



HAWAII REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

October 9, 2024

TO: Chair Dan Giovanni
First Vice-Chair Michael Yamane
Second Vice-Chair Kū'ikeokalani Kamakea-Ōhelo
State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission

FROM: Nathaniel Kinney
Political and Education Director
Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters

SUBJECT: SP21-412 Mahi Solar, LLC (O'ahu)

On behalf of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters, I am writing in support of the amendment of SP21-412 (sup No. 2020SUP-7) to extend the Petitioner's timeline for establishing the project by an additional three years.

As the most petroleum-dependent state in the nation, it is imperative that we work towards our State's renewable energy goals by supporting renewable energy projects such as the Mahi Solar Project. With a constant generation of electricity, the project is estimated to avert the consumption of 11,111,800 barrels of oil and save O'ahu consumers \$175 million over a 25-year lifespan: nearly half a billion gallons of oil use avoided over 25 years.

Extending the timeline for this project will allow for thorough planning, engagement, and the incorporation of local workforce development. By prioritizing local job creation, we can ensure that skilled craftspeople from our islands are employed in the construction and maintenance of this renewable energy infrastructure. This not only supports our economy but also fosters a sense of ownership and pride within the community.

Additionally, the Mahi Solar Project aligns with our commitment to sustainability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It provides an essential step towards a cleaner energy future for Hawai'i, helping to combat climate change while ensuring energy independence.

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