The Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) has contracted with Boston Consulting Group to support the Hawaii Advanced Visualization Environment Nexus, or HAVEN, which will demonstrate visualization as an effective means of analyzing and communicating complex data. The Energy Systems and Planning Branch (ESP) is developing tools to assist planners, decision makers, and the public in understanding the potential implications of various future energy scenarios. The analyses will provide information on how each model operates and the trade-offs for different outcomes. This phase of the study will determine the long-term operational and financial costs and benefits of different energy systems and regulatory models that will help us transition to a clean energy economy.

The state Legislature requested the study in 2016 to provide guidance on which models could best help us transition to a clean energy economy. The study will evaluate the ability of various utility ownership models to use Hawaii’s plentiful clean, indigenous energy resources. The study will also consider the implications of alternative utility ownership models and regulatory approaches on customer choice, access to clean energy, and economic and community resilience. The study will help inform the drafting of the utility ownership and regulatory models.

In the first featured story in this issue of The Current we report on the effort by HSEO and partners to gather public input. We value that input, which will help inform the drafting of the study. The Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) video, "Commemorative Video Celebrates HCEI Milestone," reflects on HCEI’s achievements in advancing clean energy in Hawaii.

The new energy conservation codes will have a profound impact on the efficiency of our buildings. Homes and buildings account for a significant share of Hawaii’s electrical use, and robust energy resource planning is essential for a sustainable future. HSEO and its partners have implemented ambitious policies to boost both our renewable portfolio and energy efficiency portfolio. The Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) is a joint effort between the private and public sectors to achieve Hawaii’s clean energy goals in 2030 and 2045.

This year’s program is framed by seven tracks identified as the key drivers of a clean economy in Hawaii: Building Efficiency, Distributed Energy Systems, Decarbonizing Transportation, Grid Electric Vehicles, Energy Policy and Finance, Food Services, and Energy Self-Dependent State. The program on each island consisted of a morning session for the public sector and an afternoon session for the private sector. The response was overwhelming, with nearly 300 participants in total, according to The Cadmus Group. Increasing comfort with natural ventilation, and eliminating the need for electric water heating, will result in significant energy savings and will help Hawaii achieve its statutorily mandated target of reducing GHG emissions by 65% below 1990 levels by 2050.

In the second featured story, "Clean Energy Goals in 2030 and 2045," we discuss the state of the clean energy industry in Hawaii and look at how customers and businesses are making the transition to clean energy. The Hawaiian Electric Companies reached 27 percent renewable portfolio in 2017, and the state is committed to achieving 100 percent renewable portfolio by 2045. The state is working with partners to develop a plan and timeline for achieving this goal.

Commemorative Video Celebrates HCEI Milestone

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Spring 2018**
  - **Register today and use code VH18HSEO10 for a 10% discount.**

FEATURED STAFF:

- Michael Schwing, Energy Systems and Planning Branch

IN THE MEDIA

- "Electric bus tests getting a wider Hawaii rollout," *Utility Dive*, 4/25/18
- "Hawaii designates alternative fuel corridors with EV charging," *Pacific Business News*, 4/04/18
- "Electric bus tests getting a wider Hawaii rollout," *Pacific Business News*, 4/12/18
- "Readers of Hawaii Energy and Ratepayers Advocate report on the Entry Level process helps these businesses move toward building a more environmentally friendly business and reach for the highest levels of innovation and test bed investments. By achieving these goals, HSEO will grow the clean energy workforce and provide a foundation for future growth."

- "Commemorative Video Celebrates HCEI Milestone"