

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PUBLIC HEARING

RE: HAWAII CLEAN ENERGY DRAFT
PROGRAMMATIC EIS (PEIS)

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Aunty Sally Kaleohano's Lu'au Hale
799 Piilani Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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MR. CAMPANIANO: My task now is to afford you an opportunity to present your comments orally. As Dr. Summerson said, there are other ways to offer your comments, either in writing or by e-mail.

The slide up there is also on the counter over there. So if you need the contact information, just go over there and take a look.

So, as we offer our comments tonight, just a couple of points to make. We really -- the State and the Federal officials that are here -- sincerely want to hear your thoughts on the 31 different technologies and alternatives for clean energy in Hawaii.

But, we also want to make sure that we respect your time and your efforts. So to do that, what we're going to do is set forth the requirements that we have done consistently through these meetings; and that is we would ask you to keep your comments, your initial comments, to three minutes, to respect the rights of others to speak up.

If you would like to circle back at the end after everybody else has spoken, you know, of course we will be around to hear your comments as well.

1 And to respect the rights of your neighbors,
2 it would be nice if we could refrain from asking
3 questions or provoking them until afterwards so that
4 we can have an opportunity for real civil kona
5 discussion.

6 So, what we are going to do then is I am
7 going to call out your names. And if you then could,
8 please, spell your name out so Kathy, our court
9 reporter, can dutifully enter that into the record.

10 You see, when she keeps the records, the
11 minutes are actually read by a lot of people far
12 beyond those that are gathered here today. Every
13 place from Honolulu to Washington, D.C., we need to
14 see your comments.

15 So, please, if we can star on those
16 premises, then perhaps we can have a very productive
17 evening. We really look forward to hearing your
18 comments.

19 So, first up we have Judith Mura followed by
20 Richard Ha and Cory Harden.

21 So, if you can please come forward.

22 MS. MURA: My name is Judith Mura, that's
23 M-U-R-A.

24 Thank you so much for this opportunity.

25 I'm here to speak against geothermal and to

1 please ask your help to stop any geothermal expansion
2 and drilling in Hawaii.

3 I've brought the Hawaii Tribune Herald. In
4 it, in March 7, the front page, and I'll quote, "The
5 state's fresh water will be stressed by global
6 warming."

7 This statement was directed to all islands
8 of Hawaii, and especially for Honolulu's
9 overpopulation, usage, lack of rainfall for all the
10 islands.

11 "Fresh water sits on salt water. Over-usage
12 of fresh water is turning their fresh water to
13 brackish water. On the Big Island, Ormat or PGV uses
14 thousands of gallons of fresh water to cool their
15 machinery."

16 PGV's expansion, coupled with global
17 warming, is not what sustainable clean energy is all
18 about. We, the people, have rights to clean water
19 for ourselves, our family, our food gardens, our
20 future.

21 Without water, it's game over. Mahalo.

22 (Applause)

23 MR. CAMPANIANO: Richard?

24 Sometimes we get carried away, so there will
25 be a one-minute signal for those of you who get too

1 energetic.

2 MR. HA: My name is Richard Ha, H-A is the
3 last name.

4 Thanks for the opportunity. The main thing
5 I wanted to mention was that I'm here representing
6 the Big Island Community Coalition. This group is
7 interested in getting the lowest cost energy as
8 possible for everybody.

9 The rationale for this is that rising
10 electricity rates acts like a gigantic regressive
11 tax. It affects the most defenseless among us the
12 worst.

13 Just recently in 2012, Professor Joseph
14 Stiglitz, who's a Nobel economist, said that in
15 order for renewable energy solutions to be
16 sustainable, it really needs to meet the triple
17 bottom line of sustainability.

18 And it should include social sustainability,
19 environmental sustainability as well as economic
20 sustainability.

21 So, my point here is that every one of the
22 options should meet this requirement.

23 And then I would like to also mention -- and
24 as we look towards the future -- say 20 years from
25 now, where do we want to be 20 years from now?

1 Because right now we are kind of at the breaking
2 edge. Because we have the highest price, we are
3 moving forward in solar and other things quicker than
4 anybody else because we've got the economic incentive
5 to do it.

6 But, looking down the road 20 years, the
7 whole country, the whole world, will catch up with
8 us; and we have to be careful because of being first.
9 You know, you have a better chance -- it's difficult
10 to be first. Your chances of failing is greater than
11 if you were copying the first.

12 So, to go back to what things might look
13 like 20 years from now, everybody will have solar,
14 let's say, and we won't have any particular
15 advantage. We'll just have -- we will be equal to
16 everybody.

17 The same thing is with wind. Certain places
18 will have good wind, and we have good wind as well,
19 but it's not a great advantage to the rest of the
20 world.

21 The last thing is, our own resource here is
22 geothermal. It is stable, it will be around for
23 500,000 years, and it's low cost. And what that will
24 do is it will give our people an economic advantage
25 to the rest of the world.

1 And that's all I have to say. Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MR. CAMPANIANO: Thank you. Cory?

4 MR. HARDEN: Hello. Thank you for holding
5 this meeting and the opportunity to comment.

6 MR. CAMPANIANO: Your last name, please?

7 MR. HARDEN: My name, Cory, C-O-R-Y and
8 H-A-R-D-E-N, and I pretty much follow my written
9 comments.

10 I do want to commend the Department of
11 Energy for broadening the range of issues that were
12 analyzed. It was originally just big wind, they have
13 responded to the community by expanding that. So
14 that's great.

15 However, I hear some knowledgeable people
16 saying the goal of the clean energy initiative is not
17 really to explore energy alternatives, but to
18 preserve the Hawaii Electric Company and to get the
19 undersea cable built. So I would like to see that
20 addressed.

21 For example, one of the tables, Summary of
22 Impacts for Selected Technologies, there was only one
23 alternative where beneficial impacts are identified
24 complete with a web address for more information.

25 And the beneficial impacts were only

1 identified for one alternative, the undersea cable.
2 That's the only one I can find. So that seemed odd.

3 Also, on the cooperating agencies, I wish
4 you folks would get comments from the Department of
5 Land and Natural Resources because they will have a
6 different perspective, being very protective of the
7 land, and they're very knowledgeable about it.

8 Let's see. And I made a lot of comments at
9 the 2012 scoping hearing. At least in the summary, I
10 didn't see any of them, so I submitted them again,
11 and I hope you'll look at them again.

12 Let's see, a couple of other specific
13 things.

14 I noticed there was a Hawaii Renewable
15 Development Venture funded by the Department of
16 Energy. And it's awarding thousands of dollars to
17 private businesses for various projects. And I
18 wonder what environmental studies were done for that.

19 I would like to see consideration of impacts
20 from accidents and disasters for the different energy
21 sources. I think we just consider impacts for if
22 things are going well. But some things can have
23 worse accidents than other things.

24 Let's see, like, you know, oil tankers
25 leaking. And I hope we will consider impacts of our

1 energy choices on far-away places. For example, if
2 we depend on oil, there's going to be fracking in the
3 states. If we go with palm oil, that may involve
4 environmental destruction and child labor in
5 Indonesia and Malaysia. We also need to look at how
6 much fuel it takes to produce fuel.

7 For example, oil, some people say we've
8 tapped all the easy-to-get sources, now we're going
9 to places where it's hard to get the oil out, so you
10 burn a lot of energy just trying to get the oil. And
11 for hydrogen, most United States hydrogen is gotten
12 using fossil fuel.

13 I would like to see evaluation of the pros
14 and cons of micro-grids versus the current utility
15 monopoly system. For example, Parker Ranch has a
16 little micro-grid going. And we're so used to the,
17 you know, electric company as a monopoly and they
18 send everything out to everybody. What happens if
19 you have small micro-grids?

20 Just holler when my time is up.

21 MR. CAMPANIANO: Sorry, it's amazing how
22 quickly it goes. But I do have your hard copy
23 comments.

24 MR. HARDEN: Thank you.

25 MR. CAMPANIANO: Next up we have John Olson

1 followed by Joy Cash and Geoffrey Last.

2 MR. OLSON: Thank you.

3 I would like a point of information, if you
4 can give it to me before I start. In your analysis,
5 I didn't see anything that gave a cost for solar per
6 watt.

7 Was there a fixed cost per watt for solar in
8 your analysis anywhere?

9 MS. SUMMERSON: We did not look at the cost
10 per watt.

11 MR. OLSON: I see. Okay, well, thank you.

12 I don't know what to say. If there's no
13 cost per watt, all electricity is free or it all
14 costs a million dollars a watt. I'm sorry, I'm
15 stunned. Anyway, let me get on with this. We'll
16 just let that go.

17 This process with -- you make note of the
18 fact that the Hawaii process starts in 2008. We're
19 2014. I can tell you in 2008 the cost of solar was
20 about \$6 a watt, and it was hard to get.

21 Today, the solar is -- it's about \$1.30 a
22 watt, and I can buy it at my local farmers market or
23 I can go into Home Depot.

24 And so, what I'm suggesting to you is that
25 what you've done is you've analyzed the death of the

1 dinosaur. The utility -- the mega utility is broad
2 to versus done. And this is not just my opinion.
3 Morgan Stanley came out with a recent analysis that
4 said basically the same thing, that if you were
5 holding stock in any major utility that is not in the
6 northeastern part of the United States, you're going
7 to lose your ass. Okay?

8 So the other thing that I did ask for in the
9 hearing that you and Cory mentioned in 2012 was an
10 analysis by island. We noticed that we are not
11 inter-connected in the utilities in the state of
12 Hawaii.

13 Each island is a sole and independent body.
14 And about the only energy connectivity we have is the
15 barge that comes in when the weather is good.
16 Sometimes it doesn't come in.

17 So, you know, in terms of looking at this in
18 terms of an analysis of both costs, reliability, all
19 these other things, and keeping in mind that when you
20 speak to geothermal, there's geothermal and there's
21 geothermal. I would point out that the current
22 version of geothermal relies heavily on Pentane as a
23 binary for their binary systems.

24 Add to which point there is no binary, there
25 is no energy from the geothermal plant. So it is no

1 more or less secure than any other fossil fuel group
2 derived process for this island.

3 The one thing I can pretty much guarantee is
4 the sun is going to come up tomorrow. Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MR. CAMPANIANO: Joy?

7 MS. CASH: I'm Joy Cash, and I gave my name
8 earlier, it's a pretty simple name.

9 I'm here tonight to call upon our entire
10 community, all rate payers of this island, both
11 residential and business.

12 It's important, I believe, that we create
13 community-owned utilities. And I know that people
14 are not happy with Kauai's system. We can learn from
15 their mistakes. That's upon us in that regard.

16 And, you know, we know Germany has installed
17 solar, and they're shocked and surprised. They're
18 creating much, much more electricity than they
19 anticipated. Germans are slow, Siemens and all that
20 crowd, they're very sharp guys. Yeah? So if they
21 can do it, we can do it.

22 Now, on the mainland the counties of Sonoma
23 and Irvine have switched to community-owned utilities
24 very successfully. And so -- and it's the newest
25 trend. And because of our limited resources on this

1 island -- we're an island community -- we need to
2 look at not paying a hundred thousand a month to a
3 CEO at HELCO. We can't afford that anymore. This
4 is a new day. This is a new era. Yeah?

5 Anybody here make a hundred thousand a
6 month? It makes no sense, does it? Okay. So -- and
7 I'm not picking on them -- I'm just saying their era
8 is past, it's a dying dinosaur, it needs to go.

9 Now, as far as geothermal -- I'm sorry, my
10 phone is talking right now -- ignore it. As far as
11 geothermal -- this is not my opinion because I am not
12 a geologist -- but my friend in San Diego, Nora
13 Robbins, Ph.D. in geology for over 30 years, has
14 traveled the world, she knows our geology here.
15 She's visited our island and many other Polynesian
16 islands.

17 She says "no way" to geothermal.

18 She says it's too poisonous, it will induce
19 earthquakes, it will induce seismology is the term,
20 yeah. These are things I didn't know until I asked
21 her about it. I said, "Nora, what is the deal?"

22 Her opinion is after all the experience she
23 has, no way on thermal, no way on this island. So
24 that's my considered opinion too for just now.

25 But, you know, this is a great opportunity

1 for all of our islands. Every one of us pays a
2 utility bill -- too much, too much -- we can no
3 longer do that. It doesn't serve us economically,
4 environmentally and in any way.

5 So thank you for your time.

6 MR. CAMPANIANO: Thank you.

7 MR. LAST: Aloha. Thank you for having us.

8 My name is Geoffrey Last. I moved here 30
9 years ago. I was excited about moving here and I
10 love this place, this is my home now. And when I got
11 here, geothermal was wonderful. God! clean, green
12 and renewable, I was excited about this. I believed
13 in it.

14 The Department of Health was allowing open
15 venting into our neighborhood. The regulator was
16 allowing open venting into our neighborhood, toxins
17 and H2S and all the heavy metals. They were dumping
18 all their garbage on the ground.

19 I still believed in geothermal because I was
20 involved in getting my life together like lots of
21 people here. You're involved until something
22 happens.

23 Something happened in '91 and it blew
24 off -- the light went on for Geoffrey. Geoffrey went
25 out and got an education and he found out that

1 geothermal was not clean, not green and not
2 renewable. It's a lie, a big fat lie. Thank you for
3 that.

4 And what we have going on here now is in the
5 newspaper yesterday, PGV by the EPA was now 14 counts
6 of being in violation. That's just for last year.
7 What about the last 20 years?

8 Here we have the Department of Health whose
9 regulating them for 20 years, the same Department of
10 Health who allowed our air to be poisoned, my son to
11 drive through clouds of H2S on the bus, and get sick.
12 He allowed this to happen, the CEO, and they're still
13 allowing it to happen. They're not watching PGV.
14 PGV is regulating themselves.

15 So if you want to have new energy here, then
16 you've got to get regulators that are really going to
17 regulate it. Now, you made a nice opening statement
18 and said the Federal Government doesn't want to tell
19 the State Government how to live.

20 Well, I'll tell you what, I don't want
21 Honolulu telling us what to do over here on the Big
22 Island. And I don't even want Hilo telling us how to
23 live in Puna. We're the sacrificial community out
24 here. They don't care about us, we're a bunch of
25 hippies, drug addicts, welfare people.

1 I mean, we have been hearing this crap for
2 30 years, and it's a lie. I've worked my butt off in
3 a flower business, and lots of other people are hard
4 working people out there. And I'm sick to death of
5 this clean, green and renewable geothermal. That's
6 bologna. Now, get it right, people.

7 The other things judge, but this is garbage.
8 Get rid of the Department of Health. Man, they suck.
9 I mean, I can't tell you any other reason. I'm mad
10 at them. I'm not mad at these other people. I'm not
11 mad at Big Mike here for running that thing. I'm mad
12 at the Department of Health for regulating it or not
13 regulating it.

14 And the final thing -- one more little
15 thing -- is the fact that PGV doesn't even own that
16 plant out there. It's owned by some dummy
17 corporation.

18 This is corporate law, this is the way it
19 goes. So if that plant blows up, they walk. Or now
20 who walks? PGV walks. Who gets stuck? We get stuck
21 in our community. The state is not even going to
22 come in and help.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 MR. CAMPANIANO: We have next Bill Steiner,

1 Senator Ruderman and then Kenneth Hunt.

2 MR. STEINER: My name is Bill Steiner,
3 S-T-E-I-N-E-R.

4 I only wanted to make a comment about small
5 farmers. You mentioned bio-matter. And not
6 mentioned was oil seeds that I can remember. Oil
7 seeds are a crop that has big potential, I think, for
8 this island.

9 Some years ago when I was named for the
10 College of Ag. they imported 8,000 oil palm trees and
11 planted them out to different farmers, cooperative
12 farmers. Those trees are now starting to produce oil
13 palm nuts, and we're looking to form a cooperative to
14 actually make biodiesel.

15 So, we will grow our own biodiesel, we won't
16 be importing it from Indonesia or any place else.
17 There is a lot of land here in the islands that do
18 that kind of thing, so I think there's a potential
19 for making biodiesel here in the state as a
20 transportation fuel, possibly as an electric fuel
21 too, although I think there's better ways like solar
22 to go there. Thank you.

23 MR. RUDERMAN: Hello, my name is Russell
24 Ruderman. I am a vice chair of the State Senate
25 Energy Committee and a resident of Puna.

1 I thank you folks for coming here. And
2 despite some of what has been said, I myself am
3 really glad that the Federal Government is involved
4 in looking at the situation here because we've done a
5 terrible job of managing ourselves and we need a
6 fresh look at it.

7 To summarize really briefly, there's a
8 couple of things that myself and most people I know
9 don't like about the way we're going, and one is to
10 continue considering the cable. We feel that's
11 absurd, and I will get into that.

12 We don't like more geothermal because we've
13 had experience with it, and we love solar power.
14 It's as simple as that.

15 You won't find anybody objecting to solar
16 power or an aggressive expansion of solar power in
17 the state. And when you look at the worldwide
18 situation, it is obvious that that's the solution.
19 If we haven't looked at its cost lately, we ought to,
20 because it's dropping year by year dramatically and
21 will continue to drop.

22 Each island needs to have -- be independent
23 energy wise -- the cable cannot be the answer. It's
24 not only possible -- first of all, it is possible.
25 It's also only right. There's no need to harm

1 communities to take care of the population in Hawaii.

2 If there were a need, we ought to talk about
3 which community should get harmed. But there is
4 not a need -- we ought not to sacrifice any more
5 communities. And you look at -- Puna has the very
6 similar attitude because of the geothermal plants
7 that people in Lanai had when they had the big wind
8 plan.

9 No one wants to sacrifice their beautiful
10 environment for the sake of unsustainable living in
11 an urban situation in Honolulu.

12 And I'm glad you're looking at, in addition
13 to physical impacts, cultural impacts and well-being
14 impacts, and those will lead you towards the
15 conclusion that each island must take care of its own
16 issues.

17 That also leads to the most robust system
18 and the most reliable system. Those are two
19 different -- two different considerations as I know
20 you all know.

21 Talk about the cable for a minute, the cost
22 of the cable, which is unknowable by the way.
23 Whatever the estimate is, there's no such cable in
24 the world.

25 And all of our experience in Hawaii is that

1 when a project that takes 10, 20 years to plan and
2 complete is done, it costs three to ten times what we
3 estimated when it started.

4 So with everything you come up with -- and I
5 don't know how anyone can give you a figure --
6 multiply it by ten and then realize that we still
7 have to generate all of our electricity after that --
8 whereas if you take that cost, which is certainly
9 over a billion dollars, put that into renewable
10 energy and infrastructure, you don't need the cable
11 and you don't need to keep generating the
12 electricity. That's the solution.

13 A couple of other little aspects of the
14 cable. Who fixes it when it breaks? How are you
15 going to fix it? How are they going to survive while
16 it's broken, and it has a limit on how much energy it
17 can transmit, and we can't handle that one.

18 You've heard a lot about geothermal, and I
19 know I am going to run out of time, so I won't say a
20 lot about it except that the experience of
21 geothermal, the reality of geothermal in Hawaii, is
22 so different than the reality of geothermal
23 worldwide; and that's why we're against it. We don't
24 not like geothermal, we've just seen what happens in
25 Hawaii.

1 We all love and respect Mike and all the
2 individuals involved, but we don't like the actual
3 reality of it. It's more toxic than elsewhere
4 because of our volcanic geology, it's more unstable
5 than elsewhere.

6 And let's say there was -- let's say the
7 state was depending on geothermal in Puna and there
8 was a cable -- right now as we speak, there's a lava
9 flow heading -- that if it continues for another 10
10 months -- will cut off the geothermal plant from the
11 rest of the world right now.

12 So it's unpredicted, unexpected. And that's
13 when I come to reliability.

14 You know, depending on a distant power
15 source that's transmitted from a great distance is
16 not the future of energy development and it does not
17 lead to reliability. The solar panel on the roof and
18 battery and energy storage and inverters, that's
19 reliability.

20 I am going to try to hurry up here. I
21 don't have -- I can either talk really fast or run
22 out of time here.

23 We're glad you're here because both our
24 utilities system and our state energy office, with
25 all due respect, Miss Gill, who I have great

1 admiration for, have not been making great decisions.

2 That's why we're in the situation we're in;
3 the highest energy costs in the nation, the highest
4 paid CEO in the utility industry, the highest profit
5 of the utility industry. And there's still the
6 attitude in the Department of Energy -- and I've
7 gotten this from the horse's mouth -- that geothermal
8 is still the Holy Grail for Hawaii's energy future.

9 That's still what they think. That was
10 their plan from 20 years ago when solar cost 20 to 30
11 times what it does now and we didn't have the storage
12 technologies that we have now. People say solar will
13 never be front power, but that's not true. Solar
14 combined with energy storage is firm power. And
15 there's all kinds of very exciting, very advanced
16 technologies being developed right now to combine
17 these two things.

18 I spoke with a high official in the Hawaiian
19 Air, an HE on it, I said, "Why don't you guys go more
20 to solar?" They said, "We can't handle the
21 reliabilities."

22 "Why don't you do energy storage? There are
23 batteries and there's other physical technologies
24 such as pump storage, water pump storage?"

25 His answer was, "Well, that's too

1 expensive."

2 (Laughing)

3 MR. RUDERMAN: Yeah, it's laughable because
4 it's expensive compared to what? Compared to
5 unreliability of our electric grid, compared to
6 buying oil forever, combined to the cost of a cable?
7 No, it's really cheap compared to that stuff.

8 And if you look at pumped water storage,
9 it's only expensive if there's not some other need
10 for the water transportation. For example, we have a
11 wet side and a dry side.

12 There's no reason we couldn't pump water
13 uphill during the day and let it flow downhill and
14 generate electricity as needed to Kona, or adopt any
15 of the various very exciting and much more cost
16 effective battery energy storages that are being used
17 on grids in large scale in other places.

18 You could have batteries at the substation,
19 you could have batteries at the utility, you could
20 have batteries at the home or at the solar
21 installation. All those things remove the
22 variability. And the reasons that the utility
23 doesn't like solar, that can all be addressed with
24 energy storage.

25 So, solar combined with energy storage is

1 the most robust and the most reliable and the
2 cheapest solution that we have available to us, and
3 it addresses all the concerns.

4 So I just, once again, urge you to look at
5 the robustness of our plan, the reliability of our
6 plan, the cost considering solar dropping so
7 radically.

8 And once again, I thank you for coming.
9 Please save us from the terrible energy plan that our
10 utility and our state has done so far. Mahalo!

11 (Applause)

12 MR. HUNT: I saw a podium over there and I
13 thought we were going to be using it. That's okay.

14 I'm K.R. Hunt. Most of what I was going to
15 say has already been said so I'm not going to go
16 there, other than to say totally anti-geothermal as
17 we have it on the Big Island. Geothermal in general
18 could work, but not here. And we've already
19 demonstrated it does not work.

20 My biggest concern is, is that we have a
21 horse and buggy situation here. We have a company
22 that stays in power because about a hundred years ago
23 we thought it would be better to have public-serviced
24 utility conditions, so that we would not be gouged
25 price-wise for our valuable essential services such

1 as electricity.

2 Well, that was fine when you had to have a
3 grid. We don't need a grid. More importantly, we
4 don't need a grid when it's run so poorly. And I
5 thought it was interesting because when I was doing
6 my research, something I found that I thought was
7 wonderful.

8 It's not what I think, it is what our own
9 Public Service Utility Commission is saying about
10 HELCO -- or HECO -- sorry.

11 And I thought this says it all. So I cannot
12 support in any form any money being given to HECO
13 regardless of the reason, because they don't know
14 what they are doing. And this is what the Public
15 Service Commission is saying.

16 This is Exhibit A, you can find it on line,
17 it is the Commission's Inclinations on the Future of
18 Hawaii's Electric Utilities. "Aligning the Utility
19 Business Model with Customers' Interests and Public
20 Policy Goals. The Commission is compelled to offer
21 the following perspective on the vision, business
22 strategies and regulatory policy changes required to
23 align the HECO Companies' business model with
24 customers' interests and the state's public policy
25 goals.

1 The Commission is compelled because the HECO
2 Companies failed to articulate a sustainable business
3 model in the intervening time period since this
4 directive was set forth by the Commission almost a
5 year ago.

6 As the Commission noted last year, the
7 nature of the electric utility business is evolving
8 rapidly in light of technical, market and public
9 policy changes that have and will continue to occur
10 in Hawaii. The Commission observed that the HECO
11 Companies appear to lack movement to a sustainable
12 business model to address technological advancements
13 and increasing customer expectations.

14 The Commission observes that some mainland
15 electric utilities have begun to define, articulate
16 and implement the vision for the electric utility of
17 the future. Without such a long-term, customer-
18 focused business strategy, it is difficult to
19 ascertain whether HECO Companies' increasing capital
20 investments are strategic investments or simply a
21 series of unrelated capital projects to expand
22 utility rate base and increase profits appearing to
23 provide little or limited long-term customer value."

24 Now, there's a lot more to that, but I am
25 running out of time. So my point is, is that as our

1 senator says, whether it costs one billion, five
2 billion or 30 billion to build a cable, it's not to
3 do anything but to keep the utility company in
4 business. And that is not our role and that is not
5 the purpose of what utility companies are designed
6 for.

7 If we wanted to take the same amount of
8 money -- and I've heard five billion dollars -- we
9 could put on every existing structure in Hawaii some
10 form of wind -- as it's applicable -- or photovoltaic
11 of some type or solar or both, and we would have no
12 need for the grid.

13 And just as important because of one of
14 those three-letter alphabet agencies, Homeland
15 Security would be happy to say that our grid would be
16 less likely to be destroyed or attacked by terrorism.

17 MR. CAMPANIANO: So Mayor Kim, come on up,
18 followed by Robert Petricci and Ole' Fulks.

19 MR. KIM: The name is Harry, last name Kim,
20 K-I-M.

21 You know, in one year, if I were to say last
22 year what I am going to say now, people would say
23 he's pipe dreaming. In one year technology, I think
24 we all know, has changed so dramatic, you know, for
25 an old man like me it's really hard to keep up.

1 And for those of you who listened to
2 President Obama's speech to some business
3 organizations last week, I was very surprised and
4 also elated that his own emphasis of energy of
5 tomorrow was solar. And I hope we all heard that.

6 I want to read very briefly a letter I wrote
7 to the Public Utilities Commission. It's dated
8 January 22 of this year, and I cut it down. What it
9 was, was in their Commission meeting I pleaded to
10 them of the following:

11 "The Integrated Resource Plan required by
12 this Commission is to identify the long-term power
13 needs and how those needs are to be met."

14 This plan that they were reviewing for
15 approval or disapproval in, I think two years, and a
16 lot of resource and money to complete.

17 And I stated, "It is asked that the present
18 completed plan that awaits this Commission's action
19 be tabled.

20 It is also requested that this Commission
21 pursue the development of a new updated plan that
22 will take into account the very rapid changes in
23 technology, demand, supply and lifestyles of this
24 state. This plan should identify all the major
25 alternatives available and the pros and cons."

1 This plan should be developed independently
2 from any of the power companies.

3 "The development of a new plan based on
4 contemporary issues could also include reviewing
5 problems faced by the providers and users of today."

6 I'll skip to -- I stated that because part
7 of the plan was an inter-island cable.

8 Perhaps this will give providers such as HEI
9 and HELCO and Maui Electric an opportunity to
10 reassess the direction to take for their future.

11 "HEI has stated -- and it is in writing --
12 it is years ahead of schedule in meeting its
13 renewable energy goals, and it won't have to rely on
14 any controversial inter-island cables to bring power
15 from the neighbor islands to Oahu, the company says.

16 Hawaii Electric Industries also stated, Oahu
17 can meet its renewable energy requirement and its
18 power needs on its own.

19 And the president just recently stated to
20 everyone in regards to the PUC that their biggest
21 problem is an oversupply of energies right now.
22 To this Commission, you know, the Commission for
23 these bodies responsible for this plan, in one year
24 your plan is outdated. In one year, your information
25 therefore, is outdated and any conclusion you derive

1 from it will be outdated unless you conclude it is
2 outdated."

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MR. PETRICCI: Aloha. My name is Robert
6 Petricci. I am the president of the Puna Pona
7 Alliance.

8 I want to thank you all for giving us an
9 opportunity to have some input into this project.
10 Unfortunately, I have to tell you that I think you
11 have a fundamental problem, and it's an economic
12 problem.

13 It's not going to work. The costs are too
14 high. Right now already HELCO peaked in 1996, '97,
15 their customer base is shrinking. Honolulu is
16 already 10 percent solar, this island is 8 percent
17 solar.

18 Maui is the fastest growing solar community
19 in the nation right now, and prices are plummeting.
20 And a big part of the problem are distribution costs.

21 You have wires, you have poles, you have
22 tree trimmers, you have the trucks, fleets of
23 brand-new trucks. You have the administration.
24 Somebody will say that the distribution costs are not
25 more than 50 percent; I say they're wrong.

1 The distribution -- because you have to
2 figure in what are all of the distribution costs --
3 HELCO is basically an energy distribution company.
4 They do some power production, they pay 18 cents for
5 some power, they pay 11 cents, we pay 43 cents. The
6 difference is over 50 percent, and that's
7 distribution.

8 There is a worldwide energy revolution. And
9 if you look around the world, you'll see the people
10 going to distributed power, they're going to
11 decentralized power. They're not building large
12 centralized power plants because the distribution
13 costs are not going to be able to be competitive.

14 And then you add the costs of this cable.
15 For the cost of the cable, you honestly could install
16 so much solar power that there's not -- there's not
17 even a contest there.

18 Last year in Hawaii, we installed 179
19 megawatts of solar power, and it's going to double
20 this year and it's going to double next year. And my
21 community is not on the grid. We are not going to
22 connect to the grid because it would cost us too much
23 money.

24 So what you've seen is a worldwide
25 revolution and a competition for trillions of

1 dollars. The electrical energy market is trillions
2 of dollars. And you have universities in Korea and
3 China and all these companies developing all these
4 new technologies and that's why solar prices are
5 crashing.

6 And the same thing is about to happen with
7 batteries. And it's already happening with fuel
8 cells and other types of water storage. You are
9 basically using 18th century technology where we nail
10 the wire to a tree when the Pony Express had the
11 telegraph.

12 This is the 21st century. And I'm sorry, I
13 know you did a lot of work on this project and I
14 really appreciate it. My honest opinion is that it's
15 never going to work. We're not going to buy your
16 power because it's going to cost too much money.

17 MR. FULKS: Mahalo and Aloha. I am Ole'
18 with an accent, because the accent is on the "E."

19 I would like to broaden this discussion a
20 little bit. Solar and wind, they're both free, clean
21 energy sources. But they have -- they both have a
22 problem. Now, the sun doesn't shine at night, the
23 wind isn't always blowing.

24 But I am not here to talk about problems, I
25 am here to talk about solutions. There's a third

1 energy source that nobody seems to be paying any
2 attention to, and we're surrounded by it.

3 There's this Pacific Ocean out here. Think
4 H2O, not O-tech, hydrogen. But, the problem is the
5 hydrogen isn't free. You've got to extract it from
6 the water. Now, that's where our solar and wind
7 comes in.

8 When it's producing plenty, free energy, it
9 takes energy to extract the hydrogen from the water.
10 Once you extract it, you've got a product that you
11 can transport, you can store, it's perfectly mobile,
12 perfectly usable. And essentially with solar and
13 wind, the energy is free so the product is free.

14 You can produce it on any of the islands.
15 We're surrounded by this beautiful ocean. So I would
16 just like to share this idea with you and, you know,
17 I think this should be part of the discussion.

18 Mahalo.

19 MR. CAMPANIANO: Thank you. Richard
20 Bidleman followed by Jim Albertini and then Hanalei
21 Fergerstrom.

22 MR. BIDLEMAN: Thank you. I'm Richard
23 Bidleman, and I am going to repeat myself here again
24 because I think it's a very important issue that
25 seems to be continually overlooked.

1 In 2010, I wrote an e-mail to Jim
2 Kauahikaua, who is the head volcanologist at HVO.
3 "Has USGS ever been asked to weigh in on geothermal
4 energy production in Puna? For those us who live in
5 lava zone one, it seems ridiculous to be drilling in
6 an area that is presumably the most hazardous zone in
7 all of the islands."

8 And that was my question to Jim. Here is
9 his response.

10 "Good questions. HVO has not been formally
11 asked to testify or submit information on geothermal
12 developments in Hawaii in the last several years.
13 You've identified a relevant point that we have made
14 before, but that seems to have been overlooked in the
15 current flood of interest in geothermal."

16 My goodness! It's called dollars, I think.
17 Yeah.

18 "That what makes geothermal so attractive at
19 Kilauea also poses a threat to the power generation
20 facility and the customers that depend on it. You
21 are correct that the Lava Flow Hazard Map that we
22 developed designates Hazard Zone One as the most
23 hazardous for lava flows because it is directly over
24 a volcanic rift zone that erupts frequently. That
25 hazard threatens homes and power plants alike. Of

1 course, it is that same rift zone that is the most
2 lucrative geothermal target in the state."

3 Let's put some dollar signs around that,
4 huh?

5 "If you are worried about further geothermal
6 drilling starting a volcanic eruption, there is no
7 evidence of this. Deep drilling has encountered
8 liquid magma, sometimes intentionally, but has not
9 started a lava eruption. I know of one instance
10 where about one cubic meter of magma came back up the
11 drill string before the drill hole was plugged, but
12 that's all."

13 So he's saying that there's no evidence, but
14 we just have to see what happens, huh.

15 Now, one of the other things that Jim said,
16 it's not going to -- if we have a blow-out in a
17 geothermal well, it's not just going to affect the
18 surrounding community. The more reliability -- the
19 more we rely on geothermal energy, it's not just
20 going to affect our community, but it's going to
21 affect those rate payers who depend on that energy,
22 and it's not just going to be Puna.

23 Anyway, thank you for your time.

24 (Applause)

25 MR. ALBERTINI: Aloha, everyone. I'm Jim

1 Albertini, and I'm been living out in Kurtistown off
2 the grid for 33 years.

3 (Applause)

4 MR. ALBERTINI: I want to give you the
5 simple story here. We never wanted to hook into
6 HELCO in the beginning. We wanted to live a little
7 life over here. But without our requesting it, HELCO
8 sent us an estimate of what it would cost to bring
9 electric poles to our farm. It was \$20,000.

10 In 33 years, we haven't spent \$20,000 on
11 solar. And I have lights, computers, refrigeration,
12 freezers, even a big freezer. I put all my wild pig
13 meat in to share with people in need. That's in 33
14 years.

15 So, what we need today, I think, and this
16 will be something for Russell Ruderman and others to
17 think about, we need a finance mechanism, but what
18 Richard Ha calls it, a rubber slippery crap.

19 Because we had to start small scale with two
20 batteries. And little by little as we farmed and
21 raised enough money, we could expand our solar
22 system, our panels and things like this. Today, the
23 battery storage is maintenance free, you know. But
24 we need a finance mechanism. So that's something for
25 the rural people, decentralized, that we need to work

1 on.

2 I want to make a comment about the
3 Department of Energy. Before I came here, I googled
4 the DOE to see what their budget was for clean
5 energy. It's \$6.3 billion a year they spend. But
6 the same DOE, Department of Energy, spends \$7.6
7 billion to maintain the nuclear weapons systems in
8 the United States.

9 Now, we need to change the priorities here.
10 I speak as a peace activist. Let's put more money
11 into clean energy than we are into nuclear weapons.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. ALBERTINI: And finally, I would like to
14 make a comment on geothermal.

15 Under the Health and Aspect dealing with
16 geothermal, I want to ask a question. Does
17 geothermal impacts address the spiritual and
18 psychological impacts to native Hawaiian
19 practitioners of desecration of the Hawaiian deity
20 Pele? And how do you avoid, minimize or mitigate the
21 desecration of Pele and the psychological impacts to
22 Pele worshippers by geothermal drilling?

23 My answer is you don't do it. No more
24 geothermal drilling.

25 (Applause)

1 MR. FERGERSTROM: Before I start my stuff, I
2 just want to do some housekeeping stuff. I have been
3 on you guys' list, and I just got the notice
4 yesterday. Okay?

5 None of the -- I am the spokesperson for
6 Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe. I have kapuna from all six
7 major districts of this island.

8 So I want to try to copy -- first of all, I
9 don't have the capacity to download it, the size of
10 your files -- but I need to be able to take those to
11 these other districts that I communicate with so I
12 can share that information.

13 But I can't do it on a disk, you can't
14 change the pages and throw this to that -- you know
15 how that goes -- so I'm requesting a hard copy.

16 I left my information on how to get it to
17 me. And as quickly as you possibly can, because
18 apparently this deadline thing is right around the
19 corner.

20 So, anyway, so I will get back on the time
21 card now. I am Hanalei Fergerstrom, I am the
22 spokesperson for Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe. I'm also a
23 native religious practitioner. I am with the Temple
24 of Lono.

25 Pele is the first of the Aumakua.

1 Now, in your energy firms, you have all
2 different kinds of things. But I want to
3 specifically talk about geothermal because this is --
4 I thank very much Jim who spoke before me -- because
5 I am the person who is injured -- because it rips at
6 me, it rips me, it hurts me, it hurts me so badly.

7 And if you start thinking that somehow this
8 is the gift of nature, you're wrong. You've raped
9 her, and you've continually raped her. Now, you want
10 to put her out on the street for every Tom, Dick and
11 Harry to get. So that is very, very, very offensive
12 to me.

13 But, another problem is, is that you need to
14 look and understand the Hawaiian mythology. You have
15 to understand that Pele is on this island and that
16 area of Pole Maha for a reason. It's not like she
17 couldn't have been anyplace else, because she was.

18 So when you start talking about fracking,
19 which is one of the things that's on you guys' list,
20 you better really do some over-care because there are
21 unintended consequences that you do not want to walk
22 into.

23 Now, I know everybody looks at it, oh, these
24 Hawaiians, they get a little dramatic. Well, how
25 else can I possibly tell you that this is really

1 scary ****. It's really scary ****. There is
2 historically scary ****, so it's not like we making
3 this stuff up.

4 I will just move along with that. I will
5 tell you that I am 1,000 percent against geothermal
6 and 3,000 percent against fracking -- even worse.
7 There is nothing that cannot be accomplished,
8 especially with the breakfast graduation of
9 technology today.

10 Things like the Tesla batteries science
11 that's going on, the solar accumulator-type of
12 things -- I guess that's what they call them -- there
13 are so many different ways to do that that it is
14 absolutely ridiculous to think that we are going to
15 rely on power lines or cables.

16 The need for communities to have their own
17 facilities to be able to farm the areas is very, very
18 important. Like you said, if you're not centralized
19 you're not going to get bombed there. That is a good
20 point.

21 There are a lot of things Jim talks about.
22 But, you know, this just blows my mind. The last
23 time you guys were here was two years ago. Who did
24 you talk to in the meantime? I spent all night last
25 night reading the testimonies. That was just the

1 testimonies, that wasn't even the stuff that you got
2 on your stuff because I can't download it. It would
3 cost me too much money and I just don't have the
4 facilities to do that.

5 But, where is that information? I mean,
6 guys like us, we're on the list, you know. Why
7 aren't we getting the little updates? What, it took
8 you two years to come out and say, hey, guess what,
9 here's what else I got for you.

10 You have three minutes to make a *****
11 comment, excuse my language. You have three minutes
12 to make a comment. That's not correct.

13 You know, I would love to be able to sit
14 here and dissect this stuff and tell it to you. I'll
15 read it. I actually do read this stuff because it
16 concerns me in a great deal.

17 If it affects me, it affects every one of
18 you. I'm just the first in the line.

19 So, I would really like to ask the
20 Department of Energy, communicate with the local
21 people, especially the Kanaka Maoli. Just as a
22 matter of point, the United States does not have
23 jurisdiction in Hawaii. This is my country, this is
24 my resources.

25 I am not going to debate you on this because

1 we can't decide this in this room. I am asking you
2 to consider this matter when you start talking about
3 this, okay? And believe me, you guys got to -- you
4 even have it on your power points -- the historic and
5 customary values of this -- who are you going to ask
6 about it? Nobody has asked us yet.

7 You talk about us, about how caring you're
8 going to be for us. Never once did you ever call us.
9 So, you know, I'm not trying to be a Jack Ass here, I
10 am trying to tell you that -- look, I'm alive, I'm
11 here. I have been around for 45 years doing this
12 stuff. It's very annoying. But I have to keep doing
13 it.

14 But, see, some of you die and don't ask me a
15 question. Gees, I have been doing this too long. At
16 least ask me a question. Thank you very much.

17 (Applause)

18 MR. CAMPANIANO: Paul Kuykendall followed by
19 Suzanne Wakelin and Nelson Ho.

20 MR. KUYKENDALL: Aloha. Paul Kuykendall.
21 That's spelled K-U-Y-K-E-N-D-A-L-L.

22 Aloha. I appreciate all the work and effort
23 that you've made in doing this EIS. We do need help
24 on this island.

25 You know, you wonder where all these

1 geothermal activists came from. They all live around
2 the PGV plant. They all live around the old HTPA
3 plant.

4 And the reason is, when you talk about
5 potential impacts in your charts, you talk about the
6 potential impact of health and safety, groundwater,
7 noise and vibration we hear, because of our
8 experience, they are going to do it again -- we've
9 had health and safety problems. We've had ground-
10 water problems, we've had noise and vibrations.

11 Last week -- I live a mile from PGV. I am
12 awakened at night by PGV. When you talk about best
13 management practices, what I hear is the PR we hear
14 from PGV. We hear that PGV wants to go above and
15 beyond the regulations.

16 The reality is, we've had civil defense
17 emergencies more than any other power plant in Hawaii
18 at PGV. I live a mile from the plant.

19 So, in April and March last year there was
20 something tripped the plant, and they had a release.
21 And civil defense came out and they did a reading, it
22 was much higher than what PGV was telling us was
23 going to happen.

24 And since then, EPA has done an
25 investigation, and you probably saw the paper

1 yesterday, that there were 14 violations of the Clean
2 Air Act. And the last violation, the last finding
3 was PGV has failed to maintain a safe facility,
4 taking such steps necessary to prevent releases.

5 When they say releases, they're talking
6 about hydrogen sulfide, which they say in their
7 letter is an extremely hazardous substance.

8 So, when you talk about potential hazards,
9 we think about our experience. And that's why we're
10 against geothermal. It's not because we were born
11 thinking that we wanted to be activists, it was
12 because we have experienced geothermal. And it was
13 even before PGV.

14 HTPA was done by the State of Hawaii, and
15 they dumped their brine on the ground. And when the
16 EPA asked, at our request, that they look at what's
17 happened to the groundwater, DOH said, oh, it's no
18 problem because we already know that that ground-
19 water is saline anyway.

20 And, by the way, we did it on Alpine Pond,
21 we scraped all the soil away, so we can't take soil
22 samples. So, you know, that's our experience.

23 And that's why, when you want to talk about
24 potential impacts, we feel it in our hearts that
25 again we're going to be -- we're going to be set

1 upon. And let me just say this.

2 Right now PGV is producing -- last year it
3 was 22 percent of the Island's electricity. Puna
4 uses about six percent. So when you talk about
5 geothermal making energy less expensive, it hasn't
6 happened on this island. We are more expensive than
7 the other islands that don't have geothermal.

8 Also, that energy is being exported from a
9 mile from my house to Kona. And there's no reason it
10 should be exported to Oahu so that we can have the
11 impacts in our neighborhood, so that other people can
12 leave their hotel rooms open and still air condition
13 their room.

14 So, Mahalo, I appreciate what you're doing.
15 And know that, you know, it's our hearts that are on
16 the line because this is our families and this is our
17 farms.

18 Mahalo.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. WAKELIN: Aloha. My name is Suzanne
21 Wakelin, W-A-K-E-L-I-N.

22 So I want to start out by saying I
23 appreciate the work that you've been doing and the
24 opportunity to provide input. I live in Puna.
25 I echo solidly the previous speaker. I understand

1 completely, living in the same area, dealing with the
2 same issues.

3 However, in this case also, I would like to
4 express my concern about the section in the draft
5 report about geothermal. Specifically, about the
6 enhanced Geothermal Systems, which incidentally is
7 against the law in the County of Hawaii.

8 Enhanced geothermal hydrofracking or
9 hydroshearing, whatever you want to call it, has a
10 number of serious potential negative impacts on the
11 environment.

12 The only impact that is mentioned is the
13 problem with induced seismicity. There have been
14 studies on this problem with regards to fracking
15 elsewhere. However, the specifics of Hawaii geology
16 and volcanology are not addressed.

17 The report refers to the MIT --
18 Massachusetts Institute of Technologies studies and
19 PICHTR -- that's the Pacific International Center for
20 High Technology Research. They've published a report
21 last year.

22 However, there's a strong bias for EGS
23 technology without addressing any of the negative
24 impacts.

25 So, I'm concerned that by partnering with

1 DBEDT, the Department of Business, Economic
2 Development and Tourism, there is an implicit bias in
3 this PEIS with regards to the interisland cable,
4 centralized power generation, and the small grid.
5 DBEDT's objective is to make policy determinations
6 with respect to economic development. DBEDT does not
7 appear to have any interest in environmental,
8 cultural or cost impacts.

9 So the whole landscape with regards to
10 energy generation in utilities is changing, it's in a
11 state of flux right now. And the draft PEIS report
12 does not seem to address this fact.

13 It does not address the problem that
14 continued growth is not sustainable. It's
15 irresponsible to simply enable business interests and
16 continued growth of consumption under the banner of
17 green energy.

18 I'll finish by saying no to geothermal in
19 Hawaii, and no to the interisland cable. Mahalo.

20 (Applause)

21 MR. CAMPANIANO: Nelson?

22 MR. HO: What I wanted to say has been put
23 on the record by the other speakers. So, thank you.

24 MR. CAMPANIANO: The last speaker that's
25 signed up is Maureen Cruz. As we wait for Maureen,

1 if there's anybody else that would like to speak, you
2 know, please gather your thoughts.

3 MS. CASH: Could I say one more thing?

4 MR. CAMPANIANO: So Maureen is not here?

5 MS. CASH: So, I don't need the mike, I
6 think I can project. Renewables --

7 MR. CAMPANIANO: Well, can I see if there's
8 anybody else that wants to speak?

9 MS. CASH: Well, nobody raised their hand.
10 It will be short.

11 Renewable energy brings sustainable
12 employment along with it, and you can look this up.
13 So if there's concerns about bringing jobs to the
14 island, these are truly sustainable clean employment.
15 So for those people that are interested in that too,
16 I forgot to put that in my statement.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. CAMPANIANO: Hanalei?

19 MR. FERGERSTROM: I'm sorry, I just stepped
20 out. Did you just ask if anybody else has anything
21 else to say?

22 MR. CAMPANIANO: Yes.

23 MR. FERGERSTROM: I have something else.

24 One of the parts that I didn't bring up that
25 I thought is very important for us to look at as a

1 peoples, just living in Hawaii, the water use. You
2 can't afford to take your fresh water and throw it
3 into the water and pollute the ocean. You can't
4 afford to do that.

5 You know, Hawaii has a very unique situation
6 here. We've got the only parking lot and the only
7 fresh water in a 2500-mile radius. You don't want to
8 lose those qualities by some -- I'll refrain from the
9 word -- but from this geothermal stuff. None of
10 that. That's causing -- ocean wide -- it's causing
11 dead zones in the ocean too.

12 And so, there are so many impacts that
13 affect me as a Hawaiian, but impacts everybody else
14 too. And it's threatening to everybody else also.
15 Thanks.

16 (Applause)

17 MR. HUNT: For the record, I'm K.R. Hunt
18 again.

19 I was doing some homework, and I noticed
20 that the Department of Energy has done some extensive
21 research on the wave energy. And if there's a need
22 for whatever reason that I don't know of to have a
23 grid system, that seems to be the best way to go.

24 The 2009 study that is on line is well worth
25 the read. And just recently, they compiled a 2012

1 Environmental Impact Study. And it's pretty
2 extensive, 143 pages.

3 And I think that, as I said, if for some
4 reason we need to keep a grid, that would make the
5 most sense. If we study what's happening in Kaneohe
6 at the military, they've had some pretty good
7 results. Quite a few companies out there have
8 devices that ride on the waves.

9 Seems like from all the studies done so far,
10 far less risks to our environment than trying to put
11 some super cable down through the water that to me,
12 145 miles, gee, that's a lot of area you have to
13 patrol in case of a terrorist attack. So just my
14 thoughts on that one.

15 MR. PETRICCI: Aloha. Robert Petricci
16 again.

17 I wanted to talk about fracking a little bit
18 because I spent the earlier part of this year in the
19 legislature working on geothermal issues. And we got
20 a bill passed through the house and the senate to ban
21 fracking in Hawaii.

22 And it went to conference committee where it
23 died in conference committee. And it was a
24 geothermal regulatory bill that the geothermal
25 industry needed to permit their project. So they

1 really wanted the bill.

2 In it we had restored contested cases and a
3 process for the community that we really wanted. So
4 there were a lot of things in there that everybody
5 wanted. But they couldn't agree on fracking. The
6 rest of it took a half an hour, whatever. Then they
7 fought for four hours over the ban on fracking.

8 And they all said they don't want to frack,
9 and all the testimony all year, we don't want to
10 frack, we don't want to frack. But they wouldn't
11 even give us a two-year moratorium on fracking. So I
12 tried to talk to Andrea about it earlier.

13 And I think DBEDT's position is they support
14 fracking. I know DLNR's position is we can regulate
15 fracking. We don't need any further regulations.
16 I'm telling you guys, they want to frack.

17 And when I talked to Andrea about the water
18 because of climate change, we have been reading about
19 climate change. One of the problems that Hawaii is
20 expected to have for climate change is water. We are
21 going to need the water. And the fracking presents a
22 real problem for the water.

23 And she said to me, don't you know the water
24 is already polluted or it's already salinity, the DOH
25 says so. Because the DOH says so.

1 Well, I don't think that that's -- I mean --
2 I am not trying to knock her but I don't think that's
3 an okay reason. So let's go ahead and frack, the
4 water has got some salinity in it. I find that
5 reckless.

6 And there was one other thing. Let's see.

7 MS. WAKELIN: We don't want our drinking
8 water being gone from millions of gallons of water
9 to --

10 MR. PETRICCI: We are going to need that
11 water, you know. And the same people that told us
12 geothermal HEPA was going to be safe, you know, and
13 all that, are the ones that are telling us the water.

14 Anyway, we are not going to let you frack,
15 I'm sorry.

16 (Applause)

17 MR. HARDEN: Cory Harden again. A couple of
18 more things.

19 I would like to see evaluation of what
20 happens to the big companies as we move toward
21 renewable energy sources. Suppose the big electric
22 generating facilities aren't needed anymore and the
23 grid is not needed, then what?

24 Does the Hawaiian Electric Company go out of
25 business? What happens to the old facilities? Will

1 rate payers or taxpayers have to pay for some of
2 this?

3 And how about if we don't need the gasoline
4 stations and the gas storage facilities? Then what
5 happens? I mean, they're not very safe, you know,
6 facilities.

7 The owners may go bankrupt. What will the
8 facilities be used for? Who is going to pay to clean
9 up any hazards?

10 I would like to see the option evaluated of
11 energy service companies that help consumers maintain
12 their systems like maintaining solar panels,
13 maintaining their batteries, whatever they've got.

14 Let's see. People have talked about storage
15 methods.

16 Let's see. I didn't see anything about
17 growing algae for fuel. I hope that's evaluated
18 someplace.

19 And also, when looking at the undersea
20 cable, we need to look at impacts from the projects
21 that feed into the cable. One big concern I have was
22 typically when new stuff comes along, the
23 corporations get out ahead of the regulatory
24 agencies.

25 That happens over and over. There's new

1 stuff developed. For example, with that Huhanoa
2 Biofuel Plant just down the coast, they were all set
3 to get their clean air permit. There happened to be
4 some concerned citizens living around there who
5 happened to have enough money to hire a lawyer, and
6 lo and behold they did not deserve that permit. But
7 it would have gone ahead if there wouldn't have been
8 some people that had the money to hire a lawyer
9 there.

10 This is the kind of stuff that happens
11 because even the supposedly renewable energy, there's
12 a lot of brain washing out there, a lot of people
13 jumping in thinking they're going to make a quick
14 buck. And they typically get out way ahead of the
15 regulations. So that needs to be looked at.

16 Let me see. If we go into renewable energy,
17 we'll need less fuel, less harbor facilities, less
18 trucks. I mean, it will change everything. So I
19 think that needs to be looked at.

20 And I would like to see models for planning.
21 I mean, what is the planning process here? So far
22 it's been projects here, there and the other place.

23 So I think we need -- you know -- if we're
24 not the first place to try to figure out how to do
25 renewable energy right, how do we make a statewide

1 energy policy.

2 Maybe it's best for each location to figure
3 out what's the best energy source.

4 Is it good for that location to be connected
5 into a big grid or a microgrid or just have an
6 individual power? There needs to be a way to
7 determine all that and a way to look at this
8 statewide.

9 And I think we need to look at our economic
10 drivers because that affects your energy use.
11 Currently, tourism and the military are the major
12 drivers. They're real big, contributing to our
13 economy supposedly.

14 They have a lot of impacts but most people
15 say that they're helping us. Anyway, well, if we
16 become more self-sufficient for food and our other
17 needs, which is another initiative, self-sufficiency,
18 will we always need so much military fuel, so many
19 pile drivers and new hotels, so much power for air
20 conditioning, so many tour busses, airplanes, cruise
21 ships?

22 Will we always need so many container ships
23 coming in? That's going to change.

24 MR. CAMPANIANO: You can leave your comments
25 with us.

1 MR. HARDEN: I am finishing up. Everyone
2 else went over.

3 We need to look at building codes, building
4 design, subdivision covenants. Some people say you
5 can't have clothes lines. Zoning so people don't
6 have to drive really far to work and shopping.
7 Street designs so you don't need cars.

8 And the last thing, the various scenarios,
9 what is the cost of maintenance? And if something
10 goes wrong, how bad is it, how costly is it to fix
11 it. Okay, thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. JOE RIVERS: Robin, our court reporter
14 has been going solid one hundred percent of the time
15 for an hour and a half. So I would kindly request
16 that we give her at least ten minutes to rest her
17 fingers and then we can continue.

18 I'm not stopping everything. I just want
19 to give her a break for a minute to let her have some
20 water and the restroom and just to be considerate --

21 (A recess was taken from 7:40 p.m. to
22 7:50 p.m.)

23 MR. CAMPANIANO: We are back in session.
24 Can you please give Ole' your full attention.

25 MR. FULKS: Okay, Ole' back again. Just a

1 couple of quick points that I missed the last time
2 around.

3 One, to get liquid hydrogen, there's a
4 couple of byproducts -- and pretty non-polluting --
5 oxygen and maybe a little sea salt. Not too bad.

6 But then also, well, if you start thinking
7 about, well, okay, using up the water in the ocean,
8 you're going to have the level go down. I don't
9 think we've got too much to worry about there.

10 But, hey, they say sea levels are rising.
11 There is islands out there in the Pacific going
12 under. So, if we -- you know -- if we did reduce a
13 little bit it wouldn't be a bad thing I don't think.

14 So, okay, I'm done.

15 I think there was somebody else but I don't
16 see her now.

17 MR. FERGERSTROM: Hey, nobody else, I go.

18 MS. CASH: I think Judith went home.

19 MR. CAMPANIANO: She went home?

20 MS. CASH: I think so. I am not sure. But
21 she's not here.

22 MR. FERGERSTROM: Don't forget. You know,
23 there's some realities that we have to really come to
24 understand in Hawaii that's very unique.

25 Growing up on a volcanic island, it's layers

1 and layers of air pockets and rock. And so, this
2 fracking stuff, the potential to destroy so much is
3 so -- it is so close for even the smallest fracking
4 experiment.

5 When you look at the energy consumption on
6 this island or in the islands, you have two major
7 players; it's the military and the telescopes. You
8 know, so when you talk about generating all this
9 electricity, especially at our expense, I want to
10 know for whom, and what do we get out of it. Because
11 we're not getting anything out of it except the short
12 end of the stick. We get the sickness, we've got the
13 sleepness nights.

14 But anyway, it's like you have to talk to
15 the people that are on the ground. You've got to get
16 away from the state agencies that pretend they know
17 everything because they don't do a damn thing. They
18 run out and have these meetings that have two-minute
19 comment periods like you're supposed to be a genius
20 and be able to summarize it in three minutes.

21 Nobody -- nobody in this room can summarize
22 what they're thinking in three minutes. So, why
23 expect the public to do so? I don't understand.

24 But there's people like myself -- there's
25 several parties in this room who are very consistent

1 in coming out to these meetings. I would like to see
2 the Department come out and reach out to them and let
3 them do some speaking to really give some input
4 that's not connected to a Federal Agency, a State
5 Agency or a big corporate entity.

6 It would be very, very helpful, it would
7 sure calm down a lot of nerves around her. Because
8 right now we're looking at it -- we're like, you
9 know, those roads going down to Pohoa, that's not for
10 us.

11 They're putting those roads down there
12 because it's going to industrialize that whole area
13 which means -- tell me -- what is the purpose of you
14 if they are going to make all these things in the way
15 in the first place.

16 The cable is already being laid. You know,
17 it's not like a decisive thing going on here whether
18 we're going to do it. All the -- and the cables
19 are -- they're doing it. They're just coming in to
20 ask us, did it hurt yet? You know, what I mean?

21 And so, I'm asking you to reach out to the
22 people who are actually on the ground that have to
23 live through this who have unbelievable ideas. We
24 have great green ideas that are functional. But you
25 have to include us in that program and not listen to

1 us. I mean, I spent almost all night last night just
2 reading the testimonies from the last scoping
3 meeting.

4 And that's just a handful of people that
5 really want to know. I don't know anybody in my
6 circle that knows about this meeting tonight. I
7 don't. That's not good. Because there's a lot of
8 people here being affected.

9 Anyway, it should not be at the expense of
10 the Big Island to support Oahu. There are all kinds
11 of mechanisms in which they can do like those solar
12 collector things, kind of things, that could be done.

13 Let's go around the rail. It's all going to
14 come out of the volcano? Very important questions.

15 Okay, who else? Next?

16 MR. CAMPANIANO: Any further comments?

17 MR. JOE RIVERS: You can adjourn.

18 On behalf of everybody, we would like to
19 thank you so much for coming out and sharing your
20 manahoa with us. So, again, there's an open comment
21 period. If you would like to provide further
22 comment, the instructions, like I say, are on that
23 poster there. Thank you very much.

24 (The public comments period was concluded.)

25 * * * *

1 STATE OF HAWAII)
 2) ss.
 3 CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU)
 4

5 I, KATHRYN PLIZGA, RPR, CSR No. 497, State
 6 of Hawaii, do hereby certify:

7 That on May 14, 2014, the above-mentioned
 8 proceedings are contained;

9 That the proceeding was taken by me in
 10 machine shorthand and was thereafter reduced to
 11 typewriting by me:

12 That the foregoing represents, to the best
 13 of my ability, a full, true and correct transcript of
 14 said proceedings.

15 I further certify that I am not attorney for
 16 any of the parties hereto, nor in any way concerned
 17 with the cause.

18 Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii, June 10, 2014.

19

20

21

KATHRYN PLIZGA, RPR

22

Hawaii CSR No. 497

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