



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:  
Web:

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648  
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM  
AND  
WATER AND LAND**

Monday, March 18, 2024  
1:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In Support of  
**HB 2020, HD2**

**RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.**

Chairs DeCoite and Inouye, Vice Chairs Wakai and Elefante, and members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 2020, HD2, with an amendment. HB 2020, HD2, expands the definition of "renewable energy producer" that is used to determine the Board of Land and Natural Resources' disposition of public lands to renewable energy producers.

HSEO advises that (1) clarifying the definition would be helpful, and (2) the anticipated need for renewable energy extends beyond the electricity sector, since the state's decarbonization goals include the reduction in greenhouse gases from fuels used in the transportation sector, utility gas, and nonregulated fuel gases.

HSEO recommends a further refinement to a change that was recently made to this bill. HSEO recommends that on page 4, lines 12 and 13 be revised to read as follows:

"provided that nothing in this definition shall be construed to allow wheeling that is not authorized by law, or rule or order of the public utilities commission."

This change will address concerns about potential complexities being introduced into DLNR's statute.

HSEO supports this bill, as it provides clarity and consistency in definition with HRS section 269-91. The contents of the definitions are shown side-by-side in the table below for comparison.

HRS Section <a href="#">171-95(c)</a> (existing)	From HRS Section <a href="#">269-91</a>
<p>For the purposes of this section, "renewable energy producer" means:</p> <p>(1) Any producer or developer of electrical or thermal energy produced by wind, solar energy, hydropower, geothermal resources, landfill gas, waste-to-energy, ocean thermal energy conversion, cold seawater, wave energy, biomass, including municipal solid waste, biofuels or fuels derived from organic sources, hydrogen fuels derived primarily from renewable energy, or fuel cells where the fuel is derived primarily from renewable sources that sell all of the net power produced from the demised premises to an electric utility company regulated under chapter 269 or that sells all of the thermal energy it produces to customers of district cooling systems; provided that up to twenty-five per cent of the power produced by a renewable energy producer and sold to the utility or to district cooling system customers may be derived from fossil fuels; or</p> <p>(2) Any grower or producer of plant or animal materials used primarily for the production of biofuels or other fuels; provided that nothing herein is intended to prevent the waste product or byproduct of the plant or animal material grown or produced for the production of biofuel, other fuels, electrical energy, or thermal energy, from being used for other useful purposes.</p>	<p>For the purposes of this part: "Renewable energy" means energy generated or produced using the following sources:</p> <p>(1) Wind;</p> <p>(2) The sun;</p> <p>(3) Falling water;</p> <p>(4) Biogas, including landfill and sewage-based digester gas;</p> <p>(5) Geothermal;</p> <p>(6) Ocean water, currents, and waves, including ocean thermal energy conversion;</p> <p>(7) Biomass, including biomass crops, agricultural and animal residues and wastes, and municipal solid waste and other solid waste;</p> <p>(8) Biofuels; and</p> <p>(9) Hydrogen produced from renewable energy sources.</p>

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency on the administration of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.