

Merz, Jeff

From: noreply@hirep-wind.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 9:58 PM
To: Johnston, Douglas; Merz, Jeff
Subject: [HIREP Wind EIS] New Comment

A New Comment has been Submitted

Aloha HIREP-Wind Project & DBEDT-

Wind Energy is an important component of Hawaii's sustainable energy future. However the ascetic impact on our scenic areas of the large turbines on our quality of life and on Tourism needs to always be taken into consideration. More importantly, it is imperative that Hawaii and DBEDT refocus our economy on sustainable industries and cancel massive Real Estate developments, including the further development of Turtle Bay and the Envision Laie/Malaekahana Mega-development, each which could bring in 6-10,000 more people to Oahu ! If the State does not curtail these Mega-Developments, then all the energy gains made by HIREP will be mitigated by these huge population influxes to these new Real Estate Developments.

First Wind has done an excellent job of informing and coordinating with the local community in Ko'olau Loa about their new Wind Farm in Kahuku. First Wind has even worked with our brand, new Kahuku High School Student Film Club and allowed them to film their operations. Now our youth have a better understanding of Wind Energy! The Community looks forward to exciting educational programs with First Wind.

In expanding any Wind Farms in Oahu, HIREP needs to be very sensitive of the traditions of our local communities. The scenic beauty of Hawaii is something very special. Both the local Community and our Visitor Industry is very sensitive to preserving the natural beauty of our islands.

More importantly, HIREP's efforts have to be coordinated with the State and Counties Economic Development Plans or Hawaii could still be too dependent on fossil fuels. Right in beautiful Ko'olau Loa, where the new First Wind Farm is located, two massive Real Estate Developments are being pushed ahead that would each bring in THOUSANDS of additional people and cars to Oahu. HIREP has to coordinate its energy plan with the State and Counties Economic Development Plan or the massive population increase will mitigate any gains from Wind Energy !

Hawaii & HIREP needs a Modern Economic Development Plan or a Sustainable Energy Policy is not possible! Instead of promoting more Real Estate Developments, like more hotels & condos at Turtle Bay & Envision Laie, that exploit the land, overbuild and bring in THOUSANDS of more visitor and visiting students from the mainland, Asia and overseas; Hawaii needs a Comprehensive MODERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN which focuses on raising incomes so the more local people can afford to stay in their homes and home towns. Growing 21st Century Media, Film & TV training & jobs would be a perfect fit for Hawaii's world-class gifts & talents. Our local communities could shine in front and behind the cameras.

For HIREP to be successful, massive Real Estate Development Projects that bring in thousands of more people & cars to the islands have to be curtailed. For HIREP to be successful Hawaii needs a Modern Economic Plan and a diversified economy that includes a significant refocusing on 21st Century Digital Media training and jobs. HIREP is an important component of Hawaii's Sustainable Future, but the whole economic structure of the State needs to be modernized for Hawaii to be energy self-sufficient.

Sincerely,
KC Connors

Submitted on Tue, Mar 01, 2011 / 09:57PM HST by KC Connors

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