

THE CURRENT

Hawaii State Energy Office
Clean Energy Update

Summer 2017

THE CURRENT serves Hawaii's businesses and policy makers in making informed decisions about clean energy investments and policy. Hawaii's clean energy sector is a significant driver for economic development to replace fossil fuel expenditures with home-grown industries that stimulates smart economic growth for future generations of Hawaii.

CLEAN ENERGY VISION

The Hawaii State Energy Office's (HSEO) mission is to maximize Hawaii's energy self-sufficiency and security by developing and utilizing local energy resources in a balanced way.

In doing so, HSEO will guide our state toward the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative goals to achieve 100 percent renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2045, reduce electricity consumption by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030, and reduce petroleum use in transportation. To this end, HSEO works toward the deployment of clean energy infrastructure and serves as a catalyst for energy innovation and test bed investments. By achieving these goals, HSEO will grow the clean energy sector and transform Hawaii's economy.

LEADING THE CHARGE

Utility Model Study Workshop

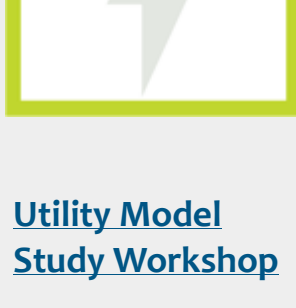
On June 20, 2017, a workshop was held at the VERGE Hawaii summit titled *Future Models for Utility Ownership and Regulation in Hawaii*. The workshop served as the public introduction to an extensive study to evaluate the costs and benefits of various electric utility ownership models to support Hawaii's energy goals. The workshop provided an opportunity to hear from leading voices in the energy policy discussion.

Building International Relationships

Veronica Rocha, HSEO Renewable Energy Branch manager, recently traveled to meet with Armenian stakeholders and policy makers to discuss Hawaii's clean energy goals. Veronica shared Hawaii's energy policies, projects and initiatives, and high-impact solutions. The Armenian stakeholders were enthusiastic to learn of Hawaii's successes and challenges as they aspire towards similar clean energy goals.

2017 Legislative Energy Updates

2017 was an influential year for clean energy policy from new building codes that will reduce energy use to Hawaii becoming the first state in the nation to enact a law that aligns with the Paris agreement.



**Utility Model
Study Workshop**



**Building
International
Relationships**

Article by AUA Newsroom



**2017 Legislative
Energy Updates**



CARILYN SHON STEPS INTO ROLE OF ENERGY ADMINISTRATOR

Newly appointed Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) Administrator Carilyn Shon brings a wealth of experience in the energy field as she takes the helm of the agency responsible for planning and carrying out the state's energy agenda.

Shon, who served as HSEO Energy Efficiency program manager for 17 years before being named administrator, steps into the leadership role at a pivotal time in Hawaii's clean energy transition.

"With Hawaii at the forefront of a growing national and global clean energy movement this is an exciting time to be leading the State Energy Office," Shon said. "The path forward will undoubtedly become more challenging as renewable energy penetration increases, but I am confident we can achieve our ambitious goals. One of the keys to Hawaii's success will be the broad stakeholder support we enjoy under the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative."

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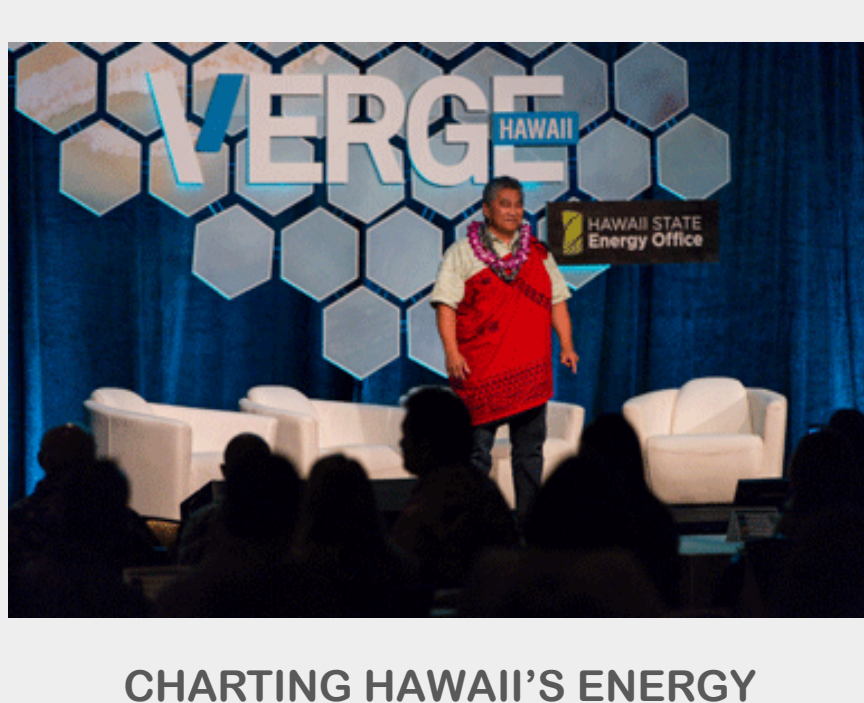
HSEO is a division of the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Under Hawaii law the DBEDT director is the state's Energy Resources Coordinator, responsible for energy planning, policy and programs. That authority has been delegated to HSEO, which is charged with planning and carrying out the state's energy agenda and with identifying the high impact solutions that make the biggest difference on fulfilling the state's energy objectives.

"Carilyn has considerable experience, having worked on a number of energy programs and projects," said DBEDT Director Luis P. Salaveria. "She has been with the state energy office for many years, and has a solid understanding of Hawaii's energy landscape."

Under the leadership of Gov. David Ige, HSEO works to make sustainability, energy security and economic growth a reality for Hawaii by aligning policies among government agencies and the private sector. HSEO also works to provide the framework and tools for energy developers and investors to pursue opportunities to further Hawaii's clean energy economy.

Through Shon's leadership Hawaii has received three National Governors Association (NGA) awards for participation in the Policy Academy on Advanced Energy Strategies for Buildings and the Center for Best Practices, as well as participation in NGA's workshop on Innovations in Energy Policy. For five consecutive years Hawaii has received national recognition from the Energy Services Coalition's (ESC) Race to the Top award as the leader in per capita investments achieved in performance contracting.

In 2016, ESC also recognized the State of Hawaii as an Energy Stewardship Champion for its "outstanding accomplishments in leveraging Guaranteed Energy Performance Contracting to achieve infrastructure modernization, environmental stewardship and economic development. ESC is a national nonprofit organization of experts working together to increase energy efficiency and building upgrades through energy performance contracting.



CHARTING HAWAII'S ENERGY FUTURE AT VERGE HAWAII

Some of the brightest minds in energy gathered in Honolulu for the second annual VERGE Hawaii: Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit which explored the challenges and opportunities of the clean energy transformation in Hawaii and beyond.

Produced in partnership between the Hawaii State Energy Office and GreenBiz Group, VERGE Hawaii 2017 brought together nearly 750 energy stakeholders from the world's largest corporations, as well as entrepreneurs, utility executives, public officials, and representatives of nonprofits and academia – plus thousands more who tuned in virtually from around the world. Held June 20-22 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, the event included the VERGE Interconnect Expo, which highlighted dozens of companies showcasing innovative products and solutions accelerating the global clean energy movement. The Expo also featured several special programs, including the Startup Showcase and a microgrid powered by renewable energy resources.

VERGE Hawaii is built on the premise of sharing insights, promoting collaborative learning, and inspiring higher rates of renewable energy and energy efficiency. With a focus on practical, scalable solutions, this year's VERGE Hawaii program tracks included: Energy Resilience and Security, Models for Market Transformation, Distributed Energy Systems, Grid-Scale Power, Sustainable Tourism, Decarbonizing Transportation, and Building Efficiency.

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The sustainable tourism theme was featured throughout the conference in plenary sessions, workshops, and the first-ever VERGE Hawaii Sustainable Tourism Summit, which explored ways to reduce the tourism industry's footprint while reaping economic, social, and environmental benefits. The half-day working session convened a diverse group of nearly 100 industry stakeholders who engaged in highly interactive, facilitated discussions that offered deep learning, focused networking and collaborative development of shared vision.

One of the big draws for VERGE Hawaii was the installation of a working microgrid featuring a solar array, wind turbines, a biodiesel generator, ice storage and a battery working, and electric vehicle charging system. The microgrid was built exclusively for VERGE Hawaii using off-the-shelf equipment. Opterra Energy Services provided the design, engineering and project management for the development of the project.

In addition to the main-stage sessions, hands-on breakouts and valuable networking opportunities, this year's VERGE Hawaii attendees were treated to exhilarating performances by spoken word performer "Kealoha," and ukulele virtuoso "Taimane." Kealoha, the first poet laureate of Hawaii, delivered an inspiring selection of poems about the growing awareness of the impacts of climate change, while Taimane performed a sizzling rendition combining Led Zeppelin's Stairway to Heaven and Beethoven's Fur Elise.

The conference generated positive attendee feedback, with 100 percent of survey respondents saying the found the event valuable, and 80 percent saying they already plan to attend VERGE Hawaii 2018.



DID YOU KNOW?

Hawaii has surpassed the half-billion-dollar mark for investment in energy performance contracting (EPC), an innovative financing tool that allows government agencies to achieve significant savings from the installation of energy, water and operational efficiency projects without having to pay capital expenses up front. With \$504.3 million in signed energy performance contracts to date, Hawaii becomes just the seventh state nationally to eclipse the half-billion-dollar threshold for EPC investment.



ENLIGHTENING NEWS & UPDATES

JUMPSmartMaui project comes to 'successful' end
(The Maui News, 5/11/17)

State recognizes Hawaii businesses, events for green practices
(Pacific Business News, 5/18/17)

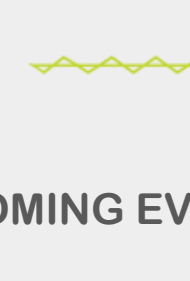
Hawaii becomes first state to enact law that aligns with Paris agreement
(ABC News, 6/06/17)

Energy stakeholders call for increased transparency, flexibility and cooperation
(Pacific Business News, 6/20/17)

City's first large bike-share system deploys today
(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 6/28/17)

Green power making most of green light?
(Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 7/16/17)

3 Ways Hawaii is Becoming More Energy Efficient
(Energy.gov, 7/17/17)



UPCOMING EVENTS

HSEO's Chris Yunker, Energy Solutions and Planning Branch manager, will provide the state update for transportation and energy at the [9th annual Hawaii Clean Energy Day](#) on August 28, 2017 at the YWCA Lanikaia. This year's conference, Pathways to Clean Transportation, will focus on Hawaii's clean transportation future.

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