Mitchell D. Roth *Mayor* 

Lee E. Lord

Managing Director

West Hawai'i Office 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740 Phone (808) 323-4770 Fax (808) 327-3563



Zendo Kern Director

Jeffrey W. Darrow Deputy Director

East Hawai'i Office 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 Phone (808) 961-8288 Fax (808) 961-8742

June 20, 2023

Calvert G. Chipchase, Esq. Cades Schutte LLP 1000 Bishop Street, Suite 1200 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Chipchase:



**SUBJECT: REVISED Comments for Environmental Impact Statement Preparation** 

**Notice (EISPN)** 

Applicant(s): Trustees of the Estate of Bernice Pauahi Bishop dba

Kamehameha Schools & Sanford's Service Center Leilani

Quarry

**Request:** Proposed State Land Use Boundary Amendment from the

**Conservation District to the Agricultural District** 

(Docket No. A19-807)

Tax Map Key: (3) 1-3-009:005

This is a revised comment letter replacing our January 13, 2020, comment letter, which was sent in response to the letter received on August 5, 2019 requesting comments for an Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice (EISPN) being prepared for a State Land Use Boundary Amendment (SLUBA) from the Conservation district to the Agricultural district to allow for the expansion of Sanford's quarry operations over a 73.075-acre portion of the Petition Area. Real Property Tax records show that the property is owned by B.P. Bishop Estate-Kamehameha Schools. We apologize for the late response.

- 1. The subject property is 694.50 acres in size. The property is zoned Agricultural-20 acre (A-20a) and Agricultural-10 acre (A-10a) by the County of Hawai'i and designated as Conservation and Agricultural by the State Land Use Commission. The proposed expansion of the quarry operation and accessory uses are located within the County's A-20a zoning district and the State Land Use Conservation district.
- 2. The General Plan Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide (LUPAG) map designations for the property are Conservation, Important Agriculture Lands and Extensive Agriculture. The

Calvert G. Chipchase, Esq. Cades Schutte LLP Page 3 June 20, 2023

area of the current quarry operations and the expansion area are located within the General Plan's Conservation designation. This designation aligns with the State Land Use Conservation district and the County's A-20a zoning district.

- 3. The property is not located within the Special Management Area (SMA) and is approximately 1.5 miles from the nearest coastline.
- 4. The Puna Community Development Plan (CDP) was adopted by the Hawai'i County Council by Ordinance No. 08-116 on September 10, 2008 and has been amended several times. The property is located within the area affected by the Puna CDP. The plan does not specifically speak to the quarrying operations in this area.
- 5. A review of our files indicates that there were several correspondences from the Department of Land and Natural Resources-Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (DLNR-OCCL) relating to the history of permitting for the property, as well as enforcement actions. The portion of the property where the quarry and expansion are located are within the Conservation District Limited Subzone, which no longer identifies quarrying as a permitted use. Please provide the permitting and enforcement history as part of the Statement.
- 6. The applicant(s) has submitted the EISPN to pursue a SLUBA from the Conservation District to the Agricultural District. If approved, the applicant(s) will submit a Special Permit to the State Land Use Commission to allow the expansion of the quarry operations. The alternative is to submit a request to change the Conservation District Limited Subzone to a subzone that would allow for quarrying.

In our comment letter dated January 13, 2020, we noted concerns regarding the possible need for a General Plan LUPAG map amendment from conservation to a designation consistent with the proposed SLU Boundary Amendment request of Agricultural, as well as the County's zoning of A-20a. Since the original comment letter was issued, the Planning Department has initiated a Comprehensive General Plan Amendment Update, which will also consider amendments to the General Plan LUPAG map designations for the entire island of Hawai'i. As part of this amendment, the Planning Department has identified the petition area for a General Plan LUPAG amendment to a designation that will be consistent with the proposed SLU Boundary Amendment request of Agricultural, as well as the County's zoning of Agricultural (A-20a).

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these revised comments. Please inform us when the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is ready for review.

Calvert G. Chipchase, Esq. Cades Schutte LLP Page 3 June 20, 2023

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jeff Darrow at 961-8158.

Sincerely,

Zendo Kern Zendo Kern (Jun 20, 2023 12:04 HST)

ZENDO KERN Planning Director

## JWD:rl

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cc: Daniel Orodenker, Executive Officer
Land Use Commission, State of Hawai'i
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804