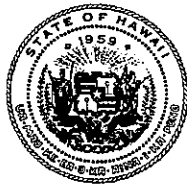


GM 474



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
235 S BERETANIA ST. SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Tel. (808) 586-4185
Fax. (808) 586-4186
Email: oeqc@doh.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Environmental Council,
Gubernatorial Nominees**

GM 472 – ROBERT A. KING
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 473 – WADE L. LORD
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2011

GM 474 - CHRISTOPHER B. STEELE
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2011

Testimony of Katherine Puana Kealoha
Interim Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control

Thursday, April 3, 2008, 2:45 p.m.
Room 414

1 The Department of Health strongly supports the appointments of Mr. Robert King, Mr.
2 Wade Lord, and Mr. Christopher Steele to the Environmental Council.

3 Mr. King has served on the Council for over three years and served as Chairman for the
4 last six months. He is a member of the Annual Report and Rules Committees. He represents
5 engineering interests and is from Maui.

6 Mr. Lord has served on the Council as an interim member for the last six months
7 representing Real Estate interests and is from Kauai. During this time, Mr. Lord has been
8 involved with the Legislation and Education/Cultural Committees.

1 Mr. Steele has served on the Council as an interim member for the last six months,
2 represents environmental compliance, and is from Oahu. During this time, he has been involved
3 with the Exemption List Committee.

4 All of their combined experience will help the Council's efforts to educate the public
5 about environmental and cultural issues in Hawaii.

6 Members of the Council represent education, business, and environmental disciplines and
7 professions such as the natural and social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering,
8 public health, planning, agriculture, real estate, visitor industry, construction, media, and
9 community and environmental groups.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

To whom it may concern,

Chris Steele is one of the most enthusiastic and passionate individuals I have ever met. Chris is committed to making change and demonstrates strong interpersonal skills. He has many talents and I am happy that he is dedicated to working with a variety of partners, including the West Coast Collaborative and the Hawaii American Lung Association. As part of my professional job, I have worked on several projects with Chris and he is always very helpful and a pleasure to work with.

Sincerely,
Asia Yeary
EPA Region 9

**Senate Committee On
Energy and Environment
April 3, 2008
2:45pm
Room 414
GM474**

**Consideration and Confirmation to the Environmental Council
Christopher Steele**

Chair Menor and Vice Chair Hooser and members of the committee. I **support** Christopher Steele's nomination to the Environmental Council. I have known Christopher Steele a number of years, and it is with great pleasure that I recommend him for the position for the Environmental Council.

During my term as Director of the Office of Environmental Control, I worked with him for Grace Pacific to actively use recycled glass for the projects. Chris and I are on the General Contractor Association environmental committee and we meet once a month. The committee works with state, county and contractors as to best management practice on projects to protect the environment.

He is respected and has the admiration of everyone who comes in contact with him. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that he will be a valuable asset to the council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Genevieve Salmonson

SUPPORT

4/1/2008

Honorable Senator Ron Menor, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Reference: Governor's Message 474

TESTIMONY FROM Chester I. Saito

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to address the Board this afternoon.

My name is Chester Saito. I currently serve on the Environmental Council.

It is my honor to support the appointment of Mr. Christopher Steele to the Environmental Council.

I have known Mr. Steele personally and professionally for the past ten years. Since 1997, we both have been members of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii Environmental Committee that meet once a month to conduct business that address programs to minimize the impact on the environment associated with construction. We've been classmates on many environmental training courses.

Based on my association with Mr. Steele, I can say without a doubt that he will be a valuable member of the Environmental Council as he is dedicated and passionate about protecting the welfare of our people and the aina.

Mahalo for allowing me to present this testimony in support of Christopher Steele's appointment to the Environmental Council.



THE ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA

333 John Carlyle Street, Suite 200 • Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 548-3118 • FAX: (703) 548-3119 • www.agc.org

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DAVID R. LUKENS, Chief Operating Officer

March 31, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter recognizes Christopher Steele with Grace Pacific Corporation in Kapolei, Hawaii for his service on the Environmental Network Steering Committee of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC). This Steering Committee oversees AGC's Environmental Network that includes all of the AGC members and chapter professionals who have expressed a specific interest in environmental issues.

The Environmental Network Steering Committee helps AGC identify and meet its members' immediate needs for environmental advocacy, information, and assistance. It also develops recommendations for AGC action on any environmental issues that AGC, as a whole, should address. The Steering Committee Members have direct access to federal regulatory officials, influence over AGC's environmental agenda, and a means to exchange valuable information with one another and industry peers.

Mr. Steele was appointed to the Steering Committee in March 2007 by AGC's leadership to serve a three-year term. We have been very pleased to have his participation, and he brings his enthusiasm and commitment to environmental excellence to all Steering Committee activities. Attached for your reference is an article from *AGC's Environmental Observer* newsletter that presents recent environmental achievements of Grace Pacific Corporation, many of which Mr. Steele has championed at his firm.

Regards,

Melinda L. Tomaino, LEED® AP
Associate Director, Environmental Services

Oahu
680 Iwilei Road, Suite 575
Honolulu, HI 96817
Fax: (808) 537-5971
Phone: (808) 537-5966
lung@ala-hawaii.org

Kauai
2992 Umi Street
Lihue, HI 96766
Fax: (808) 245-8488
Phone: (808) 245-4142
alahkauai@ala-hawaii.org

MauI
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Wailuku, HI 96793
Fax: (808) 242-9041
Phone: (808) 244-5110
alahmaui@ala-hawaii.org

Hawaii
39 Ululani Street
Hilo, HI 96720
Fax: (808) 935-7474
Phone: (808) 935-1206
alahbi@ala-hawaii.org

Website:
www.ala-hawaii.org

E-mail:
lung@ala-hawaii.org

Lung Helpline
Phone: 1-800- LUNG-USA
(586-4872)

Improving Life One
Breath at a Time

Founded in 1904, the
American Lung Association
includes affiliated associations
throughout the U.S.



CURES | CLEAN AIR | SMOKEFREE KIDS
Improving Life, One Breath at a Time

To: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

For: GM 474
Hearing scheduled for April 3, 2008, 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 414

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION
OF CHRISTOPHER B. STEELE TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser and Committee Members:

The American Lung Association of Hawaii supports the appointment of Christopher Steele to the Hawaii Environmental Council. Mr. Steele is the Manager of Environmental Compliance at Grace Pacific Corporation.

Mr. Steele displays an enthusiastic interest in developing innovative partnerships to improve the environment. Because of his interest, the American Lung Association of Hawaii worked with him on a successful Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant proposal to retrofit diesel engines making them less polluting.

Mr. Steele will bring his perspective to the Environmental Council.

Respectively submitted,

Jean Evans, MPH
Executive Director
American Lung Association of Hawaii



Rubber Pavements Association

1801 S. Jentilly Lane, Suite A-2 • Tempe, AZ 85281-5738 • 480-517-9944 • Fax: 480-517-9959 • Website: www.rubberpavements.org

March 31, 2008

The Honorable Senator Ron Menor
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Governor's Message 474, SUPPORT NOMINATION OF CHRIS STEELE

Hon. Senator Menor:

On behalf of the Rubber Pavements Association (RPA), an international, non-profit trade association dedicated to the use of recycled tire rubber in asphalt pavements, I strongly support and recommend the confirmation of Mr. Chris Steele to the Governor's Environmental Counsel.

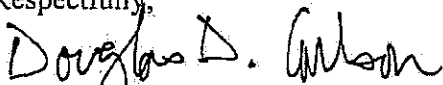
Chris has demonstrated leadership in the asphalt construction industry through his constant dedication and devotion to environmental issues. At every opportunity, he focuses our association's attention on environmental issues and how members of the industry can work together to provide clean and sustainable solutions by working smarter, not harder. Chris has shared his wisdom with the RPA by putting the environment first in our problem solving processes. He has great consensus building skills with an equal share of directness and tactfulness to keep members involved and on topic.

One goal of Chris's is to create a closed loop system in Hawaii where scrap tires are locally processed into high value crumb rubber material suitable for use in Hawaii's roads to provide safer, quieter and durable asphalt surfaces. His initiative brought the RPA to Hawaii in 2007 and together we are working on standardizing asphalt-rubber material in the Department of Transportation's standard specification.

Fortunately, Chris has the balance of patience and drive it takes to partner with all of the parties needed to educate and demonstrate sustainable technologies. When the noise reducing properties of asphalt-rubber friction courses on the aged concrete pavements on Hawaii's freeways are finally realized, it will be because of Chris Steele.

I strongly recommend the inclusion of Mr. Chris Steele to the Governor's Environmental Counsel as an environmentally conscious member of industry.

Respectfully,


Douglas D. Carlson
Executive Director



Dedicated to encouraging greater usage of high quality, cost effective asphalt pavements containing recycled tire rubber.

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Environmental Science International
56 Oneawa Street, Suite 103, Kailua, Hawaii 96734
(808) 261-0740 phone / (808) 261-0749 fax

April 1, 2008

Attention: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Chair Ron Menor, Vice Chair Gary Hooser, and Committee Members

Subject: Testimony of Howard B. West in Support of G.M. 474 (Mr. Christopher Steele), Confirmation to Environmental Council.

Reference: Public Hearing, April 3, 2008, 2:45 p.m., Conference Room 414.

Senate Committee:

I am the Executive Vice President and a principal of Environmental Science International, Inc., and have worked closely with Christopher (Chris) Steele since his appointment in 2001 as Environmental Compliance Manager of Grace Pacific Corporation. During the years that he and I have worked together, I have had the opportunity to watch his growth as an environmental professional and as a person. I believe that Chris is an impassioned and committed advocate of environmental stewardship. He has been instrumental in paving the way for implementation of an Environmental Management System at Grace Pacific Corporation and has helped elevate that company's environmental consciousness. It is my opinion that Grace Pacific Corporation is the environmental leader among Hawaii's large industrial businesses. Chris has played a large role in making that happen. Accordingly, I would like to express my personal support for Chris to become a member of the Environmental Council.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard West". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Howard B. West, Ph.D.
Principal and Executive Vice President
Environmental Science International, Inc.

March 31, 2008

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
Chair Ron Menor, Vice Chair Gary Hooser, and Committee Members
Public Hearing, April 3, 2008, 2:45 p.m. Conference Room 414

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM F. ANONSEN
IN SUPPORT OF G.M. 474
CONFIRMATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Principal for Maritime Consultants of the Pacific, in addition to leadership positions on several industry trade associations and community civic organizations. I would like to express my personal support for the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Christopher B. Steele to the Environmental Council for a term to expire June 30, 2011. Regrettably I could not personally testify before the committee.

Through my association with his employer Grace Pacific Corporation, I have found him to be a dedicated individual who performs his professional and civic responsibilities with a sense of commitment and pride. Mr. Christopher Steele has many characteristics necessary to make him an outstanding member of the Environmental Council, but I will mention a few that stand out. Mr. Steele is a leader and team player who works well with all people. He has demonstrated on several occasions his ability to remain committed to his principles, always with a sense of ethics and diplomacy in times of heated conflicting opposition. I have found him to carefully consider difficult topics, and through a structured investigative process and mind set, he develops well-considered decisions to address and resolve an issue. Most important, he stands by his principles, strongly defending them skillfully and with respectful tact.

I believe Mr. Steele is well qualified and that by confirming his appointment from its current interim status to a full member, it will lend a much needed balance on the commission with representation of the construction component of the state's business network.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this Gubernatorial Nominee.

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen
Principal
Maritime Consultants of the Pacific, LLC

testimony

From: Douglas D. Carlson [dougdc@rubberpavements.org]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2008 10:45 AM
To: testimony
Cc: CSteele@gracepacificcorp.com; gdickerson@rubberpavements.org
Subject: Sen. Committee on Energy and Environment April 3
Attachments: Gov Message 474 SUPPORT Chris Steele.pdf

March 31, 2008

The Honorable Senator Ron Menor
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Governor's Message 474, SUPPORT NOMINATION OF CHRIS STEELE

Hon. Senator Menor:

On behalf of the Rubber Pavements Association (RPA), an international, non-profit trade association dedicated to the use of recycled tire rubber in asphalt pavements, I strongly support and recommend the confirmation of Mr. Chris Steele to the Governor's Environmental Counsel.

Chris has demonstrated leadership in the asphalt construction industry through his constant dedication and devotion to environmental issues. At every opportunity, he focuses our association's attention on environmental issues and how members of the industry can work together to provide clean and sustainable solutions by working smarter, not harder. Chris has shared his wisdom with the RPA by putting the environment first in our problem solving processes. He has great consensus building skills with an equal share of directness and tactfulness to keep members involved and on topic.

One goal of Chris's is to create a closed loop system in Hawaii where scrap tires are locally processed into high value crumb rubber material suitable for use in Hawaii's roads to provide safer, quieter and durable asphalt surfaces. His initiative brought the RPA to Hawaii in 2007 and together we are working on standardizing asphalt-rubber material in the Department of Transportation's standard specification.

Fortunately, Chris has the balance of patience and drive it takes to partner with all of the parties needed to educate and demonstrate sustainable technologies. When the noise reducing properties of asphalt-rubber friction courses on the aged concrete pavements on Hawaii's freeways are finally realized, it will be because of Chris Steele.

I strongly recommend the inclusion of Mr. Chris Steele to the Governor's Environmental Counsel as an environmentally conscious member of industry.

Respectfully,

Doug Carlson
Executive Director
1801 S. Jentilly Lane Suite A-2
Tempe, AZ 85281
480-517-9944
480-517-9959 fax
www.rubberpavements.org

3/31/2008



Rubber Pavements Association

1801 S. Jentilly Lane, Suite A-2 • Tempe, AZ 85281-5738 • 480-517-9944 • Fax: 480-517-9959 • Website: www.rubberpavements.org

March 31, 2008

The Honorable Senator Ron Menor
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

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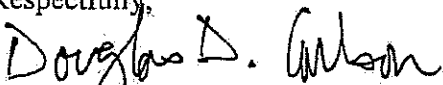
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I strongly recommend the inclusion of Mr. Chris Steele to the Governor's Environmental Counsel as an environmentally conscious member of industry.

Respectfully,


Douglas D. Carlson
Executive Director



Dedicated to encouraging greater usage of high quality, cost effective asphalt pavements containing recycled tire rubber.

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Statement of
Erik Kvam
Chief Executive Officer, Zero Emissions Leasing LLC
before the
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Thursday April 3, 2008
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

IN SUPPORT OF
Governor's Message 474
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
Environmental Council,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **Christopher B. Steele**, for a term to expire 6-30-2011

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment:

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of the confirmation of Christopher B. Steele to the Environmental Council.

Christopher Steele has an exemplary record of environmental achievement as Environmental Affairs Manager for Grace Pacific, as a president and director of the Campbell Local Emergency Action Network (CLEAN) and as a director of the Hawaii Association of Environment Professionals. I can attest personally to Chris's deep concern and commitment to protect the quality of Hawaii's environment. The State of Hawaii could not find a more qualified person than Christopher Steele to serve on the Environmental Council.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in this matter.

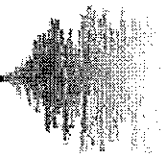
Respectfully,

Erik Kvam



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www.ArgosyAcoustics.com



March 29, 2008

Hawaii State Senate

Gentlemen,

I am CEO of an emerging company in Seattle, WA, specializing in the development of products for noise mitigation all over our country.

Chris Steele, Environmental Manager of Grace Pacific Corporation, in your state of Hawaii has impressed me tremendously by his intelligence and passion in pursuing real solutions to environmental problems. His regard for the indigenous people of Hawaii, their dual concerns of livability in their neighborhoods and preservation of their culture, balanced against the demands for commerce and jobs is a refreshing change from purely political posturing.

We work with noise. Solutions that don't reduce noise but simply delay resolution are not much use. The noise is still there. Chris has the courage and foresight to see that the seeking of real solutions is useful and valuable.

To accomplish this type of effort requires a team approach. Chris is both an original thinker and a team player. He will help preserve the environment for Hawaiians without destroying the business climate both within and outside the islands

We are currently dealing with Seismic Exploration Noise problems in Alaska as well as noise problems here in Seattle and Hawaii. The noise levels in the Beaufort Sea during oil exploration are very high and if unchecked could destroy one of the world's major fisheries. The Alaska Native Groups need the revenue from the oil but also want preservation of the fishery. We would never hesitate to ask Chris his advice on these things.

So I recommend using him to best advantage while you have him in Hawaii. His combination of intelligence and passion is rare, I feel lucky to know him.

Jack Starbird/CEO

Argosy Acoustics Inc.

206.856.9124.

Christopher Steele
Grace Pacific Corporation

Re: Nomination of Christopher Steele to the Hawaii Governors Environmental Council

To whom it may concern;

I can imagine no better person than Christopher Steele to serve on the Hawaii Governors Environmental Council. Mr. Steele's leadership in promoting environmental stewardship in the construction industry is nationally recognized. Similarly, I am certain he will continue his efforts to promote the best environmental interests of Hawaii in a balanced and thoughtful manner if confirmed to serve on this council.

I became acquainted with Christopher Steele in early 2005 due to our mutual interest in protecting our nation's water resources through the promotion of voluntary construction industry compliance with the NPDES construction stormwater regulations. Mr. Steele was first introduced to me by Mr. Peter Truitt of the EPA's Sector Strategies Division of OECA Headquarters in Washington DC because Mr. Truitt knew we shared very similar beliefs about the role industry could and should play in improving water quality through voluntary compliance improvement programs.

Since the fall of 2006 Mr. Steele and I have been working with the Associated General Contractors trade associations and others in Hawaii, Colorado and at the national level to promote the expansion of voluntary participation programs modeled after the successful Colorado Stormwater Excellence Program (CSEP). The CSEP has been working effectively to improve industry compliance in Colorado since late 2004. Over the last few years, as we worked together to promote a similar voluntary regulatory compliance program in Hawaii, I have come to know firsthand of Mr. Steele's passion and enthusiasm for affecting positive environmental changes in his native state.

Christopher Steele is already very influential and well-respected in the construction industry as a leader who is able to work well with diverse stakeholders to achieve common goals in innovative and cost-effective ways. I am honored to be working with Mr. Steele and look forward to being able to affect even greater positive change in our industries' environmental stewardship with his help and leadership.

Christopher Steele will undoubtedly continue to serve well the environmental interest of the people of the State of Hawaii in any capacity he can, as he has done for many years, but the people of Hawaii could realize the greatest benefits by utilizing his unique knowledge of industry combined with his passion for environmental stewardship on this important council.

Sincerely,

William M Robinson, President
Stormwater Risk Management, LLC

testimony

From: Morrell, Jeff [Jeff.Morrell@lfr.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2008 8:01 AM
To: testimony
Cc: CSteele@gracepacificcorp.com
Subject: Testimony Supporting Confirmation of CHRISTOPHER B. STEELE

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Ron Menor, Chair
Senator Gary L. Hooser, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, April 3, 2008
TIME: 2:45 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 414, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Testimony Supporting Confirmation of CHRISTOPHER B. STEELE

As the principal engineer and operations manager of LFR, Inc. a local engineering and environmental consulting company, I have had the privilege to work with Chris Steele for the past three years. I particularly appreciate Chris's dedication to ensuring that his company acts as a responsible corporate citizen complying with the myriad state and federal environmental and safety regulations while remaining strong and prosperous. Under Chris's leadership, Grace Pacific has progressed beyond compliance to embrace initiatives such as the vehicle idling reduction program which is having a significant impact on local air quality while also providing fuel savings and energy efficiency improvements.

Chris works tirelessly to inform and educate his co-workers on the impacts of their decisions, as well as their responsibilities to help protect the environment in Hawaii. He has been deeply involved in bringing together investors, businesses, and technical professionals to promote and develop sustainable energy and beneficial re-use projects. As a business leader, Chris has always treated LFR fairly and honestly, demonstrating the highest levels of integrity in carrying out his responsibilities.

I believe that Chris will be an excellent addition and strong contributor to the Hawaii Governors Environmental Counsel, and I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey C. Morrell, P.E.
Principal Engineer
LFR, Inc.

This message (including any attachments) is intended only for the use of the named a may contain information that is legally privileged, confidential or exempt from disc If you are not a named addressee, you are hereby notified that any use, disseminatio of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, sender immediately by telephone or by return e-mail and delete this message, along w from your computer. Thank you.

March 31, 2008

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Chris Steele.

To all it may concern,

I have known Chris Steele for approximately 11 years and have worked closely with him for the past 5 years. During this time, I have had the honor to work with someone that genuinely cares about the environment. Chris is constantly striving to be on the cutting edge of technology in regard to the reduction of emissions and environmental impact from Grace Pacific. Some examples are:

Chris secured a grant from the EPA to replace older diesel engines with the newest low emission diesel engines. This pro-active change has lessened Grace Pacific's environmental impact on the Big Island, Kauai and Oahu.

Chris also secured a grant from Chevron to retrofit Grace Pacific's diesel fleet with emission reduction catalysts and filters. This is another pro-active change that will lessen Grace Pacific's environmental impact on Oahu.

Chris has surrounded the Grace Pacific Makakilo Quarry with state of the art dust monitoring analyzers and weather stations in an effort to better understand and control emissions coming from the quarry and surrounding areas. This information has been invaluable with respect to helping clarify a cloudy issue of dust culpability in the Makakilo area.

As the Manager of Environmental Compliance for Grace Pacific, Chris has been exposed to and fully understands all areas of environmental compliance. Air quality, water quality, storm water run-off and permitting and risk assessment just to name a few. Chris Steele is an excellent candidate for the Hawaii Governors Environmental Counsel because he is thoughtful, intelligent and he cares about Hawaii and the environment.

I highly recommend the confirmation of Chris Steele to the Hawaii Governors Environmental Counsel.

Sincerely,

Harry J. Johnson

Harry J. Johnson
Manager, SCEC Hawaii
808-630-8005

Donald Kaulia

75-251 Aloha Kona Drive, Kailua Kona, HI 96740, email: don@kaulia.com

March 28, 2008

Governor Linda Lingle
State of Hawaii Senate

I hereby submit this letter of recommendation for *Mr. Chris Steele* to serve on the Governor's Environmental Council.

As a coworker, Mr. Steele has demonstrated his capacity as a manager for Grace Pacific Corporation's Lead man on Environmental Compliance at all of our properties throughout the Hawaiian islands. Chris is proactive in all phases of environmental issues and concerns. Chris has also played a key role in educating our managers and qualifying our company in partnering with the EPA and American Lung Association. Chris also got us teamed up with the Hawaii Clean Air Partnership Diesel Retrofit Program.

As a friend, I know Chris Steele will do excellent for our Hawaii. I know, because I am Hawaiian. Please consider Chris Steele's appointment.

You may reach me at 808-960-4656.

Mahalo,

Donald Kaulia

Telephone:
(808) 587-8227



Fax:
(808) 587-8267

Alakea Corporate Tower
1100 Alakea Street, Suite 2424
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2840

www.est8planning.com

March 28, 2008

Re: CHRISTOPHER B. STEELE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have known Christopher B. Steele in both personal and professional contexts for more than a year. In that time, I have met with him in my office and his, have corresponded with him, and have had the privilege of meeting his wife and children.

In my opinion, Mr. Steele is a man of integrity and vision, and he demonstrates a sincere aloha for our State and our community. I recommend Mr. Steele without reservation or qualification. He is trustworthy and a man of his word.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions.

Very truly yours,

Scott A. Makuakane
Counselor at Law

Gerald Takayesu, P.E.
94-1052A Kikepa Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

April 1, 2008

Honorable Senator Ron Menor, Chair
Senate Committee on energy and Environment
State Capitol Building, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Reference: Testimony in SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nomination
Chrisopher Steele to the State Environmental Council,
Department of Health (Governor's Message 474)

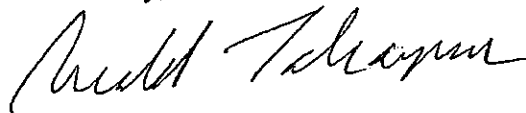
Dear Senator Menor:

I am writing in support of Mr. Chrisopher Steele's nomination to the Hawaii
Governors Environmental Council. I have, as a member of the General Contractors
Association Environmental Committee, had the opportunity to work with the nominee
over the past year.

As Chair of the Environmental Committee, Mr. Steele provided support to many
initiatives, including an excellent workshop to promote best management practices on
construction sites.

He would make a fine addition to the Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerald Takayesu".

Gerald Takayesu, P.E.

March 28, 2008

Subject: Reference Letter for Mr. Christopher Steele

To whom it may concerns:

I have had the honor to work with Mr. Chris Steele for the past 2.5 years. Chris has been my mentor, my peer, and a sounding voice in my work as an air consultant. What is amazing about Chris is his passion and courage to better the Hawaii environment.

Chris continuously makes extra efforts to find ways to improve the environment, including air quality, storm water, soil, and everything you can think of related to the environment and culture in Hawaii. Chris' love for Hawaii has brought him the passion and spirit that is difficult to find nowadays.

Chris is also equipped with years of experience as an environmental compliance manager for the largest asphalt manufacturing company in the island. These years of experience have brought him plenty of environmental knowledge to share. With his experience, knowledge, passion, and spirit, he is no doubt a valuable asset for the State of Hawaii.

Feel free to contact me if you have any question regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Myrna Tand', with a horizontal line underneath.

Myrna Tand
Air Permitting Consultant
myrna_tandi@hotmail.com
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menor1 - Corinne

From: chris steele [chris_steele60@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2008 9:21 AM
To: Sen. Ron Menor; Sen. Ron Menor
Subject: Fw: Environmental Counsel

Aloha Kimberly,

Got your phone message this morning and am honored to respond to Senator Ron Menor's request regarding my interest on being a member on the Environmental Counsel. The following are just a few reasons why I'm deeply passionate regarding the environment and primary reasons for wanting to be on the commission.

I was born in the state of Hawaii on the island of Oahu in Kahuku and raised in Kailua. My father's influence and passion for Hawaiian culture and it's language influenced my belief that environmental sustainability was important to the survival of our islands. I am a active and concerned American citizen in the state of Hawaii. I care about our land as an environmental Specialist. I would like to be a part of making a difference in our state toward the growth and betterment of our quality of life in today's society that will effect future generations. As a environmental specialist in private industry this has given me a unique insight into how important partnerships can work together to make a difference in sustaining Hawaii's environment and culture.

My belief is for stronger partnerships with government and private industry, the regulating community, community interest groups that must work with each other toward a common goal to protect our land, water and air. Protecting the limited resources, having respect for the aina in balance with industry growth in our unique culture I feel should be based upon what's best for the greater good.

Current projects: Diesel Emission Reduction; Storm water run off; Hawaii Green built & leed; Recycle, Renewable & Reusable Energy; Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Accountability; Greater use of alternate energy resources. These are project's I'm involved in currently.

I hope this will help in your deciding in confirming my place on the commission. I would be happy to provide more information if needed. I would also look froward to meeting with the Senator to chat about our common goals.

AGC's

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Printer Friendly

■ Grace Pacific Corporation Demonstrates Leadership in Addressing Key Environmental Concerns

AGC member company, Grace Pacific Corporation, is focused on pollution prevention and has taken on the challenges of implementing an environmental management system, reducing pollution emitted from its fleet of diesel equipment, and exceeding the storm water compliance permit requirements. Through these ongoing efforts, GPC continues to illustrate the positive impact one construction company can have on its community.

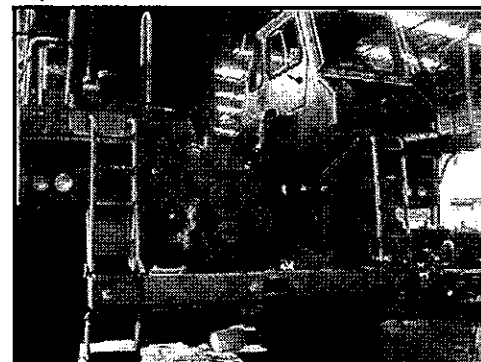
When GPC began operations at its Makakilo Quarry and Asphalt Plant, the facility was surrounded by agricultural and conservation land. Since that time, development around the City of Kapolei, the "Second City" on the island of Oahu, has literally sprung up around GPC's Makakilo facility. With housing developments now located next door to the asphalt plant, GPC has learned to appreciate the importance of being a good neighbor. At the same time, GPC's environmental focus has shifted from that of environmental compliance to one of pollution prevention and continuous improvement.



industry—can use to stay on top of its environmental responsibilities. From the start, the biggest challenge was to get the buy-in from all members of management personnel. "Trying to change the corporate culture of a 75-year old company isn't easy...Some people think that the EMS is a big, spectacular change, but in reality the change comes quietly and unannounced, but only after lots of hard work," said Chris Steele, GPC's manager of environmental compliance. Despite the challenges, GPC continues to implement its EMS and has already realized some of the benefits resulting from better addressing environmental concerns.

In the process of identifying the environmental aspects of construction operations for inclusion in their company-specific EMS, GPC decided to address some of the company's concerns associated with emissions from diesel equipment. GPC has since launched a number of projects to reduce diesel emissions.

Repower and Retrofit to Reduce Emissions



GPC replaced the engine in this rock truck.

In partnership with the American Lung Association of Hawaii, GPC received a grant in 2005 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) West Coast Collaborative to replace two generators and three engines in its quarry vehicles with Tier 1 and Tier 2 engines. Replacing the engines proved to be a big learning experience for GPC as well as the local Caterpillar (CAT) dealer, as the job required an extensive refit to satisfy the engine mounting and cooling requirements. GPC expects the

engine replacements to be complete in December 2007.

On the Inside

Air

- [Constructor Magazine Focuses on California's Diesel Retrofit Mandate](#)

Water

- [AGC Celebrates 35th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act](#)
- [U.S. Congress Passes Water Resources Development Act Reauthorization](#)
- [Current EPA Stormwater Initiatives May Alter Federal Construction Permit Program](#)

Brownfields

- [FY08 Brownfields Program Funding Update: Applications Deadlines Are Approaching](#)

Green Construction

- [AGC Participates in Green Highways Partnership Meeting on Recycling](#)
- [AGC Participates in High Performance Building Council, National Institute of Building Sciences](#)

Environmental Solutions Series

- [Grace Pacific Corporation Demonstrates Leadership in Addressing Key Environmental Concerns](#)

News & Events

- [AGC's Environmental Leaders Meet with Federal Regulatory Officials During WDC 'Fly-in'](#)
- [2007 Edition of EJQDC](#)

GPC is conducting emissions tests to verify the reductions seen with the new equipment, and initial results indicate that NOx emissions have been reduced by about 20 percent in the new generators. The efficiency of the new generators has reduced fuel costs considerably. As an added bonus, the new generators are so quiet, they can operate longer hours than before without receiving noise complaints.



GPC tests one of its quarry trucks to determine actual air emissions.

GPC is also planning to retrofit the exhaust systems on most of its heavy-duty diesel equipment to further reduce emissions. With nearly 50 pieces of equipment targeted for diesel retrofits, GPC is poised to be the first company in Hawaii to tackle a large scale retrofit project in its rolling stock. GPC has been working closely with the City and County of Honolulu and the State Department of Education to assist them with

upcoming retrofit projects as well.

Idle Reduction Saves Money

When GPC decided to outfit its haul fleet with a vehicle tracking system, Steele identified a system that also monitors equipment idling. Now, GPC can accurately track the amount of time each truck stands at idle in order to measure the effectiveness of its idle reduction program. The cost savings from reducing idle time goes directly into the bottom line by reducing fuel consumption and engine wear. GPC is also in the process of developing an educational video on idle reduction that GPC will require its employees to view.

Other GPC Initiatives



GPC installed this blue smoke removal system at its Makakilo Asphalt Plant.

GPC's environmental projects are not limited to its Makakilo facility. They have recently installed blue smoke elimination systems on all three asphalt plants located on Oahu. In addition, GPC is involved in an EPA-sponsored partnership that will investigate the use of locally viable crops as a feedstock for biodiesel production. These projects will help to improve air quality in Hawaii and identify sustainable sources of

biofuel within the state.

No Good Deed Goes Unnoticed

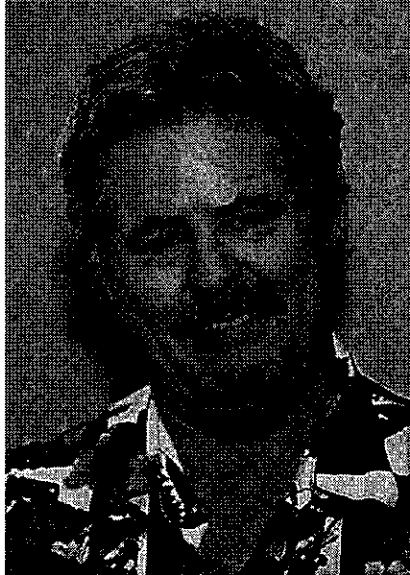
The leading role that GPC has played in reducing the environmental impacts of its operations has been recognized on several occasions. In 2005 and in 2007, GPC won the KOA Award for the Environment, presented by the City of Kapolei. In 2006, GPC was pleased to accept the EPA Environmental Achievement Award. That same year, GPC also won the General Contractors Association Build Hawaii Environmental Award of Excellence. The environmental awards that GPC has earned are more than just an opportunity to stand in the spotlight. According to Steele, "environmental agencies are always handing out violations and fines, but the awards are an opportunity to recognize the companies that do the right thing, and inspire other companies to step up to the plate."

Storm Water Excellence

What's next on the agenda for GPC? Storm water management. In 2006, Steele learned of the Colorado Storm Water Excellence Program [CSEP]. This innovative program provides member companies with useful, EMS-based tools for storm water compliance at construction sites. It reduces the permitting and inspection burden on state agencies, while increasing storm water compliance within the construction industry. According to Steele, GPC wants to "take contractors to a new level of compliance and responsibility in improving storm water discharges from our construction projects." In support of this goal, GPC has laid the groundwork for establishing a

Hawaii Storm Water Excellence Program and is actively pursuing funds to begin the initial phase of the program.

Article written by Chris Steele, Grace Pacific Corporation.



Chris Steele, GPC [[return to top](#)]

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