A New Comment has been Submitted

EIA Scope:

1. Must include Alternates to the project, including not only renewables but nuclear.

2. Must include Cumulative Impact Assessment both short, medium and long term

3. Must consider scenarios after the initial 20 year life of the windfarms, as to what next, replacement? etc.

4. Must consider life cycle costs of project vs alternatives.

5. Must consider long term impacts on marine bird rookeries and populations in evaluating any proposed windfarm locations that are within 2 km of major bird rookeries. Must establish before site selection base line conditions of rookerie populations and long term monitoring plan. European scientific literature on impacts to marine bird rookeries, migration, etc. must be reviewed and included. Will the presence of wind farms result in visual disruption of marine bird land/sea navigation systems for example?

Impacts to rare butterflys and moths and other endangered insect populations must be considered

6. Must consider long term impacts to the host island resident human communities and their social conditions. What are the positive and negative impacts and what mitigation measures will be required.

7. Must consider long term economic impacts to host islands economies including loss of tourism due to visual impacts of wind farms on viewscapes. Viewscape analysis must be state of the art as discussed in the National Academy of Sciences Windpower Environmental Impact study. Tourism may be negatively impacted on these islands which pride themselves as not being industrial tourist traps eg Maui. People come to these places because there is a lack of development. Must consider what impacts may occur on the island economies and employment and mitigation measures.

8. The electricity will be generated as alternate current then converted to direct for transmission. Must address the possibility that a small portion of that alternate current could be directed into the islands' MECO electrical grid, what the cost/benefits would be and what would be required and to what extent that would meet the islands electrical needs.

9. Must consider the provision of a significant environmental enhancement package to the islands that would address the outstanding environmental needs; reef siltation and destruction of the coral reefs, erosion and unmanaged runoff, depletion and pollution of aquifers, deforestation; feral deer, pigs and goats, and need for revegetation. Consider possibility of establishment of endowment, annually endowed for island conservation trusts and other not for profits to deal with these issues as an alternate to providing resident population a % of
gross windpower revenues. Must consider the difficulties in determine who would get the $, property owners vs residents etc.

9. Must consider requiring environmental performance bonds be posted before regulatory approval by wind power developers, that will include full cost of decommissioning and reclamation. Consider that the interest from these funds go to island conservancies and other not for profits dealing with environmental issues etc. on the islands.

10 Must consider requiring that wind power developers provide the opportunity and $ for islanders to train as operating technicians through accredited technical college programs.

Submitted on Mon, Feb 28, 2011 / 02:00PM HST by Brian Reves

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