



Hawaii County Approvals



Hawaii Renewable Energy Permits and Approvals Guidebooks



Cover Images (from top, left to bottom, right):

1. **Bioenergy:** A Hawaii sugarcane field. Photo Credit: Ben Amstutz
2. **Geothermal:** Puna Geothermal Venture Power Plant, lower Kilauea East Rift Zone, Island of Hawaii. Photo Credit: U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey
3. **Hydroelectric:** Waterfall and nearby location of the Waiau Hydroelectric Plant on the Wailuku River, Island of Hawaii. Photo Credit: J. Stephen Conn
4. **Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC):** View of OTEC research facility at the Natural Energy Laboratory Authority, located at Keahole Point on the Island of Hawaii.
5. **Solar:** A portion of the La Ola 1.2 MW ground-mounted photovoltaic array on Lanai. Photo Credit: Abbas Akhil, Sandia National Laboratory
6. **Waste to Energy:** Waste coming into the Keehi Transfer Station in Honolulu; possibly on its way to HPower, the 57 MW WTE facility in Honolulu. Photo Credit: Hawaiian Electric Company
7. **Wave:** View of the 40-kW Experimental wave buoy located on Oahu, manufactured by Ocean Power Technologies, Inc. Photo Credit: Hawaiian Electric Company
8. **Wind:** A 10.5 MW wind farm at Upolu Point (near the northern tip of the Island of Hawaii). Photo Credit: Hawaiian Electric Light Company (HELCO) via NREL Photo Information Exchange.

NOTICE: This guide is designed to help people understand the permitting process, and is not a legal document. Further, the guidebook should not be relied on exclusively to determine legal responsibilities. Some permits and licenses that are not included in this guide may be necessary to a particular project. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and the State of Hawaii are not responsible for delays or losses caused thereby should the processing of a permit or approval differ from that written in these Guidebooks. Additionally, these guidebooks are not meant to be a substitute for hiring a professional permitting consultant. DBEDT strongly recommends that each renewable energy developer procure its own consultant familiar with these permits and approvals to assist it through the permitting process. DBEDT also recommends contacting the relevant permitting agencies as a first step to beginning all permitting planning and processes.

Acknowledgements

The “Hawaii Renewable Energy Permits and Approvals Guidebooks” were produced as part of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI), a partnership launched in 2008 between the State of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). SENTECH Hawaii created these guidebooks in close collaboration with DBEDT. Support from a number of federal, state, and county agencies made this suite of guidebooks possible.

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Section 1: Introduction

Background

The Hawaii County Approvals Guidebook is one of 11 guidebooks created to provide the first comprehensive overview of the renewable energy permitting process in Hawaii. Seven of these guidebooks provide federal and state approvals that are resource-specific. The four other guidebooks are county-specific, and are intended to be used in conjunction with the appropriate resource-specific federal and state guidebook, as illustrated in Figure 1.

*For renewable energy developers already familiar with permitting in Hawaii, a checklist is available in **Section 4** that will assist in identifying which permits will be required depending on project specifics.*

This suite of guidebooks was created as part of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI), which has set the goal of transforming Hawaii's energy use to 70% clean energy by 2030. Hawaii's dependence on imported oil creates vulnerability for the state's economy which is greatly affected by the price volatility of this finite energy source. Recognizing the detrimental effects this oil dependency has on Hawaii's environment and local economy, the state signed a Memorandum of Understanding¹ with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in January 2008, which established HCEI as a partnership bringing together local business leaders, policymakers, and industry experts to guide the Hawaii's transition to a clean energy economy.

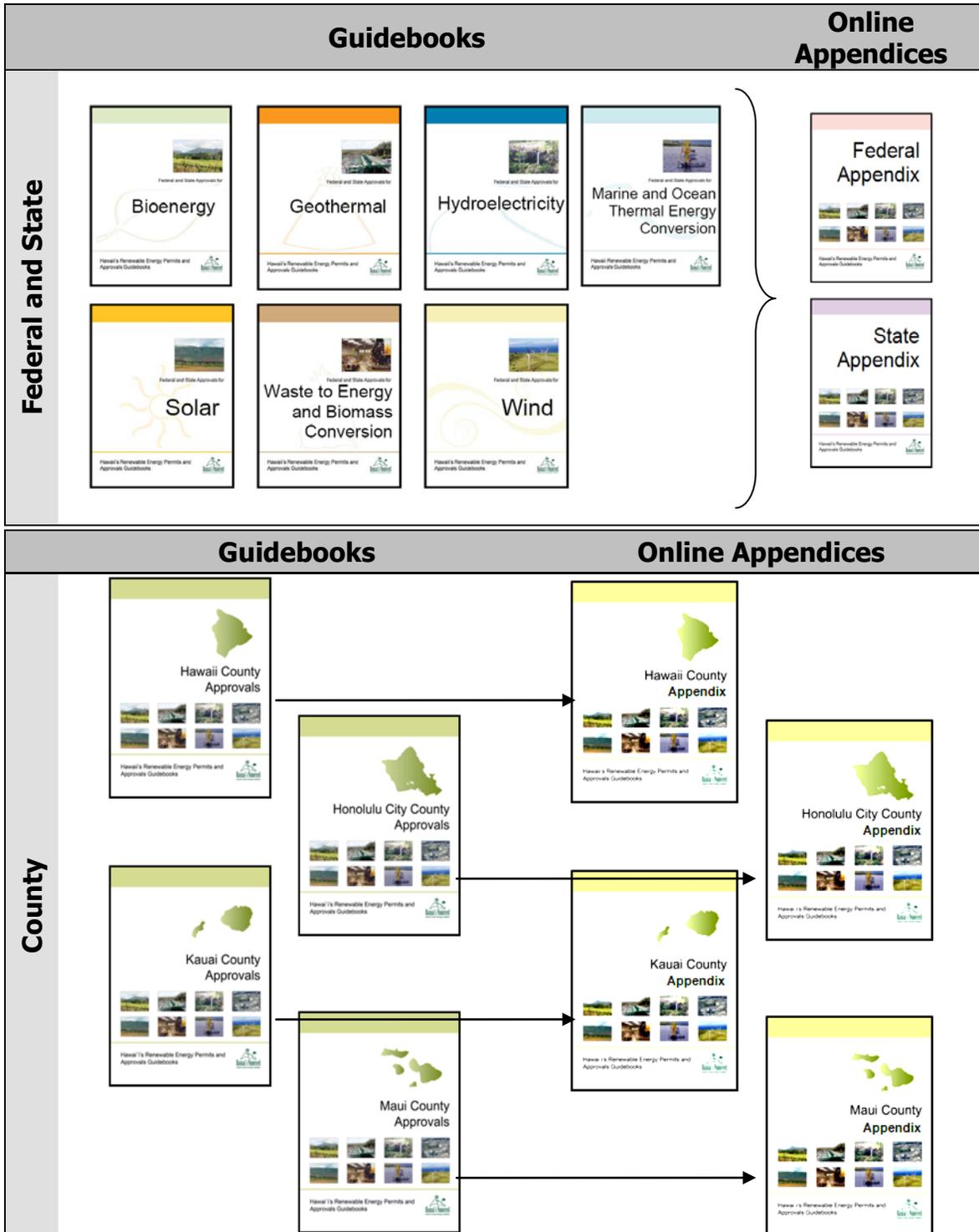
Hawaii Energy Use in 2008²

- Seventy-five percent of the net megawatt-hours of electricity generated in Hawaii were produced from oil.
- Approximately 97% of Hawaii's transportation fuels (as measured in Btu) were produced from oil.
- Hawaii imported roughly 43.1 million barrels of crude oil, costing the State more than \$4.1 billion.
- Although overall energy consumption decreased in 2008, Hawaii consumers spent an estimated \$8.4 billion for energy (about 37% more than in 2007), reflecting record high petroleum prices.

¹ Downloadable from the DBEDT website at <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/energy/hcei/>

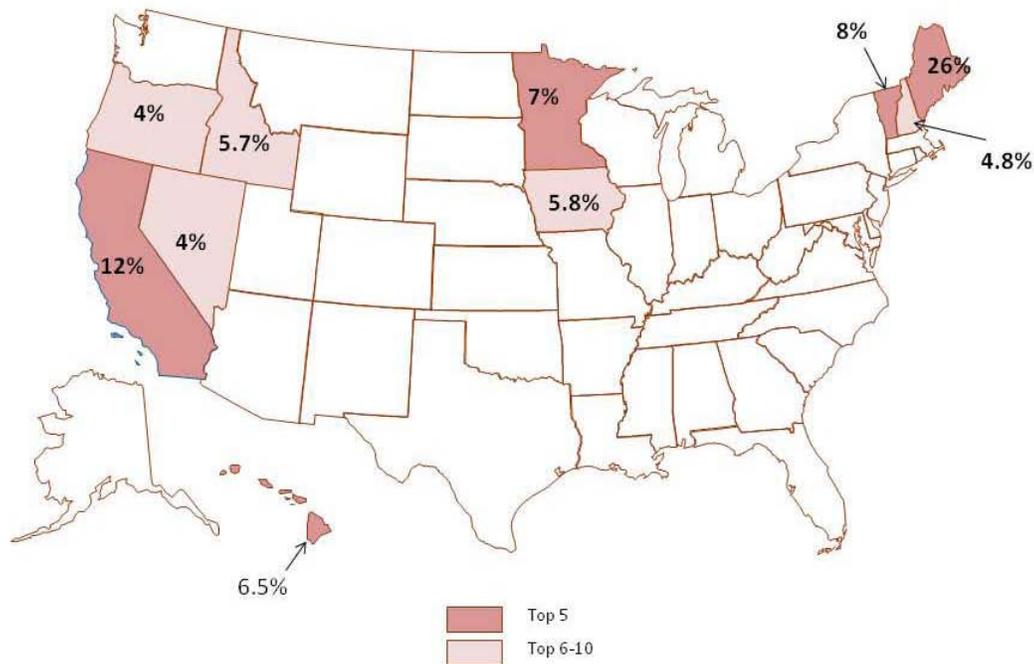
² State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (2009). State of Hawaii Energy Resources Coordinator Annual Report 2009. Retrieved on 2/9/10 from <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/energy/publications/erc09.pdf>.

Figure 1: Overview of the *Hawaii Renewable Energy Permits and Approvals Guidebooks Suite*



Currently, Hawaii ranks 4th nationally in the percentage of total state non-hydroelectric renewable energy generated, as shown in Figure 2.³ This ranking is based on 2007 data, and what was 6.5% renewable energy generation then has now increased in late 2009 to be estimated at 9% of Hawaii’s electricity generation. Regardless of which year you consider, in order to reach the 70% goal set by HCEI the state has to foster rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Figure 2: National Non-Hydroelectric Renewable Electricity Generation (TWh, 2007 data)



In order to reach this ambitious goal, Hawaii has identified the permitting process as an area that needs improvement to foster rapid investment and growth in clean energy technologies. Renewable energy stakeholders and developers have identified Hawaii’s permitting process as an obstacle to capital investment in the sector.⁴ The guidebooks were created out of a need to understand the entire permitting system within Hawaii—which permits are required and the processes for acquiring those permits.

³ E. Doris, J McLaren, V Healey, and S. Hockett (October 2009). *State of the States 2009: Renewable Energy Development and the Role of Policy*. Retrieved on 11/18/09 from http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/states/state_of_the_states.cfm.

⁴ Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (2009). *Bioenergy Master Plan Draft*. Retrieved 10/29/09 from <http://www.hnei.hawaii.edu/bmpp/stakeholders.asp>

Outside of these guidebooks, other major steps to streamline the permitting process have already begun. Significant legislation was passed in the 2009 Hawaii Legislature that alters the state's permitting process. First, renewable energy facilities greater than 5 MW are now able to apply for the Renewable Energy Facility Siting (REFS) process from HB2971 HD1⁵—a permitting and regulatory framework for the construction of renewable energy facilities in the state (this was formerly only offered to renewable energy facilities greater than 200 MW). Additionally, while the decision to award or deny permits is retained by the state or county agencies, new legislation allows the Energy Resource Coordinator in DBEDT to force a decision to either grant or deny permits by no later than 18 months after the approval of a complete permit application. A third step that was taken in the 2009 Legislature was the passage of Act 155, which requires DBEDT to identify Renewable Energy Zones (REZ)—areas that are rich in renewables, cost effective, and environmentally benign—and encourage development of these REZs for transmission of renewable energy. DBEDT is in the process of determining these zones, which will foster much quicker land-use permitting processes.

Guide-to-the-Guides

The permitting guidebooks were created for and intended to be used by developers planning to develop renewable energy projects in Hawaii. Renewable energy developers can use the guidebooks to understand what permits may be required for their potential project, the general time frame that will be required for permitting, and the specific statutory processes for each permit.

This Hawaii County guidebook is intended to be used in conjunction with the appropriate resource-specific Federal and State guidebook. For example, if your renewable energy project is a solar project in Hawaii County, you should consult this Hawaii County guidebook, as well as the Federal and State Approvals for Solar Guidebook. Together, these two guidebooks provide a comprehensive list of federal, state, and county permits that could be required for your renewable energy project.

To begin deciphering which permits will be required for a specific energy project, a checklist is included in Section 4. Based on the required activities and the specific site of the renewable energy project, this checklist will help a developer determine which permits/approvals may be needed.

Within the checklist, the right-hand column references appendices which provide a wealth of permit-specific information. The appendices are the companion to

⁵ Hawaii State Legislature (2010). Retrieved on 3/22/2010 from http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2010/lists/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=2971.

this guidebook, and available electronically at www.HawaiiCleanEnergyInitiative.org/Permitting. The appendices provide a “permit packet” with, when available, the following for each permit:

1. **“Process Overview” charts:** created specifically for these guidebooks (not created by the agencies themselves), these two-page summaries provide specific contact information, a broad overview of the major steps, an estimated time frame, and estimated fees that relate to the permit/approval.
2. **Application(s) and instructions:** all applications included in the appendices were current as of November 2009, however application forms are subject to change. Instructions are included where available. Contact the permitting agency before completing the application to ensure you are using the correct forms and process.
3. **Administrative Rules/ Ordinances/ Legislation:** for state level permits, legislation is generally available for the majority of permits and serves to define ambiguous terms, provide detailed information regarding the process, and preempt many other questions regarding the permit. Administrative rules define and describe the state level process for executing the legislation that requires the permit. Ordinances are the county local laws and procedures for acquiring a county permit. The rules and ordinances provided herein are not the official version of the law, and could be slightly different from the official version based on state legislative or county council amendments to the law over time. The reader is advised to consult with the most current up to date legislation or ordinances.

It is important to note that the guidebooks and appendices were created at the end of 2009. Laws, legislation, and procedures for executing the permits and approvals are dynamic and ever-changing. All *Process Overviews* were created with the intent that the applicant would contact the permitting agency directly and consult all current materials as provided by the permitting agency. Many of the permitting processes are too complex to detail all steps, but these overviews provide a broad understanding of the process.

DBEDT and the State of Hawaii are not responsible for delays or losses caused should the processing of a permit or approval differ from that written in these Guidebooks. Additionally, these Guidebooks are not meant to be a substitute for hiring a professional permitting consultant. DBEDT strongly recommends that each renewable energy developer procure its own consultant familiar with these permits and approvals to assist it through the permitting process.

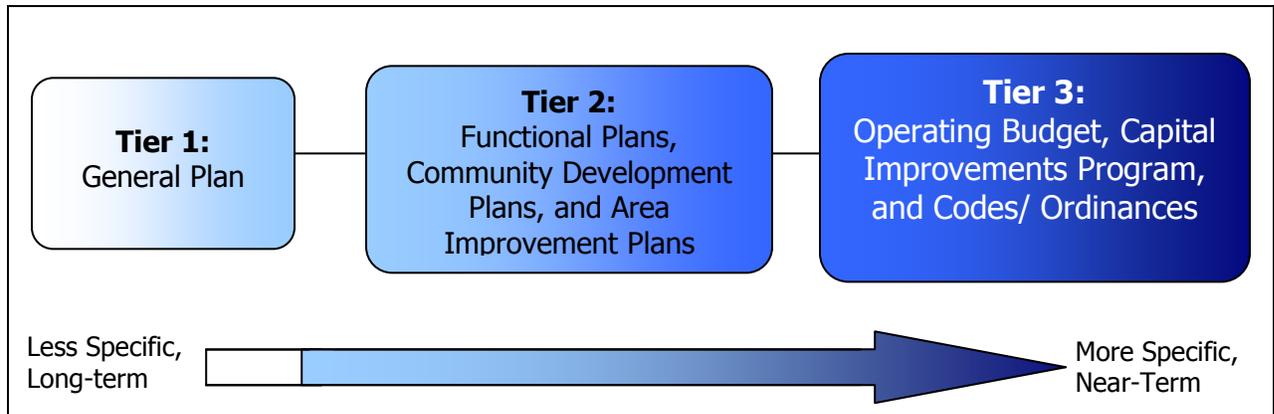
Section 2: Overview of Hawaii County's Regulatory System

Introduction

Permits are commonly categorized into four main groups: (1) environmental permits and reviews, (2) construction and operation permits, (3) land use permits, and (4) utility permits. There are also two major types of permits in Hawaii: ministerial (those that are quantitative, specific, and measurable) and discretionary (those that require a body of decision makers to use judgment to issue or deny a permit). The Federal and State Resource-Specific Guidebooks describe these different permit types and categories in further detail. This section of the guidebook describes the system in which these permit types and categories are administered in Hawaii County.

Hawaii County uses the three tiered system illustrated in Figure 1 to guide the regulatory system. All three tiers are required to be consistent with each other. Each tier is described in further detail below.

Figure 3: Hawaii County's Planning System



Hawaii County's General Plan

Hawaii's General Plan is the foundation for all other elements of the County's planning structure, and encompasses long-term goals, policies, strategies, and courses of action for the entire County.⁶

⁶ Hawaii County Website. *Hawaii County 2005 General Plan*. Retrieved 12/16/09 from <http://www.hawaii-county.com/la/gp/toc.html>.

A number of the sections of the General Plan relate to energy, renewable energy, and general development on the island of Hawaii. The entire plan is available at <http://www.hawaii-county.com/la/gp/toc.html>. The text box below is an excerpt from the General Plan⁷, which outlines goals and policies for Hawaii County's energy use.

Hawaii County's Energy Goals and Policies

Goals:

1. Strive towards energy self-sufficiency.
2. Establish the Big Island as a demonstration community for the development and use of natural energy resources.

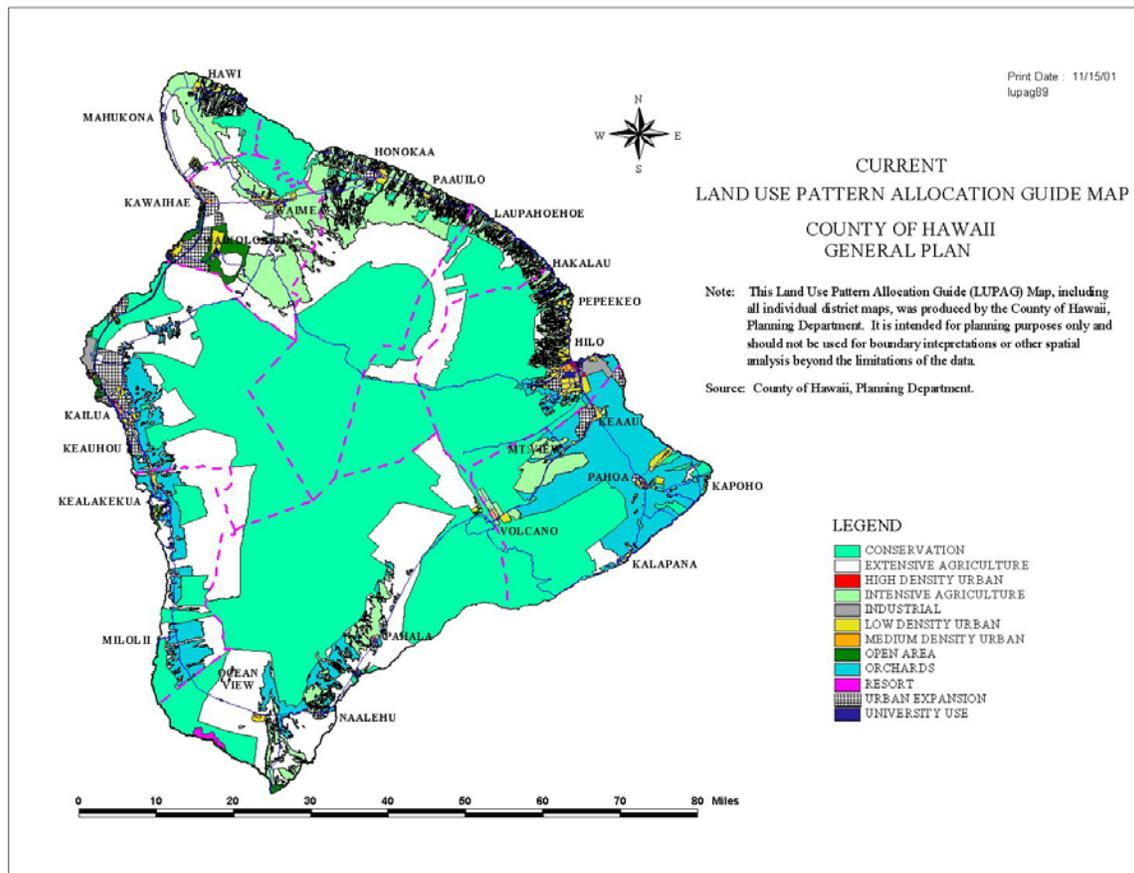
Policies:

1. Encourage the development of alternate energy resources.
2. Encourage the development and use of agricultural products and by-products as sources of alternate fuel.
3. Encourage the expansion of energy research industry.
4. Strive to educate the public on new energy technologies and foster attitudes and activities conducive to energy conservation.
5. Ensure a proper balance between the development of alternative energy resources and the preservation of environmental fitness and ecologically significant areas.
6. Strive to assure a sufficient supply of energy to support present and future demands.
7. Provide incentives that will encourage the use of new energy sources and promote energy conservation.
8. Seek funding from both government and private sources for research and development of alternative energy resources.
9. Coordinate energy research and development efforts of both the government and private sectors.
10. Encourage the continuation of studies concerning the development of power that can be distributed at lower costs to consumers.
11. Strive to diversify the energy supply and minimize the environmental impacts associated with energy usage.
12. Continue to encourage the development of geothermal resources to meet the energy needs of the County of Hawaii.
13. Encourage the use of solar water heating through the continuation of State tax credit programs, through the Building Code, and in County construction.
14. Encourage energy-saving design in the construction of buildings.
15. Support net-metering and other incentives for independent power producers.

⁷ Hawaii County General Plan, February 2005. Retrieved on 3/23/10 from <http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us/la/gp/2005/main.html>.

The General Plan also includes maps such as the Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide (LUPAG) map and the Facilities Map. The maps provided in the General Plan are available electronically at http://www.hawaii-county.com/general_plan_rev/revision/maps.htm. The LUPAG map is meant to portray the general location of different land types, and is not used for boundary interpretation (see Figure 4).⁸ The Facilities maps show important infrastructure such as roadways, parks, and public buildings.

Figure 4: LUPAG Map of Hawaii County Land Uses

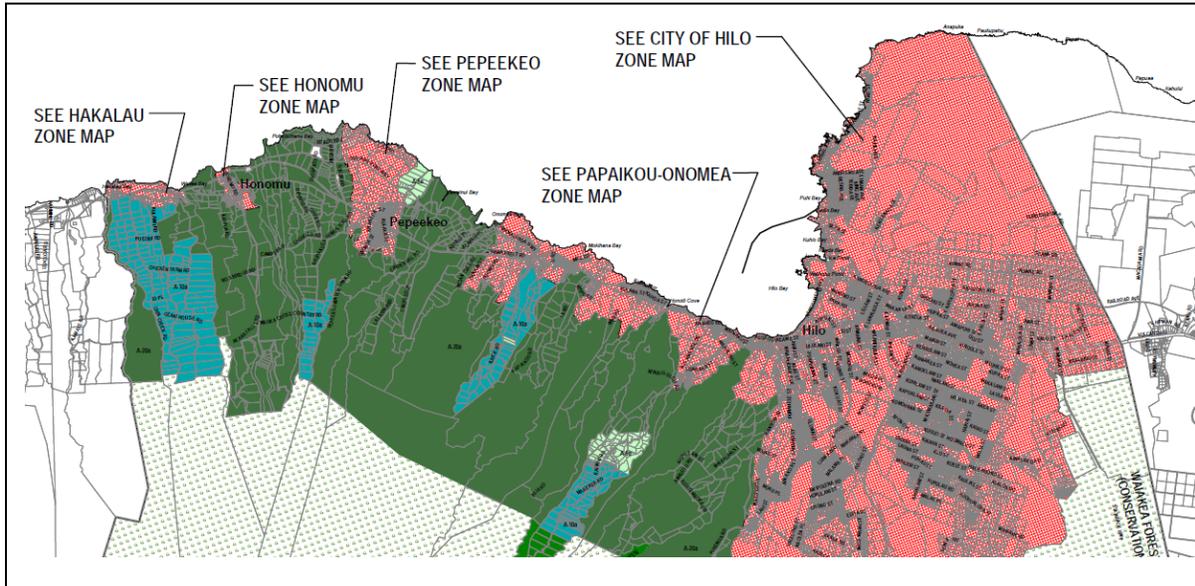


More precise and detailed maps are provided by the Planning Department at <http://www.hawaii-county.com/maps/maps.html>. Figure 5 is an example of a more detailed map; it is the South Hilo map in Zone 2.⁹ This is only the top portion, and the website allows zooming in to attain detailed information regarding land use and zoning. There are nine zones in the County of Hawaii.

⁸ Current Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide Map. Retrieved on 3/23/10 from http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us/general_plan_rev/revision/maps.htm.

⁹ County of Hawaii Zone Maps. Retrieved on 4/12/10 from <http://www.hawaii-county.com/maps/maps.html>.

Figure 5: Zone 2, South Hilo Map



More maps are available that show the renewable energy resources available in each zone. Refer to the Federal and State Resource-Specific Guidebooks for more information on these maps.

Community Development Plans

While the General Plan applies to the entire Big Island, community development plans are intended to focus on specific towns, communities, and/or natural watersheds. Over the years, the county has not kept up with community development plans, however the 2005 General Plan calls for a revival of this process. The county is currently working on new community development plans for Kona and Puna.¹⁰

Ordinances and Regulations

Ordinances are mandated by the City Charter and constitute the principal means for implementing the city's plans. The ordinances are established by law, and may result in the city/county requiring a permit to be completed in order to implement the ordinances.

The Hawaii County Code is a compilation of nearly all ordinances that relate to the county's permitting. The code was republished in June of 2005, which is updated and released in January and July of each year. The official print version

¹⁰ For updates on these plans, see <http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us/bc/kcdpac/main.htm> and <http://www.hcrc.info/community-planning/puna-cdp>

may be purchased from the Hawaii County Clerk's Office through the website <http://www.hawaii-county.com/countycode.html>. Unofficial versions are also available via the website, and select Chapters are included in the appendices to this guidebook when referenced by energy related (or by permits addressed in this and/or the other guidebooks).

Hawaii has had island-wide zoning since 1967. Land use regulations are guided by a number of ordinances, however the county's zoning code is specifically Chapter 25 of the Hawaii County Code. Zoning changes are reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by the County Council.

Section 3: Agencies to Know in Hawaii County

Permitting requires working with a number of agencies at the federal, state, and county levels. In addition to the Hawaii county agencies described below, coordination is also necessary with the permitting agencies at the state and federal level as described in the Federal and State Resource-Specific Guidebooks. Agencies at all of these levels are required to examine proposed projects to ensure the protection of environmental and social goods and values, while recognizing the benefits that renewable energy projects can bring to Hawaii.

The contact list below provides an overview of the three different agencies that have been cited as administrators of permits that may be required for a renewable energy project in the County of Hawaii. The list is followed by more detailed information about each agency and their role.

County of Hawaii Agencies	
Agency	Contact Information
Planning Department	<p>East HI: Aupuni Center 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 Hilo, HI 96720 Phone: 808-961-8288</p> <p>West HI: Hanama Place 75-5706 Kuakini Hwy, Suite 109 Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 Phone: 808-327-3510</p>
Public Works Department	<p>East HI: Aupuni Center 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 7 Hilo, HI 96720 Phone: 808-961-8321</p> <p>West HI: Hanama Place 75-5706 Kuakini Hwy, Suite 109-111 Kailua-Kona, HI 96740</p>
- Building Division	<p>East HI: 808-961-8331</p> <p>West HI: 808-327-3520</p>
- Engineering Division	<p>East HI: 808-961-8327</p> <p>West HI: 808-327-3530</p>

Planning Department

The Planning Department is responsible for all county-level environmental and land use permits that this guidebook cites. The Planning Department provides technical advice to the Mayor, Planning Commission and County Council on all

planning and land use matters. The department is also responsible for the administration of the Subdivision and Zoning Codes.

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department is responsible for all construction and operation permits in Hawaii County. This includes all matters relating to engineering; public and private building construction and inspection; construction, inspection and maintenance of public streets, highways, bridges and drainage facilities; acquisition of public and private properties for public purposes; design, operation and maintenance of traffic signals and traffic control devices excluding wastewater and solid waste; and all other public works projects. For renewable energy projects, the following two divisions within the Public Works Department will need to be consulted as described:

- Building Division: responsible for the administration and enforcement of building, electrical, and plumbing codes. Building, plumbing, and electrical permits are required from this division for all building construction including renovations, additions, sheds, garages, patios, and antennas/structures over 6 feet in height.
- Engineering Division: responsible for assisting the Planning Department with engineering related requirements for development, as well as permits associated with grading, grubbing, stockpiling, subdivisions, drainage and flood zones, and waterline installations.

Section 4: A Checklist of Approvals for Energy Development in Hawaii County

This section provides a checklist that can be used by an energy developer to begin to understand which permits may be required for a specific project within Hawaii County. This checklist is designed so that the developer begins by reading the column titled "Possible activity to be performed" which describes a potential activity that may be required. If the proposed project requires the listed activity, the developer can then place a check-mark in the left-hand column, allowing the developer to get an idea of which permits should be further researched. The right-hand column references the Hawaii County Appendix, available electronically at www.HawaiiCleanEnergyInitiative.org/Permitting, which contains a wealth of information about each permit. If a renewable energy developer is unsure whether a permit is required, he/she may refer to the appendix number listed, which should provide enough information to determine if the permit is required (if still unsure, contact the administering agency listed in the Process Overview in the appendix).

As the appendices are large files, we provide each appendix as a separate file on the website; we suggest printing only the individual appendix numbers that are thought to be required for your project.

Activity Checklist

	Permit Name; Department	Possible activity to be performed	See Appendix Number
County Environmental Permits			
	Shoreline Setback Variance; Planning Department	To construct structures and perform certain activities if the proposed activities meet one of the following standards of Planning Department Rule 8, Shoreline Setback: (1) Shoreline-dependent Facility Standard, (2) Public Interest Standard, or (3) Hardship Standard.	Hawaii-1
	Special Management Area Use Permit - (Assessment and Application); Planning Department	To perform any development, structure, or activity within the Special Management Area (SMA) as defined in the Coastal Zone Management objective and policies and SMA guidelines.	Hawaii-2
County Construction and Operation Permits			
	Building Permit; Public Works Department -	To erect a new building or structure.	Hawaii-3

	Building Division		
	Plumbing Application; Public Works Department - Building Division	To perform any type of plumbing work.	Hawaii-4
	Flood Zone Designation Form; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To perform any construction activity in or near a flood zone.	Hawaii-5
	Grading Permit; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To perform any one of the following activities that (1) exceeds 100 cubic yards of excavation or fill; (2) a vertical height of excavation or fill measured at its highest point that exceeds 5 feet; or (3) when the general and localized drainage pattern with respect to abutting property lines is altered.	Hawaii-6
	Grubbing Permit; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To clear areas that exceed one acre (43,560 square feet).	Hawaii-7
	Permit to Work Within the County-Right-of-Way; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To work within the County right-of-way before construction; i.e., landscaping, utility lines, driveways, sidewalk repair, and construction.	Hawaii-8
	Private Waterline Installation; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To place a private waterline within the County right-of-way.	Hawaii-9
	Stockpiling Permit; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To store material exceeding 500 cubic yards.	Hawaii-10
	Variance Application for County Streets; Public Works Department - Engineering Division	To request a variance from provisions and conditions found in Hawaii County Code Chapter 22 concerning County streets.	Hawaii-11
County Land Use Permits			
	Agricultural Project District Application; Planning Department	To develop within the agricultural zoning districts. (In lieu of specific land designations, this permit provides a flexible and creative planning approach in the location of specific types of agricultural uses and variations in lot sizes.)	Hawaii-12
	Plan Approval; Planning Department	To allow development certain districts in order to ensure conformance with the Hawaii County General Plan, to assure that the intent and purpose of Hawaii County Code Chapter 25 are carried out, and to ensure pertinent conditions of previous approvals related to the development have been implemented.	Hawaii-13

	Variance Zoning Application; Planning Department	To grant provisions in the zoning requirements (Hawaii County Code Chapter 25); provided that a variance shall not allow the introduction of a use not otherwise permitted within the district; and provided further that a variance shall not primarily effectuate relief from applicable density limitations.	Hawaii-14
	Project District Application; Planning Department	To establish a project district on over 50 acres of land. (This permit process provides for a flexible and creative planning approach rather than specific land use designations. It will also allow for flexibility in location of specific uses and mixes of structural alternatives).	Hawaii-15
	Special Permit Application; Planning Department	To conduct construction, use, or activities in the State agricultural land districts.	Hawaii-16

Glossary of Commonly Used Acronyms

The following list includes acronyms found in this Guidebook, as well as the related appendices.

AAA	Airport Airspace Analysis (FAA)
ACOE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (old acronym, new acronym is USACE)
AERU	Alternative Energy-Related Use (MMS)
ALP	Alternative Licensing Process (FERC)
APC	Air Pollution Control
AQRV	Air Quality Related Value (CAA)
ARD	Air Resources Division (NPS)
BA	Biological Assessment (ESA)
BACT	Best Available Control Technology (CAA)
BO	Biological Opinion (ESA)
BVA	Board of Variance and Appeals
CAA	Clean Air Act
CDU	Conservation District Use
CE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CEII	Critical Energy Infrastructure Information
CEPOH	Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Honolulu (USACE)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIZ	Change in Zoning
COE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
COI	Conflict of Interest
COP	Construction and Operations Plan (MMS)
CP	Conservation Plan (ESA) (same as HCP)
CP	Conditional-Use Permit
CPD	Coastal Programs Division (OCRM)
CSP	Covered Source Permit
CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance (NRCS)
CUP	County Use Permit
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWRM	Commission on Water Resource Management
CX	Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)
CZM	Coastal Zone Management
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DA	Department of the Army
DBA	Draft Biological Assessment

DBA	District Boundary Amendment
DBEDT	Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
DE	District Engineer (USACE)
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program (USACE)
DHAC	Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance (FERC)
DI	Direct Implementation (EPA)
DLA	Draft License Application (FERC)
DLIR	(State of Hawaii) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
DLNR	(State of Hawaii) Department of Land and Natural Resources
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOFAW	Division of Forestry and Wildlife (within DLNR)
DOH	(State of Hawaii) Department of Health
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DOT	(State of Hawaii) Department of Transportation
DOTS	Dredging Operations and Technical Support (USACE)
DPP	Department of Planning and Permitting (City and County of Honolulu)
EA	Environmental Assessment (NEPA)
EC-R	Engineering Construction - Regulatory (USACE)
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat (NMFS)
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement (NEPA)
EISA	Energy Independence and Security Act
EMD	Environmental Management Division (within DOH)
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPAct	Energy Policy Act
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community-Right-to-Know Act
EQC	Environmental Quality Commission
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESL	Easement for Use of State Lands
ESP	Environmental Stewardship Program (USACE)
EUP	Experimental Use Permit
FAFF	Flammable Finish Facility
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FEBA	Fire, Explosives and Blasting Agent
FHAZ	Hazardous Materials Permit
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration

FLAG	Federal Land Managers' Air Quality Related Values Work Group
FLM	Federal Land Manager (NPS)
FONSI	Findings of No Significant Impact
FPA	Federal Power Act
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites (USACE)
FWCA	Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
FWO	Fish and Wildlife Office (USFWS)
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GAP	General Activities Plan (MMS)
GCAP	Groundwater Control Area Permit
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GP	General Permit (USACE)
HAR	Hawaii Administrative Rules
HCDA	Hawaii Community Development Authority
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan (ESA) (same as CP)
HDOA	Hawaii Department of Agriculture
HECO	Hawaiian Electric Company
HEER	Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office (within DOH)
HELCO	Hawaii Electric Light Company
HPR	Historic Preservation Review
HRS	Hawaii Revised Statutes
HSR	Historic Sites Review
IHA	Incidental Harassment Authorization (MMPA)
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process (FERC)
ITA	Incidental Take Authorization
ITL	Incidental Take License
ITP	Incidental Take Permit (ESA)
ITS	Incidental Take Statement (ESA)
IWS	Individual Wastewater System
JD	Jurisdictional Determination (USACE)
KIUC	Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
LAA	Likely to Adversely Affect (ESA)
LNM	Local Notice to Mariners (USCG)
LOA	Letter of Authorization (MMPA) (same as ITA)
LOP	Letter of Permission (USACE)
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gases
LUC	Land Use Commission
MBSP	Migratory Birds and State Programs (USFWS)
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Levels (CWA)
MECO	Maui Electric Company

MILCON	Military Construction (USACE)
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MMS	Minerals Management Service (DOI)
MMSZ	Marine Mammal Safety Zone (MMPA)
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Area (NOAA)
MPRSA	Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (also known as the Ocean Dumping Act)
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAA)
NARS	Natural Area Reserves System
NE	No Effect (ESA)
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NESHAPS	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Pollutants (CAA)
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NLAA	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (ESA)
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA)
NMSA	National Marine Sanctuaries Act
NOAA	U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOI	Notification of Intent (FERC)
NOS	National Ocean Service (NOAA)
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System
NPR	No Permit Required (USACE)
NPS	U.S. National Park Service
NRCS	U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (originally called the Soil Conservation Service)
NSP	Noncovered Source Permit
NSR	New Source Review (CAA)
NW	Nationwide (USACE)
NWP	Nationwide Permit (USACE)
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS)
NWRS	National Wildlife Refuge System (USFWS)
OCCL	Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (within DLNR)
OCI	Organizational Conflict of Interest
OCRM	Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (NOAA)
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
OCSLA	Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
ODA	Ocean Dumping Act (MPRSA)
ODD	Ocean Disposal Database (USACE)
ODMDS	Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Sites
OE	Obstruction Evaluation (FAA)

OEMM	Offshore Energy and Minerals Management (MMS)
OEQC	Office of Environmental Quality Control (within DOH)
OMA	Operations & Maintenance, Army (USACE)
OP	Office of Planning (within DBEDT)
OPR	Office of Protected Resources (NMFS)
OTEC Act	Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Act
OWCP	Ocean Waters Construction Permit
PAD	Pre-Application Document (FERC)
PCN	Pre-Construction Notification (USACE)
PIRO	Pacific Islands Regional Office (NMFS)
PLP	Preliminary Licensing Proposal (FERC)
PM&E	Proposed Measures and Plans to Protect, Mitigate, or Enhance Environmental Resources (FERC)
PMP	Project Master Plan
POD	Pacific Ocean Division (USACE)
POH	Pacific Ocean - Honolulu (USACE)
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PRD	Protected Resources Division (PIRO)
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration (CAA)
PUC	Public Utility Commission
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board (USACE)
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REA	Ready for Environmental Analysis (FERC)
REAU	Renewable Energy and Alternative Uses
REFSP	Renewable Energy Facility Siting Process
RFI	Request for Interest
RFP	Request for Proposals
RFQ	Request for Quotes
RHA	Rivers and Harbors Act
ROD	Record of Decision (USACE)
ROW	Right-of-Way
RPA	Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives (NMFS)
RUE	Right-of-Use and Easement
SAP	Site Assessment Plan (MMS)
SCAP	Stream Channel Alteration Permit
SD	Scoping Document (FERC)
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SHPD	State Historic Preservation Division (within DLNR)
SMA	Special Management Area
SOF	Statement of Findings (USACE)
SPGP	State Programmatic General Permit (USACE)
SSV	Shoreline Setback Variance

SUP	Special Use Permit
TDML	Total Maximum Daily Loads (CWA)
TLP	Traditional Licensing Process (FERC)
TSD	Transmission, Distribution, and Storage
UIC	Underground Injection Control
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
USDW	Underground Sources of Drinking Water (CWA)
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
UST	Underground Storage Tank
WCPI	Well Construction - Pump Installation
WQC	Water Quality Certification (CWA)



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