

GM 576

Makani Maeva



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

**TESTIMONY OF
LINDA L. SMITH**
Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Thursday, April 9, 2009, 3:00 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

in consideration of
GM 576
Gubernatorial Nominee Makani Maeva

Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the nomination of Ms. Makani Maeva to the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

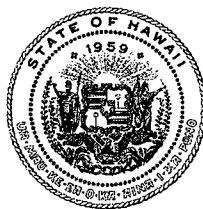
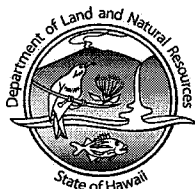
Makani will bring to this board an impressive background in business development, overlaid with a deep social concern for the welfare of our state. This is exactly the kind of background that the Board has sought as it continues to address the operational and fiscal goals of NELHA.

Makani currently serves as the Director of Pacific Housing Advisors, a position she has held for the past 9 years. In this capacity she has played a pivotal role in developing affordable housing projects for families throughout the state. Currently she is spearheading a major new project on the island of Hawaii and has effectively managed to bring together public and private financing resources during this very challenging economic period to address the on-going development and housing needs of our state. This is exactly the kind of experience that can be helpful to NELHA as it continues to re-balance from a heavily State-subsidized operation to a more typical business model that also provides incubator resources for emerging industries.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Makani is actively involved in the community through her church and various civic clubs. She brings a thoughtful, reasoned, non-nonsense approach to the public issues of the day. She understands the importance of using public assets wisely and how we can leverage these assets. She speaks up and challenges the notions of the day.

All of these will be important characteristics on the Board of NELHA, as we work to make NELHA a showcase for emerging energy technologies while it continues its role in encouraging aquaculture development in this state.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
Deputy Director**

**Before the Senate Committee on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Thursday, April 9, 2009
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 576
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAKANI MAEVA TO THE BOARD OF THE
NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2012**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) supports the nomination of Makani Maeva to the Board of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

As the landowner and master lessor, DLNR has an inherent interest in the activities at NELHA. In addition, the Chairperson (or designee) of the Board of Land and Natural Resources is a statutory ex officio member of the NELHA Board. I personally have been the Chairperson's designee to the NELHA Board for the past 3 years; and I have also served in the past with the Department of the Attorney General as legal counsel to the NELHA Board and staff.

I recently visited with Ms. Maeva to discuss her background and interest in serving as a NELHA Board member, and I found her to be thoughtful and intelligent, with an extensive background in the development of affordable home projects with renewable energy components. I believe Ms. Maeva's knowledge and experience in the development process (i.e., zoning, permitting and environmental issues) and renewable energy would be a great asset to the NELHA Board.

Thank you for allowing DLNR to provide testimony in support of the nomination of Makani Maeva to the NELHA Board.

Laura H. Thielen
Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources
Commission on Water Resource Management

Russell Y. Tsuji
First Deputy

Ken C. Kawahara
Deputy Director - Water

Aquatic Resources
Boating and Ocean Recreation
Bureau of Conveyances
Commission on Water Resource Management
Conservation and Coastal Lands
Conservation and Resources Enforcement
Engineering

Forestry and Wildlife
Historic Preservation
Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission
Land
State Parks

Linda Lingle
GOVERNOR



KAREN SEDDON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO

Statement of
Karen Seddon
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

April 9, 2009, 3:00 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

In consideration of

G.M. 576

**GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAKANI MAEVA
TO THE NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY.**

The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) **supports** the nomination of Makani Maeva to serve on the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority.

Our association with Ms. Maeva is through the development of affordable housing. She works tirelessly to plan energy-efficient apartments, secure financing, and see the development of the project through to completion. A member of Ms. Maeva's caliber and high "energy" would certainly be an asset to the NELHA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Makani Maeva's nomination.

April 9, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE (586-6679)
AND EMAIL (ENETestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Appointment of Makani Maeva to the Board of Directors of the NELHA

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to provide testimony before the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment in support of GM 576 for the appointment of Makani Maeva to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority ("NELHA"). I am a practicing attorney in Honolulu and the managing member of Yamamoto & Settle, a boutique transactional law firm specializing in energy, real estate development and finance, corporate, public utilities and telecommunications law.

I have had the privilege of knowing Ms. Maeva for over 20 years. Previously, Ms. Maeva was the Project Manager at Coastal Rim Properties, Inc. in Honolulu where she was responsible for managing, negotiating and developing the company's various market-rate and affordable housing projects. Ms. Maeva currently manages the Hawaii office of Pacific Housing Advisors, Inc., a company that provides independent financial consulting to affordable housing developers throughout the nation. She is also responsible for project development at Allied Pacific Development, Inc. which is active in a wide range of real estate development activities, including the development and management of projects in all real estate sectors. Recently, my firm worked closely with her on the financing for the Lokahi Apartment Project, a project which will create 306 new affordable housing units in Kona. Throughout the process of acquiring financing for the project, Ms. Maeva was instrumental in negotiating, facilitating and ultimately successfully closing the transaction. In developing the Lokahi project, as well as other local affordable housing projects, Ms. Maeva has continuously demonstrated her commitment to creating better communities in Hawaii.

I am confident that she will bring a high degree of integrity and ethics to the position as a Director of NELHA. She is decisive, confident, detail-oriented and possesses outstanding leadership qualities. She has a strong work ethic and is able to juggle and balance numerous demands with a consistent focus on achieving results.

I strongly urge your vote in favor of Ms. Maeva's confirmation.

Letter to the Honorable Mike Gabbard
April 9, 2009
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean T. Yamamoto for".

Dean T. Yamamoto

for

YAMAMOTO & SETTLE

A Limited Liability Law Company



April 9, 2009

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Appointment of Makani Maeva to the Board of Directors of the NELHA

Dear Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee:

I am Kevin Carney, Vice President of EAH Housing. It is with the upmost of confidence that I recommend to you the appointment of Ms. Makani Maeva to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Makani for about eight years and have worked with her, as a property management agent for the company she works for, for the last two and half years. We are both affordable rental housing developers and were introduced to each other by a mutual friend as potential team members for the development of a downtown Honolulu affordable rental project. Makani hired EAH in late 2006 to be the property manager of a senior rental project in Kekaha that she was acquiring and rehabilitating. EAH will also be managing Makani's newest development in Kailua-Kona, a 306 unit family rental project scheduled to begin opening in August 2009. We are currently pre-leasing for this project.

Makani is a very hardworking mother of three small children and at the same time manages a staff here in Hawaii and frequently commutes to the West Coast where she oversees other affordable rental projects. Her energy is boundless because she cares deeply about her family and about the need to provide affordable housing.

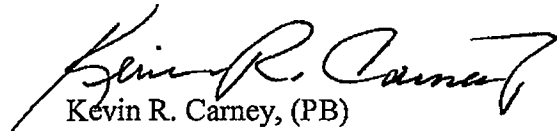
The development of affordable rental housing is a very complicated undertaking that requires skill, patience and perseverance. The typical project has seven layers of financing, all requiring different underwriting and reporting. Makani is an expert at navigating through this maze of financial and legal paperwork. She is also adept at negotiating with consultants and contractors in order to get the best possible price without sacrificing quality in the product she delivers to her tenants. Makani is detail oriented, very inquisitive and always thinking ahead - all the skills necessary to survive in this business where you either have to be very smart or very lucky. I would categorize Makani as being very smart and one who creates her own luck.

I strongly believe that Makani's skills as a developer and a negotiator will serve the State well on the NELHA Board of Directors. She also cares deeply about the environment and conserving energy. This is evident in the rental projects she has completed with both solar water heating and photo-voltaic installations. The fact that she is willing to serve

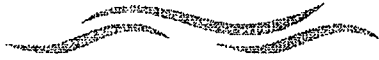
despite her hectic schedule is also evidence of her deep interest in caring for our environment. Take advantage of this opportunity and approve her appointment without delay.

I would like to thank the committee for considering this recommendation. If you have any questions, I can be contacted at the EAH Hawaii Regional Office, 523-8826.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin R. Carney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kevin R. Carney, (PB)
Vice President, Hawaii
EAH Housing



SunStone Realty Group LLC

April 8, 2009

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Appointment of Makani Macva to the Board of Directors of the NELHA

Dear Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee:

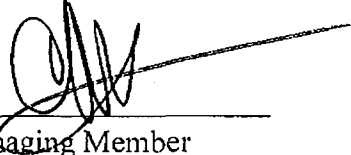
My name is Curtis DeWeese and I am recommending the appointment of Makani Macva to the Board of Directors of NELHA. During the past 20 years, our company has owned and developed over 1,000 housing units along the Kona coast. Recently, we have become involved with Makani's company in their activities on the Big Island.

Makani is very active in the Kailua-Kona area with the development of a 306 unit low income affordable housing project called Lokahi Kau. Our company has assisted her in this endeavor. I have found Makani to be honest, intelligent and logical while operating in a very complex regulatory environment. She has exhibited tremendous perseverance in dealing with a myriad of bureaucratic entities necessary to finance and develop low income housing. I believe that these experiences would make her uniquely qualified to become a valuable asset on the NELHA board.

Thank you for allowing this information to be considered in your deliberations.

Very Truly Yours,

SunStone Realty Group LLC

By: 
Its: Managing Member

1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1240 Honolulu, HI 96813
Office: (808) 523-9881 Fax: (808) 523-9696

cades - schutte

a limited liability law partnership

April 8, 2009

Vito Galati

Direct Line: (808) 521-9347

Direct Fax: (808) 540-5074

E-mail: vgalati@cades.com

VIA FACSIMILE (808) 586-6679

Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Testimony in Support of Makani Maeva

Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the nomination of Ms. Makani Maeva to the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA).

I have known Ms. Maeva for over 15 years and have had the opportunity to work closely with her while she was employed by various affordable housing developers. During that time, I was providing legal services, as a partner of Cades Schutte, LLP, to those organizations in support of their organizational plans which were, in each case, managed by Ms. Maeva. Throughout that time, Ms. Maeva repeatedly demonstrated, without exception, that she is a manager and administrator of the highest caliber.

Ms. Maeva is a highly qualified and respected manager who has consistently demonstrated achievement. She has gained the confidence and support of various constituents while furthering approved organizational goals. She has worked with diverse groups in Hawaii and has demonstrated an understanding and sensitivity for their unique needs. She is an individual of the highest integrity and character. Without reservation, I highly recommend Ms. Maeva. She will be a valuable contributor to NELHA.

Very truly yours,


Vito Galati

CS

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Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

April 9, 2009, 3:00 p.m., Room 225

Makani Maeva

Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority

Chair Gabbard, members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment, thank you for this opportunity to present background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority.

I grew up in the state of Washington and spent every summer during my childhood with my mother's family on Moloka'i. I always wanted to move to Hawai'i, and in 1992 I relocated to O'ahu after receiving my Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities with a minor in Business from Pepperdine University in California.

During the course of my 14 years in real estate development, I have developed both market-rate and affordable housing in Hawai'i. I currently specialize in the acquisition, construction and renovation of affordable housing projects using federal and state Low Income Housing Tax Credits. In the past five years I have played a leading role in acquiring over 2,300 units of affordable housing in Hawai'i and on the West Coast with total project costs of over \$275 million.

My most recent professional accomplishment is the development of the Lokahi Apartment Project. This project will add 306 new units of affordable housing where it is badly needed along the Kona Coast. This project has created hundreds of jobs and will ultimately fill the growing need for workforce housing in Kona. Construction began in December 2008 and is expected to last for two years. Every week, I fly between O'ahu and Kona to manage the construction of the project. Significantly, the Lokahi Apartments are located just a few miles from the site of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority ("NELHA").

I am raising three young children in Hawai'i and am committed to preserving the economic health and natural resources for generations to come. In furtherance of this commitment, I installed a 75.6 kilowatt photovoltaic system at my elderly housing project on Kaua'i. This photovoltaic system produces enough energy to offset the entire electrical load of the project. I am continuing to explore alternate energy solutions for the Lokahi Apartments.

A directorship on the Board of the NELHA would give me an opportunity to work on renewable energy issues that I find fascinating. I am particularly interested in promoting the idea that commercial activities can, and should, be conducted in an environmentally sound manner. NELHA's successes have the very real possibility of directly impacting the tenants that will live at the Lokahi Apartments. My

