

Merz, Jeff

From: noreply@hirep-wind.com
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 10:36 AM
To: Johnston, Douglas; Merz, Jeff
Subject: [HIREP Wind EIS] New Comment

A New Comment has been Submitted

Three years ago when the legislation was passed for commercial wind farms on ag land is when the state's intent should have been communicated to Lanai and Molokai. Wind was chosen then. So trying to say ALL the science was looked at is misleading since wind was decided upon. HELCO already made a deal with First Wind, a disreputable company that has repeatedly lied to Molokai residents. The Feds and State are in bed with a dirty bunch. Therefore, neither the state or Feds can be trusted at this time regarding this process. There is a saying that your emergency because of lack of planning is not my problem. Hence, years ago the sustainability for many resources such as water and energy have been in question for Oahu. Did any one do anything - no. Well now I don't have any empathy for Oahu. Over the years, Oahu has tried to build power plants, prisons, waste treatment, etc on Molokai. This is just another build it on Molokai project that should be on Oahu. Change the resi dential developments CCRs about hanging laundry outside, use less energy, drive less, etc. and maybe there would be enough energy and Oahu would not need more energy.

Wind is not reliable so there needs to be backup. The backup is HELCO gets another plant which will be a fossil fuel. So the so called plan so far doesn't look like you want off fossil fuel. This is really about HELCO, the military, and keeping a non sustainable lifestyle on Oahu. Did anyone read the 1970s report during the last major oil shortage? At that point, measures could have been started and today it would be a different picture.

There is little industrial sector on Oahu, so the idea of using the \$1 billion for the cable and putting solar generation on every building on Oahu is not unrealistic. Let houses and families become sustainable. HELCO and reinvent themselves just like many other utilities on the mainland have done, and can still be the transmission and distribution with some small generation if they put the systems on the houses. You could reach your goal of non fossil fuels faster than a few massive wind turbines. So that is why I vote no to any wind farms on Molokai. Not because I don't believe in getting off of oil, but I don't see how the wind farms are the answer. Besides, Molokai's open space and sky is worth more as a legacy than wind mills. In today's Hawaii, open space and sky is rare. It is would makes Molokai Molokai - we still have some places where man has not left a major footprint. Those are treasures and don't deserve to be paved over and a major development laid over the landscape.

No wind farm in Hawaii has made it over the long run. Yes there are some new ones on Maui, but they were subsidized by US taxpayers - us. So when the money dries up, First Wind will be gone and again the towers will rust just like it was on the north shore of Oahu and still is on south point on the Big Island. Rusting reminders of the folly of the state.

Short memories because once Molokai had most of its generation by renewal. I never found out what MECO got to take over the utility, but we do know the biomass plant is working well in Indonesia and I saw the wind turbines dismantled. So where are we today - 100% fossil fuel except for the few residents who can afford solar generation. If one lives long enough you see it come and go. Besides because MECO either has incompetent engineers or they have too much capacity, many us can't even put a solar system in and sell to the utility. The

PUC sided with MECO. Many communities on the mainland have a major amount of renewable, but I guess the electrical system operates differently in Hawaii.

Please don't play the wind farm employment card over on Molokai. Wind farms need few employees. So the benefits are not a selling point.

I also see where the deadline is basically a year away because the stimulus grant runs out. Community processes that are driven by money rarely are well received because the timetable doesn't allow for quality input and community involvement. It is driven by a paper process. Hence communities feel it is being rammed down their throat and this one is.

Having left the community out until now was a mistake, More and more citizens once they hear the real story are saying no to a wind farm on Molokai. We are not stupid because now that DHHL has denied the lease to First Wind. Where will they go? MPL land. MPL is saying they don't want to do anything that offends the community. They are taking the high road and I'm sure you are giving them grief over it. People who don't support the Ranch will support them to say no to wind farms.

Also lets call it what it is...a major power plant development. You folks have not talked about the substations, transmission lines, converter stations, roads built and roads improved to accommodate construction, harbor improvements, and on and on. THE impact environmentally would be devastating to Molokai. If the island was scared of hotels, this a thousand times bigger and more impactful than a new hotel or housing subdivision.

President Obama in his state of union address said that "clean" generation (because an development is not green) needs to be regional. So Hawaii needs modern, state of art technologies and strategies to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. A heavy duty demand side management program and thorough review of new (not old) technologies for generation.

I am going to think global and act local. Globally we need to get off of fossil fuel, but generation locally will not be at the expense of the landscape, land and ocean creatures, view plane, community, farmers, etc. So for more reasons than I can count it is not to a commercial wind farm for an off island community.

Submitted on Mon, Feb 07, 2011 / 10:36AM HST by c. corbiell

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