

Merz, Jeff

From: noreply@hirep-wind.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:47 AM
To: Johnston, Douglas; Merz, Jeff
Subject: [HIREP Wind EIS] New Comment

A New Comment has been Submitted

I recently attended a meeting on Lanai concerning the Hawaiian Interisland Renewable Energy Program (HIREP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). I would like the following comments to be included in the record. My first concern has to do with AECOM Technical Services. I would like some history on why this company was chosen for the E.I.S. Was this a competitive bidding process or was the contract solely awarded to AECOM. Also I question the time line of the EIS. The EIS must be completed by April 2012. There is no way that all comments can be included in such a short time frame. There are too many concerned citizens, Local, State, and Federal agencies that will need to address the impacts of wind generation and an undersea cable. Take for example the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. I would like to know if there are currently any laws, rules, or regulations on the books within the Agency right now that would prohibit this sort of development. Is NOAA and the Marine Sanctuary going to address the EIS? This is just one example. As part of the EIS all current laws, rules, and regulations should be addressed. This cannot be accomplished with such a short commenting period. Two other concerns about the EIS. It offers no alternative plans other than the wind farm. It's take the wind farm or nothing. There are other alternative energy plans that can be implemented that would cost less and not be as destructive. These other options should be explored and addressed in the EIS. Also, the EIS does not address any site specific locations. It's not right to compile an EIS when no infrastructure sites have been identified. To conclude I'm against the wind farm and transmission cable. Too much destruction for a project with such a limited life span. What happens when the wind farm stops producing? The impact on the cultural landscape is not worth it. Mike Oexner, PO Box 630066, Lanai City, HI 96763

Submitted on Wed, Feb 09, 2011 / 09:46AM HST by Mike Oexner

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