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January 31, 2011

To Whom It May Concern

I wish to express my concerns regarding the First wind windmill project being proposed for Molokai. Let me say that my elected moku, Wade Lee and all our elected moku should be the ones sitting at the table negotiating on behalf of the Hawaiians who call this island home. 55% of our population are South Pacific Islanders/Hawaiian, yet their voice seems to be ignored. Our *aha pua'a* system has been in place well before statehood and is recognized

by the Hawaiian State Government we have used our elected mokus to effectively negotiate land agreements with other state agencies on the East end of the island - and we need to be in negotiation with them over this critical issue.

Cultural practice regards the seven winds of Hina a sacred and kept in her gourd. The winds belong to her as a representative of a Higher power whether it be called God or another name. The winds of Molokai belong to molokai and are not to be taken from the island.

As with the cruise ships and the proposed Lā'au develop- ment, others outside our

community have sought to exploit the resources of Molokai for their own greed. This would seem to be the case as there are already negotiations taking place with Peter Nicholas of Inoco Properties. As a ^{Non-}resident landlord Peter has authorized the cutting of mature coconut trees, a cultural violation, has left the land uncared for, caused financial hardship by raising water rates, etc. He has no authority to take resources that are not his, but belong to the local Hawaiian population and misuse and disrespect them.

After the legislature passed the law to allow the undersea cable as a way to bring electricity

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to Oahu, plans were made to expand and improve our harbor - most likely to accommodate the large equipment needed to build the giant windmills that are and have been proposed. I am unaware that our moku or any Hawaiian or other culturally sensitive leader was informed or involved in these decisions. It seems that decisions are made in Oahu without local leadership and implemented without regard to the local population. Ms. Machado, does NOT represent our island or its interests and if you would refer to the voting of individual islands, you will find that she was

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disoundingly outvoted on
Molokai. Her vote comes from
other islands and her interests
lie there, not with Molokai
even though she now heads
OHA.

Molokai does not want
to be opened up for development
which would occur if the
wind mills were put in
place. The Ranch and Oahu
are the ones who stand to
benefit - not Molokai
who would be the last to
have its own wind mill.

I am opposed to any
negotiations not involving our
local make - our elected officials
who represent our island and
the needs of our people and their
children.

I am opposed to any development which would place at risk the resources we have. The Ranch has already put our water systems at high risk and by leasing land to agribusiness agencies, allowing our water to be diverted from our farming community to support off island big business enterprise.

I am opposed to projects which disregard our cultural beliefs and practices. The building of windmills to export electricity - not for Molokai but for Oahu disregards Hina and the seven winds she keeps in her gourd.

Oahu disregarded the limitations of its own island to allow unsustainable development. We don't want that on Molokai

Artice Swingle