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ATTN: Allen G. Kam, ACPP, HIREP EIS Manager

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March 1, 2011**

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Re: Hawai'i Interisland Renewable Energy Program

It is nice to go green –but not necessarily green at any price? It appears that Castle & Cooke and our elected representatives are just jumping on the green bandwagon with little to no thought. As a result I understand that the state plans to create an undersea cable to transmit the power from a windfarm on Lana'i to Oahu. None of the power generated by the windfarm will go to the Lana'i grid. In fact there will be no benefits at all to Lana'i residents. The presentations to which I have listened and the documentation which I have read raise a number of issues and concerns that make me question whether the destruction of 25% of Lanai is a good green buy.

I understand the anticipated lifetime of the windfarm is expected to be around 30 to 40 years. Where there are windfarms (and there are some) which have reached the end of their lives many of the towers are still there, rusting in disarray and providing an ugly blotch on the landscape. Where the towers have been torn down the enormous, ugly concrete pads are still in place. I want to know what provision will be made so that, at the end of their lifecycle, the land will be returned to its former pristine condition. How will this be funded? I would insist on the establishment of a multibillion dollar fund to eventually erase this blot on the landscape before construction is started on the windfarm .

Also, as the windfarm dies we will be right back on relying on imported oil unless some new technology is invented and developed. In the meantime. In addition the numbers which I have seen indicate that transportation (cars etc.) use about 75% of the oil and oil products that the state imports and generation of electricity uses most but not all of the other 25%. Is it worth destroying ¼ of the Island of Lanai for a few years of semi freedom from a small portion of our imported oil?

Lana'i is almost completely surrounded by a fairly large coral reef. What extraordinary measures will be taken to prevent the runoff from the

construction sites burying and killing the reef along the area where the wind farm will be sited?

The north end of Lanai, where the windfarm is proposed was the most heavily populated portion of the island by the native Hawaiians before contact. It has thousands of archeological and cultural sites. Will this burial, sites, house sites, heiau's and petroglyphs be preserved? The seemingly uninformed siteing of the roads and concrete pads associated with the windfarm project would absolutely destroy beyond any hope of redemption.

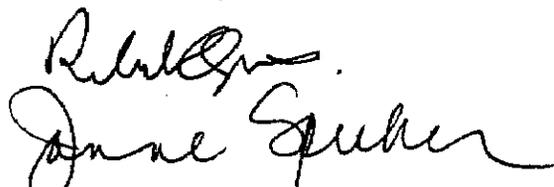
The area between Maui, Molokai and Lanai is a marine sanctuary for humpback whales. What will the effect of the radiation from the huge electrical transmission cable be on the whales? The whales do not have a voice in the approval /disapproval of the project but so far I have heard of no scientifically valid studies which address their issue.

Forget generating more electricity! Instead worry about saving it and offer to subsidize the installation cost to install solar hot water and/or photovoltaic panels on/in the houses and apartments in Oahu. This would cost less than the wind farm and would save 525,000 barrels of imported oil per year.

In the October issue of Castle & Cooke's Nulek o Lanai the page 1 story covers the August 15, 2006 meeting between David Murdock and approximately 200 Lana'i residents. In it he says "I want to make this island the greatest place for anyone to live." "I'm very proud of Lana'i. I'm very proud of the people on Lana'i. I'm very anxious to make Lana'i into something even better than it is." "I want to do the things that are right. I love everyone on the island."

If David Murdock felt that way in 2008 why now in 2011 has he decided to destroy approximately one quarter of it by building really heavy duty roads throughout the north end and installing enormous concrete slabs with truly gigantic windmills mounted on them. And all of the electricity generated will be piped to Oahu with practically no benefit to Lana'i residents but enormous benefit to David Murdock in both tax write offs and the sale of the electricity to Hawaiian Electric.

It has been suggested that the residents of Lana'i negotiate for some benefit to them from Castle & Cooke's windfarm. This prospect is fraught with risk. We have negotiated with them on several issues over the past twenty five years. After an agreement is reached Castle & Cooke pretty much ignores it and does whatever they damn please.


Robert & Janne Spieker