

Merz, Jeff

From: noreply@hirep-wind.com
Sent: Saturday, February 26, 2011 11:22 AM
To: Johnston, Douglas; Merz, Jeff
Subject: [HIREP Wind EIS] New Comment

A New Comment has been Submitted

My name is Beverly Zigmond and I have been a resident of Lana`i for nearly 20 years. I am opposed to this proposed wind generating power plant on Lana`i. I have specific concerns and questions about this EIS/EA:

1. Federal and state environmental impact laws require a study of alternatives, which are painfully absent from this document. The choices are ‘big wind’ or nothing. This needs to be addressed. Could this possibly be a quick-rich scheme to get recovery money? Perhaps the project should be called ‘going greed’.
2. Why is there no discussion of a reduction in demand – i.e., conservation, particularly on the part of O`ahu, who will benefit from the exploitation of the outer islands? At the Maui meeting on Wednesday, there was a gentleman who works in the renewable energy field, and even he stated that the first thing that should be looked at is a reduction in demand. Green Greed.
3. If we are TRULY so concerned about reducing our dependence on foreign oil, why are we not looking at food security? Growing our own food, producing our own milk, instead of having everything shipped from the mainland – or even worse, from foreign countries? If we stop importing asparagus and other food from central America, south America, Mexico, Canada, the savings in oil would appreciably contribute to the reduction in demand for oil.
4. There is a glaring conflict of interest in having the applicant (DBEDT) and the accepting authority being one and the same.
5. No where does the document address these cable issues:
 - a. Who will own it?
 - b. What will it cost?
 - c. How will it be paid for
6. It refers to ‘decommissioning’ yet does not discuss what will be required from the developer. E.g., will they be required to remove the 1100 cubic yards of cement in the foundation of each of those turbines? Will the 60’ diameter holes be re-filled?
7. When these holes are dug – each hole large enough to fit THREE double decker buses – how will the soil be disposed of? What about runoff?
8. No where is the issue of water addressed – i.e., what is the source of water for all this cement?
9. No where is the issue of fire discussed – i.e., what happens when one of the turbines catches fire?
10. There needs to be an in-depth analysis of the impacts on the Kanepu`u Dry Land Forest Preserve.

11. A study recently done by Booz-Allen of the National Renewable energy Lab study discussed the financial implications of this project. Will the taxpayers (us) – who financed this study – be made available for our review?

12. If Moloka`i refuses to participate in this project, what will happen?

13. The approximate \$1billion of state money (our money) to be spent on this project would provide at best 10% of O`ahu's electricity. That money would be better spent providing 166,000 homes with solar hot water or 28,000 with photo-voltaic systems.

14. What part does the military play in this? It cannot be a coincidence that the cable sites on O`ahu are military-related.

15. What about the cultural impact? The young Hawaiians who spoke at the Maui meeting shared in great detail the wealth of cultural sites, as well as cultural importance, that the proposed Lana`i site has. It was referred to a 'Bishop Museum without walls'. You are willing to destroy this for huge profits for a mainland developer - \$150-\$200 million annually? Don't settle for a 'limited field study' of the impacted area. It requires a thorough analysis, not just given lip service. And who conducts the study is just as important.

16. What about the marine, land, and air creatures – flora and fauna - who will be adversely impacted? The endangered Hawaiian Petrel, the humpback whales, the Hawaiian gardenia, just to name a few.

One quarter of the island for maybe 20 jobs at the end rapes our `aina and prostitutes our people. The loss of the land and our way of life will be permanent and irrevocable – that means forever gone.

I anticipate written replies to my questions and concerns, as is required by law. Thank you.

Submitted on Sat, Feb 26, 2011 / 11:21AM HST by Beverly Zigmond

Email Address: beverlyzigmond@juno.com

Phone Number: 808.565.6700