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Ways and Means



A Message From Kalani

Aloha,

This issue of our newsletter takes a look at the work of the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum, which is emerging as an important voice in energy reform. We also travel to different events around the County and the District, as we honor our Filipino community on its Centennial, open a new wing at Maui Memorial, and dedicate the new Nisei Veterans Memorial Center. It's a celebration of the diversity of our local culture.

J. Kalani English



**Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum Looks at
Advances of 2006 Legislative Session**



The Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum met at the State Capitol on September 13, 2006 to review a year of significant advances in State energy policy. The group includes business, government, and community representatives and is convened by the University of Hawai'i College of Social Sciences. Sen. English is seated in the foreground.

The Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum has an ambitious goal: "We must change! And in a way that protects the environment, and social well being of the people of Hawai'i -- and hopefully, the nation and the world." The organization has been charged by the Legislature "to develop an action plan, a timeline, and benchmarks to implement the forum's visions, concepts, and recommendations for Hawai'i's preferred energy future."

Looking Ahead

"Although the 2006 Legislative Session brought us significantly closer to energy reform," Sen. English said, "the real work is just beginning. The great value of the Forum is that it brings together all sides of the discussion. Once the facts have been laid out, and all the stakeholders have stated their views, we can create a framework for real progress."

Action Plan Online

The Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum's website offers a detailed outline of its activities, including "A Ten-Point Plan To Meet Hawai'i's Energy Goals" that was revised in December of 2005. It can be reviewed on the Forum site at www.hawaiienergypolicy.hawaii.edu/.

Pakini Nui Wind Farm Project on Big Island to Generate Power for 10,000 Homes



GE Energy Financial Services is building a 21-megawatt wind farm at South Point on the Big Island that is projected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 22,000 tons a year. The image above is a digital simulation.

At a news conference to announce plans for the construction and operation of a new 21-megawatt wind farm at South Point on the Big Island, Sen. J. Kalani English took to the podium to applaud its operators for their commitment to renewable energy.

"Today in Hawai'i we have the greatest opportunity to help our people to see that, first of all, our security is dependent on good, renewable, indigenous energy," he said. "We also have to understand that as we move ahead, our people have to change our consumption patterns. All of that together will help us."

Wind Power on the Rise in Hawai'i

Sen. English said wind power in Hawai'i is enjoying a resurgence, fueled by improved wind turbine technology. Maui's first wind farm, Kaheawa Wind Power, is now in full operation generating 30-megawatts with 20 wind turbines. Shell Oil is planning a \$200 million facility at 'Ulupalakua Ranch that would produce another 40 megawatts, or enough power for 15,000 homes.

A "Step Forward"

"This is an important step forward," Sen. English said. "The Big Island is well on its way to becoming our most self-sufficient island. Hawai'i has its smaller populations in areas with the most [wind energy] resources. Our next challenge will be to match available energy resources to our most populated areas."

"I remember the first generation of wind energy," he added -- it was not so good. But this generation of wind energy works... We have a long tradition in Polynesia of harnessing wind energy, and today we have both an opportunity and a need carry this technology further."

Maori Deity of Winds

The project's owner and developer is Tawhiri Power LLC, named after the Maori deity who controls the wind. The company is a subsidiary of Apollo Power Corp., which helped pioneer wind energy development at South Point in the early 1980s. The Pakini Nui Wind Project site, which will be the southern-most wind farm in the United States, is known for its strong prevailing trade winds.

Power to 10,000 Homes

The wind farm will produce electrical energy for an estimated 10,000 homes a year. Pakini Nui will add an estimated seven percent to the Big Island's power generating capacity. "The benefits of this project extend far beyond the Big Island," Sen. English said. "The success of each new indigenous energy project will stimulate investment and promote innovation."



Sen. English, with State House Environment and Energy Committee Chair Rep. Hermina S. Morita at his left, spoke at a Capitol news conference to announce the Tawhiri Wind Project, which is named after the Maori deity of the wind. He pointed out that South Point, site of the planned wind farm, is believed by the Maori people to be the point of origin for their southward migration in the 14th Century.

District, County Celebrate Community Kitchen, New Hospital Wing, and Filipino Centennial



From left to right, Tom Driskill (Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation President/CEO), Senator English, Reverend Alalani Hill, Wesley Lo (Maui Memorial Medical Center CEO), and Alakai Paleka gathered at the grand opening of Maui Memorial Medical Center's new \$46 million wing. The wing will add 24 new medical/surgical beds, bringing the total number of hospital beds to 231, along with 16 new rooms in the intensive care unit, adding to the 13 existing critical-care beds.



Vincent Bagoyo, Senior, and his wife Rosa have been married for 70 years. Sen. English joined them as their son, Vince Bagoyo Jr., was named as one of 11 Outstanding Filipinos at a centennial celebration organized by the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce and the Maui Filipino Centennial. Vince was described as "a visionary business executive who led the 13-year process of building the Binhi At Ani Community Center in Kahului."



The Grand Opening of the Kipahulu Community Kitchen represents more than a decade of efforts by a dedicated group of volunteers. Sen. English has been working on the project since his days on the Maui County Council. This community-operated kitchen has gained the all-important Department of Health certification, which will allow the facility to operate as a certified commercial kitchen and food processing facility, processing locally-grown agricultural products for sale.



Sen. English presented Sierra Club awards to community leaders Jan Dapitan, at left, and Walter Ritte at the club's annual awards ceremony at Hoaloha Park in Kahului, Maui. Jan Dapitan is the Executive Director of the Community Work Day Program on Maui, which sponsors four major cleanup projects a year. Walter Ritte is a longtime activist from Moloka'i who has worked for more than 25 years to restore fish ponds, reclaim water rights, and educate young people about Hawaiian traditional practices.

Senator English Meets With U.S. Ambassador to Federated States of Micronesia

One of Senator J. Kalani English's key areas of responsibility, as Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment, and International Affairs, is maintaining diplomatic contact with nations around the world -- particularly with Pacific Island nations whose traditions and history are so closely related to Hawai'i's. In late August, Sen. English was able to renew discussions with the United States Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Suzanne K. Hale. The Senator and Ambassador Hale discussed the University of Hawai'i's recent 50 percent tuition hike for students from Pacific Island nations. Both Sen. English and Ambassador Hale have been in touch with University officials to ask them to reverse the decision.



Sen. English met with Suzanne K. Hale, US Ambassador to the FSM, at his State Capitol office to discuss a variety of shared concerns. Ambassador Hale is a career diplomat who has served in Japan and China as well as Washington, D.C., where she worked on international trade policy for the Department of Agriculture.



Sen. English paid his respects to Nisei veterans of the Second World War at the opening of the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center. The Center is described as a "living memorial" that will provide both young children and the elderly with daycare and a slate of activities. A 3,800 square-foot space at the Center will offer daycare for 53 seniors, and an adjoining 1,300 square feet will house the adjoining Kansha Daycare Center, with space for 16 children.

How to Reach Us

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 205
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
phone 808-587-7225
fax 808-587-7230

From Maui, toll free 984-2400 +
77225

From Moloka'i and Lana'i,
toll free 1-800-468-4644+ 77225

E-mail:

senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov

To receive this newsletter by e-mail, please send your request to vandercook@capitol.hawaii.gov.