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Re: Hawaii Interisland Renewable Energy Program (HIREP) Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Aloha Kakou,

As a permanent resident of the island of Molokai and a small business owner on this island, I feel compelled to write to you regarding the HIREP PEIS. There are minds greater than mine that are trying to figure this out; however I feel that there are some issues that must not be over looked in your draft EIS.

1. I would like to see more detailed analysis of all of the alternative energy options that should be considered BEFORE attempting to build such a large scale wind farm and under sea cable. Solid waste, biofuels, solar, tide, water temperature and other sources.
2. Greater detail regarding the actual structures of the towers themselves, size, weight, volume of concrete, etc.
3. An analysis of the infrastructure improvements that would need to take place prior to the beginning of construction on the island of Molokai, i.e., harbor improvements, roads, etc. The potential impacts of these 'improvements' on our rural lifestyle.
4. A full disclosure to all parties involved and who would see what type of projected profits from said project.
5. Transparent electrical consumer rate projections, by island for the next, five, ten, twenty years with this type of project.
6. Why is First Wind the only company that appears to be involved with this project? Did the State of Hawaii ever put out an RFP?
7. What would a return on investment look like if the same funds were used to improve the grids on all islands, so that individuals could be encouraged to produce alternative energy? What if we encouraged de-centralized energy production?
8. How to mitigate the damage to birds and other wildlife?
9. How will burial sites and other cultural resources be protected?
10. Why do the people of Molokai believe that they will have full access for hunting and gathering within the wind farm? What security measures are to be expected within the homeland security issues and current global conditions?
11. Where will the wind farm be located on this island?
12. There is no current agreement for the land (location) on Molokai and certainly no agreement with the residents of Molokai as to what conditions should be implemented before going forward with this project. How is it proposed to settle these key issues?
13. Lastly, I would like to request a printed copy of the DEIS and other pertinent notices and documents to be shared with the Molokai community through the book store.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Taryn L Waros
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