

Mori, Ashley

From: Maile Luuwai <maile@luuwailaw.com>
Sent: Monday, July 4, 2022 2:42 PM
To: WPCtestimony
Cc: Bridgit Bales; Namaka Rawlins; Nako'o Warrington; Choy, Andrew H; Shellby Yamada
Subject: KPFA TESTIMONY AGENDA ITEM #4 YAMADA & SONS, INC. (PL-SPP-2022-000012)
Attachments: KPFA Testimony for AGENDA ITEM #4 YAMADA & SONS, INC. (PL-SPP-2022-000012) 07.07.22.pdf

Aloha,

I have attached testimony for the Windward Planning Commission July 7th meeting.

Mahalo,

Maile Lu'uwai



**Keaukaha Pana‘ewa Farmers Association
P.O. Box 6844
Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720**

Sent via email to WPCtestimony@hawaiicounty.gov

July 7, 2022

RE: TESTIMONY OF MAILE LU‘UWAI
PRESIDENT, KEAUKAHA PANA‘EWA FARMERS ASSOCIATION
AGENDA ITEM #4 YAMADA & SONS, INC. (PL-SPP-2022-000012)
COUNTY OF HAWAII WINDWARD PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING DATE: JULY 7, 2022

Aloha Windward Planning Commission Members:

The Special Use Application Project Site is located adjacent to our community. Our community has serious concerns regarding the Project. To address these concerns, The Keaukaha Pana‘ewa Farmers Association (KPFA) met with the applicant and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). As a result, we have agreed upon the conditions provided in “Exhibit A” of the Yamada & Sons testimony, dated June 27, 2022.

KPFA is a Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HCCA) Beneficiary Association controlled by native Hawaiian beneficiaries (as defined by the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act, 109 § 537) and is registered with the U.S. Department of Interior, 43 CFR §§ 47.10 and 48.6.

KPFA is also recognized by the Department Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) as the representative entity for 285 native Hawaiian beneficiaries and their ‘ohana across 1,615 agricultural acres in Pana‘ewa.

We hope to ‘awaken’ the commission that environmental injustice exists right here in Hilo and that the distribution of a large variety of environmental hazards directly impacts our Native Hawaiian community.

From Pana`ewa to Keaukaha, our Native Hawaiian community has been subjected to a consistent pattern by the state, county and private industry locating hazardous, industrial and noise generating activities within and adjacent to our communities.

Many of Hilo's industrial facilities are located within and adjacent to our community, including the airport, closed landfill and raceway park. Railroad Avenue runs through the middle of our community and is used as a secondary access road for the speeding cars and heavy weekday traffic from Pahoa.

Many of our community members remember when their families were forcibly removed from their homes after DHHL gave the State the land under their homes to build the airport. It is that part of Hilo's history that has been quietly swept under the political and racial rug.

KPFA will scrutinize and challenge any activity that negatively impacts not only the health, safety and welfare of our community members, but the value of the homes we have built and raised our children in.

We appreciate the applicant taking the time to meet with KPFA community members to address our concerns.

Mahalo,



Maile Lu'uwai
President
Keaukaha Pana`ewa Farmers Association
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