



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

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Mr. Lance Tanaka, Tesoro HI Corp
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Study of Active Volcanoes
Mr. Murray Towill, Hawai'i
Hotel Assn
Ms. Joan White, Hon Community
Action Program

Testimony of
Mike Hamnett & Carl Freedman
Co-Chairs – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Working Group
Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 1, 2008
10:15 a.m.
Conference Room 211

IN SUPPORT OF HB 2507, SD 1 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

I am Mike Hamnett, Co-Chair of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Working Group of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum ("Forum"). The Forum is comprised of 46 representatives from the electric utilities, oil and natural gas suppliers, environmental and community groups, renewable energy industry, and federal, state and local government, including representatives from the neighbor islands. We have been meeting since 2002 and have adopted a common vision and mission, and a comprehensive "10 Point Action Plan," which serves as a framework and guide for meeting our preferred energy vision and goals. The Forum supports the passage of HB 2507, SD 1 as it helps achieve Point 3 – Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Hawaii.

HB 2507, SD 1 establishes and funds two temporary full-time positions in the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) to assist with the work of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Task Force, created by Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007. The Task Force has been charged with an enormous assignment that requires completing a large amount of analytical and technical work in a relatively short amount of time. The funding of two positions dedicated solely to the Task Force's mission will help ensure that the Task Force completes its work in a thorough manner and on a timely basis.

For these reasons, the Forum supports HB 2507, SD 1 and urges the committee to pass this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

This testimony reflects the position of the Forum as a whole and not necessarily of the individual Forum members or their companies or organization

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, April 1, 2008
10:15 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

H.B. NO. 2507, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION

By: William A. Bonnet
Vice President, Government & Community Affairs
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bill Bonnet, testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. and our subsidiary companies, Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc. and Maui Electric Company, Ltd.

Act 234 (2007) requires statewide reduction of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2020. Administration of this effort is assigned to the Department of Business and Economic Development & Tourism ("DBED&T"). In addition to its existing duties, DBED&T was given significant additional responsibility as a result of Act 234, but without commensurate staffing and financial resources. HB 2507, HD1, SD1 is a step in the right direction to equip the Department to handle the task of managing the task force created under Act 234. Given the importance of the work, more resources and support will be needed, and it is hoped that this bill is the precursor of additional support to come.

For these reasons, we support HB 2507, HD1, SD1 and recommend its passage. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.