag lands. So is 18 there some quidance that you can provide us on what 19 is -- you know, have you guys looked at that and how 20 do we address that? 21 And I think I only had, actually, those --22 those are the two questions I have right now, so any 23 -- your thoughts, your responses.

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Mahalo for your supportive words. Thank you so

MS. BASS:

Thank you, Commissioner.

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much.

In terms of priority, they are of equal value. So unfortunately, you just have to put numbers to things to make it digestible to the public. And by no means do I want to -- I mean, I come from very strong Hawaiian values from my aunties and my family, so I would never want to, you know, put perpetuating traditional ecological knowledge and values or Hawaiian culture as last, so by all means, they are not prioritized. They are just listed. And they have equal value.

In terms of the competing uses of land, I very much understand the challenges ahead. And I think that this is going to be a constant for the state of Hawaii because we are limited in land, as you well know, the 4 million acres. That is the beauty as well as the challenge of Hawaii.

And we have these sustainability challenges. This has come up many times in my conversations with the state legislature, and this is a passionate issue. Of course, we need to continue to preserve and protect our agricultural operations as well as expand those — that economy, and you know, the challenge of providing affordable housing to our residents as well as providing that

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clean energy, you know, through solar farms on our
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   ag lands. This is all a constant challenge I very
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   much understand.
             And I have mentioned that many times to
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   our policy makers and our decision makers, so I
 5
 6
   agree.
           This will -- in terms of that challenge, it
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   will be a constant. That's just because of the
 8
   scarcity of our land that is a constant.
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             And in terms of energy versus ag, of
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   course, our agricultural lands are protected through
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   the constitution and, you know, of course, the
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   Public Trust Doctrines. So in terms of energy, what
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   I really do appreciate from various energy
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   developers is when they -- when they have
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   agricultural plans for those lands and how they can
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   expand and provide kind of a co-existence of
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   agricultural opportunities as well as energy land
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   use for that proposed -- for those hypothetical
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   proposed developments. It's something I support.
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             COMMISSIONER CHANG: Okay. Thank you very
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          I appreciate the response.
   much.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Okay, Commissioner
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   Chanq.
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             Commissioner Ohigashi?
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Yeah, I have a

COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI:

question. I was looking at strategy 10 in your outline and your action 75. It talks about the sustainability analysis in all projects over a certain amount.

Has your department fleshed out what projects would be interested -- what types of projects would be part of it, what types of (indiscernible) sustainability analysis, or is that something that (indiscernible) do in the future and codify it with an omnibus bill?

MR. BASS: That's a great question, and I believe that's a part of the transition. So first and foremost, it's in thanks to the Land Use Commission changing their rules to also provide that sustainability analysis and climate change analysis in the proposed developments before the commissions for future decisions.

But in terms of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, I just need to remind that this branch has only been in existence for about one-and-a-half years and is only staffed by one individual. So it is definitely the intent of this branch to provide the sustainability and climate resilience analyses and review; however, due to a limitation in capacity of staffing, that is a

problem for us.

So it is a part of our transition. That is where -- you know, as the administrator of this branch, that is where I see this branch going. And that is why in our budgetary request I have requested, and the Director, of course, has supported this request, the need for sustainable land use planners for our branch so that we can provide those reviews.

COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: As it stands now, maybe I'm not as familiar with that portion of the analysis, but what type of projects would not include the analysis?

MS. BASS: Interesting. This branch supports the entire state, right? So I actually get calls from many agencies to include, but not limited to, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, DLNR, and things like that. And so we are starting to see this transition.

And so, for instance, there have been a few land leases before the DLNR for renewal. And the DLNR has asked for a quick consult on, you know, the zero-emissions clean economy, should we as a state, you know, extend a land lease for a fossil fuel entity beyond 2045 if we have a zero =

emissions clean economy.

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Now, of course, the Board of Land and

Natural Resources made that decision, but you know,
they provided -- they contacted this branch in terms
of, you know, just reaffirming what these
sustainability laws and targets are, so that they
can try to align these legal targets in their
decision-making process used.

So this is something, of course, that, you know, I cannot right now provide at a complete statewide level, since it is just me, but you know, there are times where state agencies, inclusive of the Land Use Commission, has contacted me for quick consult on some of these projects before you, as well as the DLNR and the Hawaii Tourism Authority, so we're starting to see a lot of that begin.

about or what I've thought about, special use permits (audio disruption) -- landfills, and it comes with all kinds of bells and whistles and all that, car wrecking or car stripping or storage and add restorage and all these types of activities along with it.

My question is that from a sustainable planning view, what should we be looking at in these

dealing with these types of projects?

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I understand if you -- we haven't figured



it all out, but I was just trying to get a handle on 1 how we're going to do that in the future, or is that 3 part of review? Because that's -- I can see how we do it for solar rays and solar farms or projects 5 that deal with large tracts of land, that have to do with housing and things like that, but I -- the ones 7 that affect the environment the most appear and -are the landfills that would appear in terms of getting rid of our waste. 10 So I was just wondering if there's any 11 specific kind of targeting or anybody doing anything, or is there any kind of guidance that OPSD 12 1.3 will give to us about dealing with these projects 14 within the framework of sustainability? 15 I know that's a long question. That's a 16 directional -- I'm just curious. 17 MS. BASS: Maryalice, I saw that you're 18 Would you like to begin? I do have a unmuted. 19 comment, but it seems to me that you might want to 20 respond to that. 21 MS. EVANS: Commissioner Ohigashi, a 22 couple of things. The Office of Planning and 23 Sustainable Development has already started to 24 provide comments on climate change and

sustainability when we are asked, as we always are,

to comment on environmental assessments and environmental impact statements. So that's now part of what gets incorporated into environmental assessments and environmental impact statements for all projects that have a trigger for those disclosure documents.

And some of those come to the Land Use Commission as the first discretionary permit for a project. So you will get an assessment of the impact of the project on our climate change goals and our sustainability goals in that disclosure document before you reach a discretionary phase of your consideration of applications and petitions.

Another thought that comes to mind, and I think you probably know this already, is that each proposal is different, and so the application of a sustainability or climate change impact assessment is going to vary by the type of project that is being proposed for a special permit.

And the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development will provide, as part of our statute and part of your roles, those assessments, but it will be on a project-by-project basis rather than sort of a general sense of one size fits all on these.

Does that help answer your question,

Commissioner Ohigashi? 1 2 **COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI:** Well, maybe I'm 3 just looking for specifics in trying to deal with some of those -- some of the issues that come up in 5 front of us. Like, for example, special use permit, 6 you know, (indiscernible) crashing. 7 MS. BASS: Uh-huh. 8 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: The members of sustainability, is that the question? Is -- are we 9 10 have enough rocks or when is -- when does it reach the -- when does it reach mission and how do we have 11 -- well, I'm just curious as to how this process or 12 1.3 this view would apply, and the specific kinds of 14 areas of special use permits that are not -- are 15 just like -- are considered -- to me, I consider 16 them like spot zoning, that you're allowing a 17 special activity in that particular area. 18 And so that's just my -- my (spoke 19 Hawaiian) -- my --20 MS. BASS: I have two more things to your 21 question, Commissioner Ohigashi. In terms of the 22 landfill hypothetical issue, I think from a

sustainability standpoint, what we can look at in terms of guidance is the statutory target.

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Now, it's been codified years and years

ago, and it does, frankly, need updating. And we 1 have testified to that effect to the legislature. 2 3 There is a statewide recycling goal that the state has, and I've actually published that in 5 the plan. It's on page 14, and it's by the year 2000, the state must -- must divert and reduce the 7 solid waste stream by 50 percent for the entire 8 state on all of our counties and our islands. 9 And so --10 **COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: 2000?** 11 MS. BASS: 2000, yes. And that is --COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Oh. 12 13 MS. BASS: -- why -- that is why, when we looked at that law -- and this is -- you know, we 14 15 worked with the Department of Health, of course, so 16 the executing authority on that one. 17 But when we were looking at that law, there's a bit of frustration with it. For instance, 18 19 it's the year 2000, and we're well into 2022. But 20 we published that because it almost serves as a 21 reminder to our policy makers that that's still on 22 the books. 23 And this is an opportunity where we can 24 actually update that, you know. Pick your year.

Maybe not 2030, but look at ways we can increase

that 50 percent target to 75 percent, so that we can continue that goal to reduce and divert our waste stream, right?

Because ultimately, we -- you know, the landfill issue has been a long, ongoing issue, to your point. And these are huge sources of methane greenhouse gas emissions, which are substantially more than the carbon dioxide that our state emits, right? So they have a larger global warming potential. Methane is much more detrimental than carbon dioxide.

And so as we continue to strive and work through these, I'd be glad to even remind the Land Use Commission of that law, and we can start working with the Department of Health on that. That is a frustration that even their agency would like to see some updating of that law as well as the integrated solid waste management plan.

So these are things that we learned through this comprehensive review.

COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Just one other thing I wanted to ask you about. You indicated the CZM, the Coastal Zone Management area, would be the lead area as in the Coastal Zone Management and sustainability.

Are there anything -- is your office 1 2 considering amendments to the Coastal Zone 3 Management law --4 MS. EVANS: Commissioner Ohigashi --5 **COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI:** -- regarding 6 further involvement on coastline? 7 MS. EVANS: The legislature made a 8 significant change to Chapter 205A two years ago, not this last session but the previous one, that 10 significantly strengthened the provisions for 11 banning, hardening of shorelines for private 12 property. And it -- we just managed to get the 13 rules through the public outreach process, and the governor has adopted those rules. 14 15 We're not promulgating and educating the 16 county's planning departments on the effect of those 17 rules, so I think the Coastal Zone Management 18 program is always open to new management measures 19 that will help strengthen the protections for our 20 shoreline and coastal resources, but the legislature 21 hasn't been sleeping. They have been very active in 22 taking a look at that and reassessing what's needed 23 to keep up with climate change and sea level rise, 24 especially, for coastal zone areas. 25 MS. BASS: Specifically, that law that

Maryalice was referencing is Act 16-2020. And in 1 2 that same year, that is when the Office of Planning 3 and Sustainable Development's rules and responsibilities were equally changed to expand our 5 ocean resource and coastal work to include sea level 6 rise adaptation coordination in HRS 225M-2(b) via 7 Act 45-2020, so both happened at the same time. COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: 8 So I'm going to 9 tell you the bottom part of my question was -- is

tell you the bottom part of my question was -- is whether or not those requirements under the Coastal Zone Management law are something that the -- all these -- we'll have to consider the sustainability issues that you're presenting to us today under this plan.

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Is that something that the counties have to address within the Coastal Zone Management area? That's what I -- that's -- that's the question.

In other words, I know that Maui is a contested case proceeding in front of the Filing Commission. And I'm not aware of whether or not they have to -- within their review of the SMA area, they would be required to address the sustainability issues that have been brought forward in the plan.

MS. EVANS: Commissioner --

COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I understand that

I'm just

worried about that. All -- or that part.

the 2050 plan is, I think, incredibly helpful in

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I think this is the first time that all of
 1
   listing.
   those statutory requirements and strategic plans
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   have been shown in one place to show how thoroughly
   and aggressively the Office of Planning and
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   Sustainable Development, the legislature, and our
 6
   state agencies, have worked to incorporate
 7
   sustainability into our future going forward.
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             Danielle, would you like to expand on
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   that?
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: I also want to give the
   opportunity for other commissioners' questions, so -
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             MS. EVANS:
                         Sorry, Chair.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Danielle?
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             MS. BASS:
                       No. No, Maryalice. You
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   summarized it very well, and we'll move on to the
17
   next question. Thank you.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Okay. I'm going to
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   recognize Executive Officer Orodenker, then
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   Commissioner Cabral. Or did you inadvertently raise
21
   your hand again, Dan?
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             Oh, we need to get you back into the
23
   office. Damn this Omicron. Okay.
24
             Commissioner Cabral followed by
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   Commissioner Giovanni.
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1 **COMMISSIONER CABRAL:** Yeah, thank you. 2 And yeah, Danielle and Maryalice, I mean, unbelievably fantastic report, and it's great 3 because you truly have listed -- I can't even think 5 of what you might have missed here. 6 But I got to tell you because I'm in Hilo, 7 and you don't know what I do, but I manage 8 properties, and I have for 40 years, so I'm sort of in the trenches of a lot of the things you made 10 comments of. Particularly, I have a lot of opinions 11 about affordable housing and why we have problems there. And a huge number of that problem involves 12 13 the government. 14 A lot of it involves the government, and then also status quo. I got to tell you it's -- I -15 16 - a whole lot more effort's going to have to go into 17 it beyond one staff member. I mean, Danielle, 18 you're fantastic, but unless we've got an army of 19 about a thousand of you out there and we have a 20 committed legislature and a committed population, I 21 don't even have a question except to question the 22 entire, you know, sort of, talk's cheap, and one 23 employee is cheap compared to what it's going to

And I see it in my buildings. I would

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take.



much rather not recycle my air conditioners now
every 12 years. The old ones used to last. I'm
talking half-a-million-dollar air conditioners, not
small rubbish. And instead, the old stuff used to
last me 20, 30 years.

Now, every 12 years I get to buy a new

one. They last half as long, but they cost me twice as much. And it's because we're buying cheap steel from China, thank you, and so there's so -- it's such a huge problem. And I think about the ability -- and I manage condominiums. Everybody wants me to put in those, you know, charging stations, but every single stall's assigned to somebody. What do I do, you know?

You've got huge obstacles, I mean. And until lots of things are willing to give in, including -- so I think a lot of it -- and I didn't really hear it in there, but I think the government, if we're going to get serious, is going to have to -- so maybe that would be my -- not a question, but adding in that you've got to give tax incentive to developers, tax incentive to property managers, to condominiums, to building owners and stuff to make those changes.

And I mean, I've done -- I think I've



probably put in more (indiscernible) in Hilo than 1 anybody except for the University of Hawaii at Hilo. 3 I've got all kinds of it, and it's been fantastic, especially when I had net metering, yes, but they 5 don't have net metering now, so we got to look at 6 the system. And a lot of people are going to have 7 to give up on the old ways and the old money and the old everything else, and you've got to get the --8 9 Part of what I would recommend, too, is 10 have some kind of a campaign, a newspaper -- you've 11 got to get the citizens enraged about this in some 12 way, shape, or form, so that they either force their 13 legislators to be willing to prioritize some of this 14 money and give up on some of the tax money, et 15 cetera, and change some of the focus of what we're doing, or -- or you know, elect new people. 16 17 I don't see anything happening, very little. 18 God bless you. I mean, we're already doing 19 a little bit. The list is long, though, because I 20 live it. I'm over here, and I would love to do 21 everything the right way, but it ends up I don't 22 have a lot of choices sometimes. 23 I wish I had a question. I just have

COMMISSIONER SCHUER: Any responses to

complete worry, so God bless you. Good luck.

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Commissioner Cabral?

MS. BASS: Yes. Thank you, Commissioner Cabral. Mahalo for your support, again. And you know, if -- we have a budget briefing before the legislature later today and tomorrow regarding our budget proposal to staff up the Statewide Sustainability Branch, and you know, bless your heart, I would just love to take what you said and just testify to that, so --

But you know, it -- on the terms of transition, absolutely, I hear you, and we -- you know, the only way to, you know, get a positive transition, and have the public turn so rapidly in the next eight years is through tax credits and various incentives. And so you know, we're seeing that in policy discussions, and definitely the branch and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development strongly support incentivization programs.

There's one in terms -- you know, of course, with renewable energy opportunities and energy efficiency opportunities, but also through greenhouse gas sequestration where we want to incentivize even our farmers to sequester greenhouse gases through their day-to-day business operations

and provide those incentives.

So the way to get there is definitely through government incentivization, and our office strongly supports that. And we will continue to testify to that effect.

In terms of just the development of the branch, we really wanted to just use 2050 as a quick baseline so that we can finally have a Sustainability and Climate Strategic Action Plan. There's more planning to be done, yes; however, this is a good launching point. We have eight years. We have a collective target. We have an area to strive to between now and 2030.

And really, how I look at it is just continue to build capacity and through the tremendous amount of work, not only the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development has, but this branch, we can just continue to build and build and build so that by 2030, when we hit these targets and laws, as well as the update of this plan, hopefully, we've achieved a good -- a good amount of these priorities from the state as well as from our own office and this plan, so thank you again.

COMMISSIONER CABRAL: And you know, too, then maybe there's more ways, especially -- I'm not

1 a -- I'm old, so I'm not into social media things,
2 but there might be things, you know -- a way that
3 you could get more citizens to get a hold of their
4 legislature. You got to package it. You got to
5 spoon feed me, and I will respond and contact my
6 people if you spoon feed me to how to get in touch
7 with them, what their connection is, and what to
8 refer to, you know.

I mean, getting a hold of them and saying, "Oh, make our environment nicer," you know, doesn't really tell them what to do. So there's a whole other branch of how to make this happen, but God bless you all. Thank you.

MS. BASS: I think I mentioned that's a part of our transition as OPSD. As we've learned very rapidly with all of this extra responsibility on climate change, sustainability, sea level rise, we need to communicate a lot more, and so this office full of planners, we're now kind of double-heading now and working on, you know, learning how we can be better communicators.

And you know, through social media, we have our E-newsletter, and we're really trying, but we're not communication professionals either nor do we employ a PAO. So you know, it's something that

to date, and I very much appreciate the passion and

Hawaii State Land Meeting January 5, 2022 NDT Assgn # 55023 the personal effort that you've brought to the job. 1 Thank God you found some budget money for ICF to 3 help you on the consulting side, or we wouldn't even be at ground zero yet for this effort. 4 5 So it's typical, I find, and this is a 6 very personal comment, for starting new initiatives 7 and then not funding them or staffing them appropriately to get things done. And what I find 8 as a consequence of that is that you've done a very 10 good job informationally and in waving the flag, but I'm about specifics, and I'm about measurable 11 accomplishments. 12 13 And I think that in the absence of you being able to build a staff and commit to doing work 14 15 on a proactive basis, it's just going to be more 16 flag-waving, and I think that will be a 17 disappointment for me personally and maybe for the 18 state.

So I don't want any specific comments. find that you are correct that in our rules for the Land Use Commission, on a docket-by-docket basis, we have to give consideration to sustainability and climate change and sea level rise, depending on the docket itself.

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The State Office of Planning and



Sustainable Development is a party to virtually 1 every docket and every declaratory petition that 3 comes before us, and for us to have to make a proactive request for OPSD to actually comment on 5 sustainability issues doesn't seem appropriate to 6 It ought to be automatic in my mind. 7 So let me explore this request mechanism a 8 little bit further. How is it that -- if we had a docket that came before us that had significant, in 10 my mind, aspects to it that involve sustainability 11 issues, how do we get you to comment on it in a 12 timely basis? What do we need to do today with you 1.3 as a one-person staff for that to happen? How does 14 it work? 15 MS. EVANS: Chair, can I answer -- start that answer? 16 17 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Go ahead. 18 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Commissioner 19 Giovanni. What the Office of Planning and 20 Sustainable Development does is we collate comments 21 from all the state agencies, the county agencies, 22 and the various programs in the office into one

And so I think starting fairly recently,

document, and that would be both a statement of

position and then testimony on a docket.

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there is a section on sustainability or sea level rise if the particular petition has a sea level rise component to it. Sustainability is a little harder because it's so broad. But I think you're going to find that we are incorporating that now, that we have set up a system where the petitions are circulated to our staff as well as the other state agencies and the county agencies.

So Danielle will have an opportunity to provide input when she has the time, and that's why we're making a budget request for additional staff that I am hoping that the legislature will consider approving to provide you with that specific kind of input that we want to give you and that you're asking for.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: So thank you,

Maryalice. I am familiar with the general process
by which OPSD provides a statement of position and
testimony.

What I heard this morning in your presentation is that unless Danielle is specifically requested by an agency such as the Land Use Commission to comment, she doesn't have the wherewithal to do that, so it's not happening.

And I'm not -- to be honest, I haven't

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seen it appear in your testimony or your statements
of position, a voice on these issues doesn't come
regularly. We have to cull them out. So when in
the process do we have to cull them out may be a
question to our Executive Director.

If I see a docket that's coming before us
a month from now, do I have to make a request three
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a month from now, do I have to make a request three weeks in advance to make sure that Danielle weighs in on important issues to us? Because for -- just for -- to have it show up in the midst of a hearing is too late -- may be too late.

MS. EVANS: We'll take your concern and try to figure out how to get that culled out for you.

When we get comments from the Department of Health, for instance, DLNR, for instance, sometimes they're not labeled with sustainability, but they address the issues of clean water, clean air, recycling, and composting.

What we'll try to do to make that easier to find is to maybe put those under a sustainability category for you. Would that be helpful?

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: That would be helpful.

MS. EVANS: Okay. Thank you.

If it's okay,

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:

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motion to that?

And so there was discussion at the legislative level of making a mandate on the public and the general economy to also convert to zero-

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emission vehicles. Now, that policy discussion did 1 2 die in the last year. However, from my 3 communication from clean energy advocates, there is discussion of a push for that again. It sounds as 5 if they want to mandate our residents and the 6 members of the public and our counties to abide by a 7 zero-emission vehicle conversion standard. So there will be -- I do anticipate some 8 policy discussion to that effect this coming year. 10 Whether or not it will pass is, of course, up to the 11 will of the legislature. In terms of the market conversion, you 12 13 know, I am encouraged that, of course, the Biden 14 administration, the federal government has made these mandates on our vehicle companies, developing 15 16 these new clean fleets. So you're starting to see 17 major commitments by entities like GMC and Ford to 18 have either 100 percent or 80 percent of the 19 vehicles that they produce be clean energy by 2030 or 2035 respectively to the company's commitment. 21 So I am encouraged by that market 22 transition, thanks to that federal mandate. 23 appears, though, that these mandates and, again, 24 incentives -- to Commissioner Cabral's point earlier

-- is going to be necessary so that we get to this

pivot and we do make these transitions necessary by 2030.

And yes, you are absolutely right. Those commitments in our transportation sector are lacking. And we have seen a strong history in terms of the energy sector, specific to energy efficiency and consumption, being very, very, you know, robust in the state of Hawaii for the last decade, decade and a half. And so now we're seeing very much that pivot focally here to focus on that transportation sector to your point.

with what might be happening in terms of taxation that might play into moving the energy -- the transportation sector forward? I know that there was some work being done to evaluate a shift in tax policy from gasoline tax to road tax that would some way indirectly foster the adoption. Is that an area in which your branch gets involved in dealing with those tax studies or issues?

MS. BASS: Yes. To a certain extent, we do testify on those matters before the legislature when there are tax proposals. There were some discussions of carbon taxes, for instance, and our office was very vocal in that my branch -- this

branch was very vocal on that since we did publish a carbon offset feasibility study for the state to review and did, in that study, explore a small potential of carbon tax. Although, the Energy Office has since published a separate study on carbon taxation.

To that point, you know, we -- our -- the barrel tax is serving for the state of Hawaii as a carbon tax, specifically to vehicles. And when we do have that conversation with policy makers, specifically, the energy and environmental policy makers within the legislature, they do make statements that the barrel tax is serving as an informal carbon tax.

There are pushes and requests from members of the public to expand that because there are exemptions to that barrel tax, so yes.

In terms of, you know, policy discussions before the legislature, our branch or our office definitely does weigh in and provide, you know, information that can help support the legislature make their decisions as well as certain positions on trajectory, so that we can meet the targets codified by the legislature.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Let me shift gears



just a little bit. It's still talking about state agencies. You know, the Public Utility Commission was instrumental in moving forward energy policy to become renewable energy policy.

What is your relationship in working with the Public Utility Commission?

MS. EVANS: Actually, we do work with them closely on areas where they asked for our help. One of those areas is on the proposal before the PUC to repower and expand the geothermal plant on Hawaii Island, and we are aware that you have an IAL project proposal for Kauai that does -- that has been deferred because of the need to discuss how KIUC's renewable energy goals will interact with that.

As you know, Commissioner, the PUC has a contested case here in process like the Land Use Commission, so the -- it's a very structured decision-making process, and we do help out, but usually not through the docket process.

We did find Leo Asuncion was our director, and now he's a PUC commissioner, so we do have, you know, that opportunity sometimes to provide supportive help, but it isn't a direct -- we're not a mandatory party in the case of the PUC. We are a

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-- we can be an intervenor when the issues before
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   the PUC are ones that are important for sustainable
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   development.
             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Other than
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   contested case hearings that are driven by the PUC,
   do you work with the PUC on any other formative
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   matters?
             MS. EVANS: Not as -- not as a constant or
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   regular thing, but on a case-by-case basis.
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: When requested --
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             MS. EVANS: When -- yeah.
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Okay.
                                             I'll leave
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   it there. Thank you. Thank you very much.
             And thank you, Danielle, for your hard
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   work. I appreciate it very much.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you, Commissioner
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   Giovanni.
             Commissioner Okuda?
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             COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you very much,
   Mr. Chair.
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             And Ms. Bass, I echo everybody's
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   compliments on your work. If I can just ask an
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   administerial question. Can you provide us, with
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   the approval of your Director, that list of land use
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   recommendations? Because I might want to use it as
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a cheat sheet in future cases to make sure I personally remember some of the things that you pointed out. So if I can make that request, if it's okay with your branch and your division.

But I have a follow-up question or a question which follows up what the line of questions that Commissioner Giovanni was asking, and it's also informed by what happened at the last hearing regarding the Keaau High School. And maybe this is better directed at the Director.

You know, I heard you say that the office oftentimes act as a collator of information being provided by other departments. My question is basically this. Is your office, number one, the watchdog; number two, the collator; or number three, the watchdog only if we ask you to be the watchdog?

And when I say "watchdog," I mean watchdog of the statutes, the public policy as stated in the different plans, and the watchdog of whether or not other state agencies are frankly telling us the truth.

MS. EVANS: Commissioner, I would say, first of all, we do more than collate. We look at the input from the other state agencies and county agencies, and if it's not consistent with what our

statute and your statute requires, we don't just,
you know, cut and paste it into our position
statement and testimony. So to that extent, I think
I would say I believe we fit more your watchdog one.

Now, in terms of determining if an input from a state agency is true or not, we don't have the capacity to act as an independent investigative entity. We're planners, and that -- you know, kind of a, you know -- that sort of -- we do try to do ground truthing for projects to, you know -- in other words, we're not just accepting what we're told, but we don't have the capacity to ensure that what a state agency is providing us is completely accurate in all respects. So I'd have to limit that.

We have a limited capacity, too. We -you know, not -- not staffed up for the level that
you might hope for.

COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yeah. And I don't want to go over things that have already been covered and decided by the commission. But I'd just like to say I think the watchdog function is really important.

And I'm not personally suggesting any type of, you know, additional investigation or anything

like that, but at minimum, the watchdog function 1 should include watching over and evaluating what is 3 actually filed and included in the public document and -- public record, rather, or the public docket. 5 And if issues are shown there where 6 there's contradictory or perhaps less-than-credible 7 filings by a state agency, you know, we on the 8 commission shouldn't be functioning as the public prosecutor. You know, I would hope that the lawyers 10 that represent the Office of State Planning -- in 11 fact, all the lawyers involved in the proceeding actually point out these types of issues. 12 13 But in any event, that's maybe more of a comment, and thank you for the clarification about 14 15 the watchdog and the collator, and I'm glad it's 16 more than just being a collator. 17 May I ask this to Ms. Bass as far as this. 18 Ms. Bass, I listened to you talk about gender equity 19 and things like that. Can I ask your comment on 20 this, where do you think the issue of early 21 childhood education falls within sustainability 22 qoals? 23 MS. BASS: Thank you, Commissioner Okuda.

In terms of early childhood education, while the

state of Hawaii has not formally adopted that

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initiative as potential sustainability or climate target, this is when I would encourage the use of the United Nations 17 sustainable development goals as that framework.

And so the United Nations, when they

adopted those 17 sustainable development goals for a more robust, better sustainable future by 2030, there is a specific goal for quality education. And that's included in our state -- in our plan.

And so I would qualify that particular initiative to be kind of placed in that goal, if you will, using that United Nations sustainable development goals framework, so to provide quality education to ensure that our public are well educated and informed for that better sustainable — that better tomorrow, if you will. So the United Nations has been very vocal about that.

COMMISSIONER OKUDA: And related to that, can you comment on what place or role does providing early childhood education or childhood care play with respect to sustainability?

MS. BASS: Yes. So in terms of
sustainability, when you're thinking of that very
large word, you want to achieve three basic pillars
-- a balance of three pillars. So that is the

environment, the economy, as well as the social equity of the -- of the society.

And so when you're thinking about the social equity pillar in sustainability, that's where I would qualify that. And of course, you wouldn't - you know, we aren't thinking about early childhood education and the provision for childcare to alleviate a specific gender, predominantly women, when we're thinking of that.

If we're not alleviating them from that additional stresses, we're not getting that gender equity. And so that would translate into the social equity pillar of the basic fundamental of sustainability.

COMMISSIONER OKUDA: And I hope this is my final question, which is a follow-up on one of the themes that Commissioner Giovanni was raising. And I hate to keep harkening back to Keaau High School, but you know, that's kind of like in my recent thoughts.

How do you get the state bureaucracy, or these other bureaucrats, to actually even comply with not only sustainability goals but just the law?

I mean, you know, it gets to be a little bit disheartening when it seems like no matter what an

agency rules or says or what statutes the legislature points out or, frankly, how much everybody screams and shouts, you know, we're going to be termed out, and we ain't going to be around in the future, but these bureaucrats are going to stay there.

And so it's almost like what do we have to do to get these entrenched bureaucrats, you know, where we could even make editorial comment. Maybe that money should be put into classroom teaching and not these bureaucrats, but what do we have to do to get people to follow or implement these goals which the law makers are saying, you know, must be implemented? What do we have to do?

MS. BASS: Yes. I very much appreciate that question, and I get that question a lot.

I will first and foremost say that I have zero enforcement power as the State Sustainability Coordinator, and the branch was not provided enforcement authorities over any of the sustainability and climate targets codified by the state legislature.

To that end, we do have these mandates.

And so in the development of this position and the branch and the roles of the branch in the Office of

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are a centralized agency.

Thankfully, we are allowed, you know -- we are empowered with collaboration, and we are empowered with mandates for state agencies to cooperate with our office, so that's all within the far more fundamental laws of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, and I think that that is something strategic and beneficial to the State Sustainability Branch to use that right now.

Planning and Sustainable Development, thankfully, we

And to that point, you know, in that coordination, in that statewide cooperation, we can work with those state agencies, albeit, there are The statutory sustainability mandate to problems. divert and recycle waste 50 percent by the year 2000 is troublesome, right? And there was -- there is -there's questionable enforcement of that.

And you know, the Department of Health is primarily entrusted with that work; however, there are -- what is beneficial here -- and I think that that's where we can begin by communicating, by outreach, and by just engagement to let our state and county partners know that this branch exists, number one, and is, two, charged with the laws, that we need to make sure that we are making progress

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towards these statutory laws. That's codified
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   within the branch's establishment.
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             Secondly, it's that coordination and
   cooperation. So when we're engaging with entities
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   like the Department of Education on whether or not
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   they can achieve 30 percent local food procurement
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   by the year 2030, that is something, you know. Just
   -- just having a voice and a position dedicated by
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   the state of Hawaii in this role to consistently,
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   through the turnover of various leaderships, and
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   transitions due to retirement, to just have that one
   piece of stability through this job to tell that
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   department, "Are you aware that by 2030, you need to
   hit this 30 percent local food procurement goal?"
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             You know, in terms -- when we're thinking
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   of --
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                All right. Sorry.
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             MS. BASS:
                        Yes. Go ahead.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: We're at another hour
   mark, so summarize your response.
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             MS. BASS: I think that engagement,
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   though, is very beneficial. And the enforcement,
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   I'm starting to see, lies at the legislative level
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   where they start asking for that accountability with
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   those departments and agencies, which are required,
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to achieve these goals. For instance, UH to be zero
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   -- or net zero energy by 2035. There are reporting
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   requirements to the legislature on that.
             So there is some enforcement and there is
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   accountability to that. Right now, it's
   predominantly directed to the legislature.
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   are no enforcement powers to this branch.
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             COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you very much
   for your testimony and your answer. You have
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   actually answered a question that I asked at the
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   Mauna Kea hearing to my friends who oppose the
   telescopes, which was whether or not you support the
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   telescope or not.
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             The question really is, what do we have to
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   do to keep our kids in Hawaii because they're
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   leaving because they feel there's no future. Okay.
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   Thank you.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                Thank you very much,
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   Commissioner Okuda.
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             Commissioner Giovanni, were you raising
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   your hand in order to sort of make a motion?
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: No.
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   follow-up question, but I can take it if you --
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   later if you want to recess.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER:
                                 I think we need a
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recess with the indulgence of the Commission.
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   know I just had a couple quick follow-up questions
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   related -- started with your line of questioning,
   Commissioner Giovanni.
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             And I don't know if, Commissioner Aczon,
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 6
   you had anything you wanted to ask?
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             COMMISSIONER ACZON:
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: So with the
   Commission's indulgence, it's 11:18. Let's
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   reconvene at 11:28, and then we'll -- my goal is to
   wrap up by noon. Ten-minute recess.
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              (Recess taken from 11:18 to 11:28 a.m.)
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: We're back on the
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   record.
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             Commissioner Giovanni?
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Thank you, Chair.
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             I beg the indulgence of everyone, but this
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   matter is pretty important to me, and I appreciate
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   the additional time we might spend on it, but here I
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   go.
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             So first of all, Ms. Bass, let me put
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   forth an inference I've drawn, and you tell me if
   I'm correct. And if I'm not, would you please
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   correct me. And it has to do with the funding that
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   you received that enabled you to hire a consultant.
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My assumption is that that was funds that 1 2 were discretionary within the Office of Planning and 3 not necessarily a line-item budget issue, is that 4 correct? 5 MS. BASS: Those funds were appropriated 6 by the passage of Act 146-2019 as a separate 7 appropriation, not included as a line item to the 8 budget. And the funds were -- that were appropriated by the state legislature were \$150,000. 10 COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: So have you used 11 all those funds? 12 MS. BASS: Yes, I did. We did receive an 13 administrative holdback as well. And I must say I'm 14 very thankful to Maryalice as the Director, because 15 due to that administrative holdback, it would 16 actually bring the 150 down to about 135. So this 17 is a very low cost for a very comprehensive ten-year 18 strategic action plan. 19 150 was low, so what Maryalice did was she dipped into the Office of Planning's budget to 21 provide me with the additional 15,000. We did 22 appropriate all of the money, and in fact, I do 23 believe that the contractor went above and beyond 24 the amount that was requested and provided by the

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Office of Planning.

they would allow us to request.

However, by November, the tax collections look more favorable, and we were absolutely appreciative that the four positions were included in the governor's budget request.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: So that was a yes or no question, and I take your answer as a no, you did not request additional dollars, only the positions, in November.

MS. EVANS: Correct.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: So I want to follow up on Commissioner Okuda's line of questioning. You know, we get involved in these -- as a state, in these processes. It starts with the flag waving, and then it goes on to policies, and then maybe we get some statues that might turn into rules and orders and conditions by various means.

At the end of the pipeline is accountability and enforcement, and we fail miserably often in terms of accountability and enforcement. So I only have a comment to you.

I see that you're kind of at the front end of this process currently. We operate at the back end of it and are very frustrated about the lack of ability, of accountability, and enforcement for

ironclad conditions that this commission puts forth. 1 2 So think about that accountability and 3 enforcement aspect of this process, even now as you are at the front end, on a going-forward basis. 5 That's a comment, not a question. 6 Chair, I have a question, and I'll leave 7 it up to you whether it redirected back to the Office of Planning or to our director. I asked the 8 question earlier about the process, the process 10 involved in making a request. It was very clearly 11 stated by Ms. Bass and repeated by Maryalice that 12 unless they are requested to comment on the aspects 13 of sustainability for a particular docket, whether 14 it be for our commission or other agencies within 15 the state, they don't have the capacity to do it. 16 So my question was, how do we make that 17 request process-wise? Does our director understand 18 whether there's a process that by which we can 19 implement that? I know of many dockets that I would 20 like to have Ms. Bass comment upon, even briefly, 21 but it's just not happening. So how do we make that 22 happen? 23 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you. I'd like first for Mr. Orodenker to respond. 24

We -- from our end, we

MR. ORODENKER:

have -- staff has requested or had discussions with OPSD with regard to having a sustainability coordinator at least view all of the petitions that are put in front of us, to see if there is a sustainability issue, and to comment.

If there are specific concerns that a commissioner has that he or she wants to make sure that the Sustainability Coordinator addresses, we can communicate with OPSD and the Sustainability Coordinator with regard to that question.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: So I take it that if a petition comes forward and we as a commissioner review that, and we have questions, then the process is that we would go to you and your staff, Dan, to make that known to you, and then you could follow up with Ms. Bass or whomever to get a response.

MR. ORODENKER: That is correct.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: That's what you're
saying?

MR. ORODENKER: Yeah. I mean, generally, we're assuming, given what our discussions have been with OP, that the Sustainability Coordinator is reviewing the documents that have some kind of sustainability issue. But if your commissioner sees something that we don't, then we'll make a specific

request.

Suggest that, you know, it is in our rules that we have to give it consideration on every docket. So even a statement by Ms. Bass or the Office of Planning that they see no issue, no sustainability issues, having something like that on the record would be of value to the commission on a docket-by-docket basis, I would think.

MR. ORODENKER: Agreed, Commissioner. The provision in our rules is aimed at petitioners. In other words, they have the burden of showing that -- or of addressing those issues. If they do, then how will you see the Sustainability Coordinator is automatically involved with reviewing that statement?

We would hope that if OPSC finds that whatever representations are made by the petitioner are valid or that they're representations that there are no sustainability or climate change issues is valid, that they would agree, they were making an affirmative statement in their position statement with regard to that.

COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: I'm just worried about the case where the petitioner ignores it, and



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then it's up to the commission to draw it out, and
 1
   yet, we have not had a proactive response from the
 3
   OP.
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             MR. ORODENKER: Yeah. Yeah, I understand
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   what you're saying, Commissioner.
 6
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Okay. Commissioner?
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI:
                                      That's all I have.
 8
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you, Commissioner
 9
   Giovanni.
10
             Commissioner Ohigashi followed by Cabral
11
   followed by the Chair.
             COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Just following up
12
   on what Commissioner Giovanni indicated and what I
13
14
   was getting at in the beginning.
15
             It seems to me that -- I'm going to use
   this example. It seems to me like the County of
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17
   Maui, for example, has a special use permit for
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   land. And they want to expand it, so they want to
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   come in for an amendment to the special use permit.
   Not on (audio disruption) but an amendment to the
21
   special use permit.
22
             Now, we just heard from Ms. Bass about the
   problems with expanding with landfills of the
23
24
   methane gas coming out of it. Any cause of methane
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-- of climate change or being cause of climate

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change, so what I'm trying -- what I'm trying to get
 1
   at is shouldn't we be response -- shouldn't there be
   a sustainability -- a requirement for even these
 3
   amendments to the special use permits?
 4
 5
             And if the county does not address it,
 6
   shouldn't OP point it out that they should be
 7
   addressing whether or not an expansion of their plan
   to mitigate the expansion of the landfill?
 8
   causes these greenhouse gases. Is there going to be
10
   a discussion of how we mitigate that issue?
11
             And we -- we haven't had that discussion
12
   at all with regard to any of these amendments or any
1.3
   other kind of -- or any other kind of -- with regard
   to the specific area, I mean, with regard to
14
15
   landfills.
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             So I'm -- I'm just concerned of how do we
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   put into effect a requirement that even these
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   amendments, and the county even hears these things
19
   before us, are required to address these issues.
20
   That goes back to my original statements.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you, Commissioner
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   Ohiqashi.
23
             Director Evans?
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Ohigashi's concern, we will try to add that to our

In response to Commissioner

MS. EVANS:

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Hawaii State Land Meeting January 5, 2022 NDT Assgn # 55023 position statement and testimony so that you -- I 1 would -- my own personal thought is that's one of 3 the factors that the Land Use Commission would be considering, and so there would be other factors as 5 well. 6 So I would leave it to the wisdom of the 7 Land Use Commission collectively to weigh those various factors of which sustainability is, in our 8 view, a very important one, but maybe not the only 10 one. 11 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you, Director 12 Evans. 13 Commissioner Cabral? 14 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Thank you, everyone.

I hate to say it, we're beginning to sound like one of those bureaucratic groups that we all agree on that we're going to talk it to death now.

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To try to bring it to a conclusion, which
I have two things, and I'm wondering if it's
appropriate, one, that we make some kind of a
motion, even if it's just words, because it doesn't
have any power, per se. That would help support the
sustainability efforts in that we, the Land Use
Commission, move to -- and I don't know the right
language. I look for my wonderful lawyer

commissioners here to be the right language or the staff where we can at least give you one more little check-check in your box that somebody supports your long list of efforts in that.

And then, too, the second thing is that's still just talk unless we as Land Use -- and I think, again, as Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, we need to make sure we have those little checks on the presentation that comes to us that I -- we had somebody just say a question that said, can't we have that be something that the state office needs to be able to say that these matters have an impact or no impact, and they need to be addressed somewhat like an environmental impact statement.

I think that's an excellent idea, so I'd like to have all of this morning's talk result in some kind of a plan for action that becomes -- I know it's more work on staff, and it's more work on everybody, but I think all the commissioners are agreeing, it's just we got to step outside the old pattern and do something different.

So Ms. Danielle -- Ms. -- Danielle, Ms.

Bass, would it help if we were to make some kind of

a motion as a group here to support your efforts at

this point in time? Does that carry -- help you with going to the legislature or to other groups or something when you're looking for support? Would that help you in any way that we could take action today?

MS. EVANS: We would never turn down

1.3

MS. EVANS: We would never turn down support from the Land Use Commission. We provided for your support.

COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay. Okay. Then I look towards our wonderful Chair or our Executive Director for the -- what might be the best kind of language. I don't want to get us into some kind of a catch-22 either where we've done something that somebody turns around, you know, all these tricky lawyers out there. Not in our group but out there.

But any comments from Jonathan maybe or Dan on what we can do?

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: So Commissioner Cabral, thank you very much for that sentiment. I had indicated earlier in our discussion I was going to make a space for First Vice-Chair Giovanni to offer a motion at the conclusion of our discussion, so I will do that. And then everybody will have a chance, including you, to weigh in on what sentiments we might express.

COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: I have a series of
things that are really less questions -- I apologize
-- and more observations that come out of this
discussion, a few things, and not necessarily in
order of importance. I will slightly pick on Ms.
Bass for the use of the word "brain drain." It is a
pet peeve of mine for a few reasons, and I would
like for us to strike it from our thinking.

First of all, I'm like super grateful that people like Nancy Cabral and Dan Giovanni moved to Hawaii. When we talk about brain drain, we forget to talk about how much we've gained from the people who've come here. It also sort of says to those of us who were born and raised here and stayed like, "so what? You're saying we're stupid, all the smart one's laugh."

In addition, I think like, you know what?

I'm very glad Barack Obama graduated from Punahou,

left, and never turned back. What would he be?

Senior Vice-President of Bank of Hawaii?

You know, Ellison Onizuka, Bruno Mars.

You know what? I don't begrudge some of our best
and finest going out and impacting the entire world.

We want to have a place where local kids, including

my own son, has a chance to be here. I get that.

But I want us to strike -- and it's -people with intellectual smarts are no more the
people that we want to retain than, I think, other
folks with other different skills. So I just want
to strike that from our collective vocabulary. I
think we need to think more thoughtfully about what
it is that we're trying to do with our local kids.

Now, to move more substantively. And I'll preface this set of remarks with real admiration to Director Evans for the leadership you've shown for the Office of Planning and acknowledgement that you are overtasked and under-resourced, and you have a tremendous job. But I will say that in recent dockets over the last year or so, I have been sorely disappointed with the representation that OPSD has given to -- in front of the LUC on various dockets.

So just to -- like, three brief examples. A solar farm and -- a solar farm that was going to take out a bunch of agricultural production and there was never a consultation with the Water Commission on how that was going to impact water allocation in a critical area, and the OPSD staff member saying, oh, yeah, no, it didn't occur to us to talk to them.

An acknowledgement from the same staff when there was an allegation on a special permit of an endangered species was going to be impacted like, "Oh, yeah, well, we just didn't have time to talk to

the Division of Forestry and Wildlife."

Real core existing sustainability

fundamental issues. I know we're going to talk

about it again, but there was very little to none of

the discussion of the five-year boundary review.

That really put -- I think is central to that effort

advancing sustainability goals, more development

goals, housing.

So I would strongly support a more deep and meaningful engagement of the sustainability perspective and mandates in the reports. Because it's -- we rely on you and we trust you, and when the OPSD shows up in front and advises on their take on things, we give it great weight. And when these things are lacking, however, it makes our jobs really, really hard and difficult. So we'd like to see much more of it.

And I think the last thing I'll say before
I hand it over to the Vice Chair to suggest a motion
is -- and this was just an observation that I had
over the course of the many weeks working on this

plan as the facilitator, and even though I have a degree in environmental studies -- I've been working on these issues for three-plus decades -- it never occurred to me that, you know, with sustainability so central to everything that we do, the -- we will know we've gone somewhere.

Right now, when things change at the legislature -- and right now at the legislature, the assumption on the way committees are structured is that everything -- there's the subject matter committees and then there's judiciary and the money committee. And the assumption is, well, everything either has an effect on laws or an effect on the state's finances, so they have to go through them.

There's not a mega-sustainability committee, but everything the legislature passes absolutely has an impact on whether or not we're going to be more sustainable or not. And when we possibly get to the day when the legislature has a powerful central committee that actually also has to review the sustainability impacts of any piece of legislation, I know that we'll get somewhere.

The last unhappy factoid I want to share is that despite all the awesomeness we're doing, in 2021, we consumed more coal globally than any year

We're not doing well globally, even as we 1 before. try locally, and we have to do -- have a lot more 3 before we cook ourselves and our future generations. 4 With that happy note, I turn to First 5 Vice-Chair Giovanni to suggest some language. 6 COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Thank you, Chair, 7 for laying that foundation of grief for my happy moment, but I concur with everything you said, 8 Chair. So thank you for putting it on the record. 10 But I would like to make a motion on 11 behalf of this commission, and the motion is that we 12 go on record in acknowledging the importance and the 13 value of the Branch of -- what is the formal name of 14 the branch? I lose track. 15 MS. BASS: It is Statewide Sustainability 16 Branch. 17 COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: Of the Statewide 18 Sustainability Branch of the Office of Planning and 19 Strategic Development -- and Sustainable 20 Development. We acknowledge their value and 21 importance to the state and to the operation of the 22 state agencies. 23 And I, at the same time, feel that it has 24 been understaffed and under-supported financially, 25 and we would encourage and support proposals to the

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legislature to -- and staffing and a line-item
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   budget for outside funding to this branch on a
 3
   going-forward basis.
             And I would ask that our staff articulate
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   that motion in better words, and that it be signed
   by our Chair and put forth on a timely basis. Thank
 7
   you.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you, Commissioner
 9
   Giovanni.
             Commissioner Cabral?
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             COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I would like to
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   second that very robust motion. Thank you.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Who I will note for the
   record, and in relation to your earlier comments,
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   did not come from one of the attorneys on our
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   commission.
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             COMMISSIONER CABRAL:
                                    Thank you.
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Commissioner, we have a
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19
   motion and a second before us.
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             Commissioner Ohigashi?
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             COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I just wanted to
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   be sure that -- is it -- are we doing this in a
23
   formal letter signed by the Commission Chair? And I
24
   would -- if it is in the form of a letter, I would
25
   like it to also be the Chair be authorized to
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testify, if necessary, on any committee (audio 1 2 disruption). 3 **COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI:** Yeah, I would 4 agree to that. I think that that's a great 5 suggestion, Commissioner Ohigashi. I do think it has to be formalized in the form of a written 7 correspondence. I don't know if it's a letter or a 8 memorandum or some other document. 9 MR. ORODENKER: Mr. Chair, if I may? 10 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Yes, please. 11 MR. ORODENKER: We can send a letter to 12 OP, but I think that the preferable way to handle 13 this is to -- for us to memorialize the Commission's 14 sentiments and testimony that we sent to the 15 legislature. And we can draft a statement with 16 regard to that that will be incorporated in all of 17 our testimony and that we will file any time OPSD's 18 sustainability -- their coordinator has an issue 19 relating to her funding or any programs that she 20 has. 21 I mean, it -- we'll send a copy of that to 22 Maryalice as well, so she can wave it in front of 23 the committees if she wants to, but we will also 24 endeavor to be present and submit testimony 25 containing this Commission's sentiments whenever

there is a matter that is -- that concerns the 1 2 Sustainability Branch. 3 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you. 4 Commissioner Chang followed by Aczon. 5 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 6 I am going to support the motion, but in light of 7 both Ms. Bass and Maryalice's comments that they're meeting with the Budget Committee this afternoon, I would feel comfortable that Maryalice, you know --10 depending upon the outcome of the vote, but at least 11 orally communicate to the legislators the 12 Commission's motion and action, and that a letter 13 should be forthcoming as well as relevant testimony 14 during the legislative process that, I think, 15 empower her with the ability to orally represent 16 what happened today. Thank you. 17 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: So I'm going to go to 18 the movant. I think we'll move right from the sort 19 of comments from our fellow commissioners and the statement from our Executive Officer is that whether 20 21 it is in the form of a letter that I sign that sort 22 of formally summarizes our sentiments or simply a 23 language statement? What's your preference? 24 COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI: I would follow the 25 direction of the -- of our Director, that he be

authorized to provide written testimony in support 1 of the Sustainability Branch's initiatives that are put forth before the legislature. 3 I do think it carries weight to have some 4 5 letter as well that is signed by our Chair that 6 Maryalice can wave any time she wants. So I would 7 encourage both. CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: That's the intent of 8 the movant seconder. Are you good? 10 **COMMISSIONER CABRAL:** Yes. I think it should be on all fronts. It can't hurt that we have 11 the motion in the records, that we have the letters, 12 13 that we have the verbal support, and that our 14 Executive Officer, Dan, when he's there can do when 15 he's at the legislature, both written and verbal. 16 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Commissioner Okuda, and 17 then if there's no further discussion, I'll ask that I take him off to sort of read off the motion as he 18 19 would if we were taking a vote. 20 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. 21 Chair. Just so that there is a clear face on this 22 motion, if somewhere in the document it can also 23 specifically state that the motion was brought by

Commissioner Giovanni, seconded by Commissioner

Cabral, because I think -- not to stroke anyone's

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ego, but they have a lot of weight in the community,
 1
   and I think it's good to put a face on the motion.
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   If it just says "Land Use Commission, I don't think
   it's going to have as much weight. I'm serious.
 5
   Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.
 6
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Mr. Orodenker, could
 7
   you read off what you would read as if we were
 8
   taking a vote?
 9
             MR. ORODENKER: We are going to go -- the
10
   commission has found to go on record via letter
11
   signed by the Chair, acknowledging the Statewide
12
   Sustainability Branch of OPSD's importance,
13
   recognizing its value and that it is an understaffed
   and under-supported and request a line-item budget.
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15
             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Any comments,
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   Commissioners?
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             COMMISSIONER GIOVANNI:
                                      Yeah.
                                             I want -- I
18
   think we need to specifically support their actual
19
   request that's before the legislature right now for
20
   the four positions and then add to that
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   consideration for financial line-item support as
22
   well.
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             COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I agree to that as
24
   the seconder.
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             CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Mr. Orodenker, when you
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1 Bass?

MS. EVANS: Yes. I'd like to thank the Commission for your support for sustainability. And I think -- I really appreciate your suggestions to us to make our assessment of individual dockets that invoke either sea level rise, climate change, or sustainability issues, make that more clear to you so that you can take that into consideration as you weigh the various factors in making your decision on the matters before you. So thank you all.

11 Appreciate it very much.

12 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Okay. Director, Ms.

13 Bass?

MS. BASS: Yes. Thank you, Chair. First and foremost, thank you for this opportunity to present the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. It was -- it's an honor of mine to be here and present that to you all today.

Secondly, thank you all for your support.

I was very unsurprised by this motion, and thank you so much. It gave me chicken skin, and you know, just from the bottom of my heart and deep within my (spoke Hawaiian), I want to convey to you mahalo.

And also just thank you so much for your service that you all provide to the state of Hawaii so that

we can continue to strive towards that equitable 1 climate resilient and sustainable Hawaii in our 2 3 future. So mahalo. Thank you so much. And oh, by the way, Commissioner Okuda, we 4 5 will -- we did provide a copy of the presentation to the LUC staff with the listing of the land use 7 recommendations per your previous request, and I'd 8 be happy to also share the very limited printed copies of the plan, if need be. So please just let 10 us know through the LUC staff how many printed 11 copies you have. Again, it's just very limited. 12 Thank you. 13 CHAIRMAN SCHEUER: Thank you very much, 14 Ms. Bass. 15 Commissioners, there being no further business for the day, I'm going to recess this 16 17 meeting until 9 a.m. tomorrow, where we'll do a call 18 to order and then take up the important ag lands 19 petition from the city and county of Honolulu. 20 (Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.) 21 22 23 24 25

CERTIFICATE I, Jodi Dean, do hereby certify that the proceeding named herein was professionally transcribed on the date set forth in the certificate herein; that I transcribed all testimony adduced and other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter; and that the foregoing transcript pages constitute a full, true, and correct record of such testimony adduced and oral proceeding had and of the whole thereof. IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of January, 2022. Jodi Dean