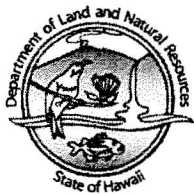


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Monday, April 6, 2009
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 50 SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS**

Senate Bill 50 Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 proposes to amend Section 171-95, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by requiring that: 1) Public notice be provided to other interested renewable energy producers, and 2) Renewable energy producers provide pertinent information regarding the viability of their projects to the Board of Land and Natural Resources' (Board) for evaluation with assistance from the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. The bill also requires that the Board's decision making process be documented in a report and prohibits the termination of an existing lease of public land in good standing for the purpose of issuing a lease to a renewable energy producer. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports most of the bill but has concerns with prohibiting the issuance of a lease to renewable energy producer that causes a withdrawal of property from an existing lease in good standing which results in a reduction of the existing lessee's previous year's production of 25% or more.

The Department supports the inclusion of other interested renewable energy producers in the process for issuing a lease of public land and the required submission of the above information. The Department has pursued and promoted a policy of maximum transparency in its deliberations and the inclusion of all interested parties is an integral aspect of that policy.

The Department also supports the requirement for the applicant's production of pertinent information in this bill as it is currently the Board's practice to obtain such information prior to acting on any lease disposition. The information provided by the renewable energy producers would assist the Board in making an informed decision regarding the disposition of limited state land resources in circumstances where multiple renewable energy producers are competing for the same public lands.

LAURA H. THIELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL V. 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

The Department strongly recommends deleting the provision prohibiting the issuance of a lease to a renewable energy producer that causes a withdrawal of property from an existing lease in good standing which results in a reduction of the existing lessee's previous year's production of 25% or more (line 9-16, page 6). All state leases contain a provision for a withdrawal when land is needed for public uses or purposes which include without limitation, construction of new roads or extensions, changes in alignment or grade of existing roads, rights-of-way, and easements of all kinds. Restricting the State's ability to withdraw lands from public leases based on the less than 25% impact on production would severely hamper the State's ability to provide essential services and address public safety concerns that may affect the broader public community.

LINDA LINGLE
Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, April 6, 2009
3:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308

**SENATE BILL NO. 50, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS**

Chairperson Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill No. 50, SD1, HD1, which seeks to amend Section 171-95 in order to create greater transparency and community participation in decisions about the leasing of state lands to renewable energy producers. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture supports this measure and offers comments.

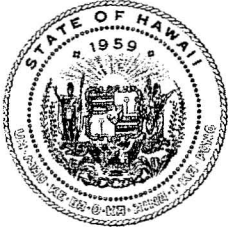
World events have made it obvious that Hawaii is extremely vulnerable to disruptions in its food and energy supplies. Fortunately, the Governor and the Legislature are united in their belief that we must find a way to provide more locally produced food and fuel to Hawaii's people. Senate Bill No. 50, SD1, HD1, is an attempt to balance the use of Hawaii's precious lands and to reduce community fears of displacement and disruption.

This bill provides for an open process that allows for the fair evaluation of multiple energy producers interested in the same public lands for energy projects. We agree that companies should provide adequate information to indicate the viability of the project and be held to a timeline so that valuable land does not sit idle for an unreasonably long time while precluding others from utilizing that land.

We also believe that encouraging renewable energy producers to seek private lands as well as public lands is desirable and completely agree that current lessees should not be terminated if they are in full compliance with their lease.

We offer one recommendation in the event that withdrawal of property from the lease results in "a twenty-five per cent or more reduction from the previous year's production attributable to the leased land", that a means to compensate the lessee suffering the lost production be included.

While this issue has caused much anxiety and turmoil for both ranchers and energy producers, we believe that a unique opportunity is before us to uncover where true synergy might lie between the two. HDOA is already assisting the cattle industry to meet with agencies to explain their vision, status and strategic plan that speaks to expansion of our food supply.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
MARK K. ANDERSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

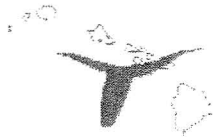
Statement of
THEODORE E. LIU
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, April 6, 2009
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
in consideration of
SB 50 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of SB 50 SD1 HD1, to the extent the bill as drafted continues to allow the Board of Land and Natural Resources ("Board") to lease State lands to renewable energy producers without public auction but subject to additional conditions. Senate Bill 50, SD1, HD1, proposes to amend Section 171-95 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes by requiring the Board, in the context of a direct lease of State lands to a renewable energy producer, to (i) provide public notice of its intent to other interested renewable energy producers, and (ii) require the proposed lessee renewable energy producer to provide pertinent information regarding five additional criteria. The additional criteria that this bill seeks to introduce into the negotiation process reflect many of the criteria already considered when leasing land to renewable energy producers. This amendment would formalize this existing practice.

We defer to the Department of Land and Natural Resources' testimony regarding additional public meetings, leases, and subsequent reports.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

64-957 Mamalahoa Hwy
Kamuela HI 96743
Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607
e-mail: HCattlemens@hawaii.rr.com



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Monday April 6, 2009, 3:00 pm room 308

SB 50 SD1 HD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the President of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council strongly supports SB 50 SD1 HD1. At a recent Hawaii Cattlemen's Council Board meeting our statewide delegates passed a resolution unanimously supporting this bill. This bill attempts to amend HRS Section 171-95 passed during an earlier legislative session, which allows the State to negotiate Direct leases with renewable energy producers, to help meet goals in the State's renewable energy mandates. However, if leases can be negotiated directly for lands already occupied by current long term lessees who are in good standing on their leases, for instance cattle ranchers, this constitutes assisting one industry at the possible detriment of another.

We do ask you to consider a slight amendment to the language as follows (new language underscored):

A lease to a renewable energy producer under this subsection shall not result in the involuntary termination of a lease or the a significant withdrawal from a lease of public land held by an existing lessee who is currently in compliance with the terms of the lease.

As we have all watched the demise of many segments of the Hawaii livestock industry in recent years, including poultry, dairy and the struggling hog industry, Law and policy makers have been asking the beef cattle industry what we need to be sustainable. In response, in 2007, our industry worked together to create a Strategic Plan.

UNIFIED AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S BEEF ASSOCIATION
Hawaii Cattlemen's Association • Kauai Cattlemen's Association • Maui Cattlemen's Association
Molokai Grazier's Association • Oahu Cattlemen's Association

Overall, our industry's outlook is a positive one. The Hawaii Beef Cattle Industry has great opportunity for continued growth, which certainly works towards your mandates for bio-security for food production in Hawaii. However, our industry's condition is also fragile, especially if we begin to lose production on some of our large land tracts, many of which are leased from the State of Hawaii (DLNR, DOA and DHHL). Like the Hawaii dairy industry, our industry is dependent on a critical mass to help support its infrastructure (processing plants, transportation, marketing) and like dominos, key producers in our industry can quickly fall, if too much of our lands and productivity are lost. The small ranchers are especially susceptible, because without the big ranchers helping to support that infrastructure, everyone loses.

Today there are 2 dairies in Hawaii which supply less than 10% of our locally consumed milk. Just 25 years ago there were 19 dairies supplying 100% of the locally consumed milk, plus ice cream production! We, The Hawaii Beef Cattle Industry, would like you to understand our issues today when our industry is strong and has continued potential, rather than to come back to you in several years to tell you we're all but done.

One of our key positions in our Strategic Plan is **"To work to preserve public grazing lands with a "no net loss of State grazing land" policy by restricting the leasing of public lands which have historically been used for grazing leases to only qualified ranchers and on lease terms appropriate to encourage responsible pasture use and management."** One reason for this policy is a critical mass issue **"Hawaii's cattle industry needs a core of larger producers to survive to preserve the necessary critical mass that benefits all producers and keeps the operation of the industry's infrastructure (transportation, packing houses, market opportunities, etc) viable.** We have recently realized that our policy terminology needed clarification and we have revised this to a policy of "no net loss in grazing productivity". We realize and appreciate that there are cases when co-use is possible and a win-win, but only if the land lost or shared is off-set with some increase in productivity on the remaining lands.

In recent months, several large pasture lessees on State owned land woke up to read in the morning paper that there would be a hearing the next day at DLNR possibly taking some or all of their leases away from them and using them instead for a bio-fuels project, via a direct lease arrangement. The newspaper stated that over 37,000 acres of land leased for pasture was up for grabs.

We understand from several of our members who are affected lease holders, that they had not even been contacted by DLNR that they may lose their leases for this project.

SunFuels has since asked the BLNR to rescind its action on the 37,000 acres at Hamakua, but this does not mean we do not have to deal with the larger issues which the new Direct lease laws now allow, and that this bill attempts to correct.

Some of our members have asked why the State would take away lands from one viable industry to back one that has yet to prove itself in this State. They ask why anyone would plant more trees, when there are already tens of thousands of acres of trees on the Big Island, many of these past their scheduled harvest date for projects and still neither a value added nor energy conversion plant in place. Taking lands out of pasture can be done quickly, but once they are planted in trees, especially eucalyptus trees, this is a long term commitment of at least 50 years before anything else could be done with the land.

We also worry about the difficulty of finding financing in the future for ranchers who are on State lands, if lenders believe that the State can terminate the lease or part of the lease at any time.

We can support co-use, if it is truly a win-win and not negotiated with a hammer over our heads.

We strongly support co-uses with wind turbine projects where cattle can graze right under the windmills, or Photo-voltaic projects which use much smaller areas of land. Monty Richards at Kahua Ranch has been doing grazing under a wind farm for over 30 years. We are worried about a tree project where the cattle need to be fenced out for the first few years so they don't eat or stomp the seedlings, can possibly come in for grazing for a few years after that, but after which further grazing is impossible because grass doesn't grow under the canopy of the trees. A true win-win would mean that **if for example**, 20% of the land from some of these traditional pasture leases were removed and granted to others, that these others or the State helped provide compensation or offsetting benefits so that the remaining 80% of the land could be as productive as 100% of the land previously was. This can be done with improved infrastructure, such as cross fencing, pasture improvements or even irrigated pasture. Increasing carrying capacity per acre can be done, but usually costs more than the revenue from grazing alone can support. If biofuels in fact can generate that much more income, then it appears feasible and equitable that a condition of taking back a portion of a lease should include such an offset for the displaced tenant.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in favor of this very important issue.



D. NOELANI KALIPI
DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS
FIRST WIND ENERGY, LLC

TESTIMONY ON S.B. 50 S.D. 1, H.D. 1
BEFORE THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
April 6, 2009
Conference Room 308

Aloha Chairman Oshiro and Distinguished Committee Members. My name is D. Noelani Kalipi and I am the Director of Government & Community Relations for First Wind. First Wind supports the intent of this legislation, and supports transparency in the leasing of public lands for renewable energy projects.

First Wind, through its affiliates Hawaii Wind (formerly known as UPC Hawaii Wind) and Hawaii Holdings, has been working in Hawaii since 2004 with a Maui-based firm, Makani Nui Associates. Together, we developed, constructed, and operate Kaheawa Wind Power, a 30MW facility located in the West Maui Mountains. Kaheawa is located on State conservation lands, a fact that we are very proud of, given the rigorous permitting requirements associated with doing any type of activity on conservation lands. These permitting requirements provide for numerous opportunities for public input and comment as well as review by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) in public meetings.

We are proud of our demonstrated environmental record in Hawaii, which includes the precedent of, we believe, being the first operating wind farm in the United States to establish a Habitat Conservation Plan, which required joint jurisdiction between the State of Hawaii's Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife. The HCP is designed to minimize the incidental injury or death of four federally listed species that may occur when these species fly in the vicinity of the project. At KWP, we have 4 employees, including two full-time biologists and two wildlife technicians, whose focus is the successful implementation and execution of the HCP.

We also have a native plant replanting program at Kaheawa. There is a dryland native plant forest near the higher elevation turbines. Prior to construction, we took seeds from the native plants (none of which are endangered native plants) and propagated those seeds at a nursery in Haiku. Following construction we began replanting these native plants in areas that had been disturbed by construction. We also use Kaheawa Wind Power as an educational tool for students – there is much to learn about Kaheawa from the mo`olelo of the site and the cultural significance of wind to Hawaii's indigenous peoples to the science and engineering that drives



wind energy. We pride ourselves in working closely with the Maui community as we continue to discuss the positive impacts of clean, renewable energy to Maui's sustainable future.

A significant amount of capital is required early in the development of wind projects. Annual average wind speed, available land with proximity to transmission lines, site access, community acceptance, and environmental considerations are all critical elements to the development of a wind energy project. All aspects of developing the wind farm are driven by its location. For that reason, it is necessary to identify the location of the wind farm at the beginning of the process, and to secure the rights to utilize the land once all of the necessary studies, permissions, permits, public reviews and other entitlements are completed. It is cost prohibitive and extremely unlikely that any company will begin development and permitting of a project area without assurances that the land identified for the development of the project will be available.

For that reason, First Wind, in September 2006, applied for and received a "directed lease" from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to begin development efforts to construct Kaheawa Wind Power II, directly adjacent to the existing site. The "directed lease" authorizes the Land Division in DLNR to engage in negotiation of lease provisions but states that execution of the final lease cannot occur until First Wind, at a minimum, has complied with the CH 343 process, and has been granted its Conservation District Use Permit by the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Since that time we have been engaged in a number of studies to determine the feasibility of building the project including archaeological studies, botanical studies, wind resources studies, engineering studies, noise studies, and a variety of avian studies. We also purchased 14 wind turbine generators. We were delayed in the development of the project due to prolonged negotiations with the utility resulting in our wind turbine generators being delivered to Maui close to a year prior to our proposed construction date. The equipment is currently being stored on Maui.

We are heavily engaged in the permitting process. Our Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is in its 45 day comment period and the Board of Land and Natural Resources recently authorized the release of the draft Habitat Conservation Plan for the purposes of public review. We also anticipate filing a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) in the near future. The EIS and CDUA have public processes that allow for public comment and input and all three permits require action by the BLNR, thus requiring public notice when the Board's consideration of each permit is placed on the Board's agenda.

S.B. 50 S.D.1 H.D. 1, as drafted, would require First Wind, after it has spent millions of dollars on requisite studies, permitting, and the purchase of wind turbines, and several public processes, to engage in an additional process "that provides [notice to] other interested renewable energy providers to participate in the process" in order to secure its lease. The reason we sought the directed lease was to be able to assert site control for the purposes of permitting, and to have the



reasonable assurance that we would be granted a lease following the approval of all of the requisite permits and negotiation of the lease terms. We are concerned by the level of risk added to our project if, after negotiating a lease, executing the required studies, and applying for and receiving the requisite permits required to build a project on the state conservation lands, another developer is allowed to “participate in the process” of the lease being executed by the BLNR.

If the intent of the legislation is to provide notice, this requirement is met under the current process for renewable energy projects on state conservation lands through the public hearing that is required as a part of the Conservation District Use Permit and the Chapter 343 processes. These public processes allow for notice to all affected individuals, including other renewable energy producers, of the details of the proposed project.

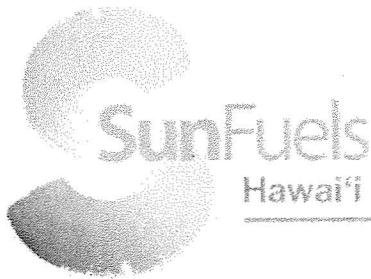
Given the stringent requirements of developing a renewable energy project on State Conservation lands with the number of permits required and the numerous opportunities for public input and consultation associated with each of the requisite permits, First Wind respectfully requests that a provision be inserted into S.B. 50 S.D. 1 H.D. 1 which would exempt leases of conservation lands to renewable energy developers from the processes outlined in proposed legislation.

Again, we understand and support the need for transparency as renewable energy projects are developed in Hawaii. We continuously try to provide for as much transparency as possible in the way our projects are developed. We respectfully request that the committees consider our request for amended language. We welcome any opportunity to discuss this further you and your staff.



Proposed amendment #1

Page 7, Line 9, following the words, "general public at any public hearing." Add: "This section shall not apply to leases of public lands which are classified as a conservation district by the state land use commission under chapter 205."



65-1230 Mamalahoa Hwy, Suite A21, Kamuela, HI 96743 • Tel 808.885.0441 • Fax 808.885.4419

April 3, 2009

TO: Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair, and Members of the Committee on Finance

RE: **SB 50, SD1, HD1, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS**

SunFuels Hawai'i LLC is pleased to support Senate Bill 50, as amended in HD1.

Our company is presently exploring opportunities to develop a biomass-to-liquid synthetic diesel production facility on the Big Island. That enterprise will require substantial lands for long-term feedstock supply. Senate Bill 50 will establish noticed public hearings prior to the award of leased state lands to renewable energy producers. That provision will enhance public notice and review for our project, among others, and better engage the community in the discussion of land use and our energy future.

As amended in HD1, SB 50 establishes reasonable criteria for the submittal of renewable energy projects considered by the Land Board, while retaining a procedure for energy producers to enter into direct negotiations with the Land Board to obtain leases on state lands. This is in keeping with the intent of HRS §171-95 to spur renewable energy development in the State of Hawai'i. SB50 further provides assurance to lessees of state lands that the Land Board may not terminate or impose new conditions on a lease held by a lessee in compliance with the terms of a current lease. We support this provision.

The State of Hawai'i has set a challenging 70% target for renewable energy by the year 2030. To meet that worthy goal, many projects must emerge and fairly compete to supply clean electricity and transportation fuels. To say the least, we are mutually engaged in an ongoing, fertile discussion of choices, behaviors, technologies and land use commitments that will shape our future. We should expect public policy to engage a persistent and expanding knowledge curve. We must try to do so with an open mind and, as best as possible, without reactive rancor.

That is why SunFuels Hawai'i supports the completion of the state's Bioenergy Master Plan, although, of necessity, it must be revisited as new and more authoritative knowledge presents us with new opportunities. We believe that a comprehensive policy framework for Hawai'i's energy future must nourish the public's need-to-know and treat all business entities equally under the law.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these issues and for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Ray".

John Ray, General Manager
SunFuels Hawai'i LLC

JR/rf



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.537.9019 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 6, 2009, 3:00 P.M.
(*Testimony is 1 page long*)

TESTIMONY COMMENTING ON SB 50

Aloha Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committees:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with 5500 dues paying members statewide, submits comments regarding SB50, which requires the Board of Land and Natural Resources to conduct public hearings prior to awarding a lease of public land to a renewable energy producer.

The Sierra Club opposes unnecessary hurdles in the development of renewable energy producers. Line 12 on page 6 prevents the Board from terminating an existing lease. This could be interpreted to include a month-to-month lease that, in any other circumstance, could be terminated freely. Public policy encourages the alienability of land, i.e., allowing the Board to have the ability to put a particular parcel of land to better use. The Sierra Club suggests clarifying this section to ensure the expired leases can be terminated as a matter of right.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 05, 2009 9:20 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: walman1@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Wally Andrade
Organization: Individual
Address: Kalopa - Big Island - Hawaii
Phone:
E-mail: walman1@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2009

Comments:

The potential Environmental Impacts of Renewable Energy - Biomass projects are huge and ARE NOT mentioned or addressed in the Bill.

Verbiage that encourages Sustainable Agricultural practices would be forward thinking... there is vast difference between Renewable and Sustainable thinking.

The Bill needs Amendments that Require

- o Environmental Management Plans be submitted as part of the document package to the DLNR..
- o Environmental Management Plans be of the Highest Priority in the DLNR selection process..
- o Environmental Management Plans be included in the public hearings information..

Producers always say they will comply with the minimum requirements of EIS or EA if triggered by their projects.

If Producers and Regulators are not prepared for, and don't address this issue going into the project, it is a strong indication they are not very concerned about Environment in general.

The DLNR needs to put emphasis on Environmental Impacts and require strict conditions for Environmental Management Plans. The producers will still come to do their projects, just with more respect for our environment.

By its nature Biomass is land intensive and can be very destructive to the ecosystem.

If an Agricultural endeavor does not improve long term soil fertility and promote biodiversity it is really Mining not Agriculture. The true cost will always exceed the benefits.

Hopefully, someday, we will understand the relationship between profit and environment as being one and the same. Everything is resource.

In closing I find it ironic that as we move toward energy independence, partly as a measure to mitigate global warming and protect the Environment, that our state plans to promote Bio-Energy don't require tough Environmental Management Plans to do the same.

Eventually we have pay our debt to nature or she will foreclose on us too.

Good luck in your endeavors to manage the future of our Aina.

Wally Andrade

Farmer Kalopa Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 05, 2009 9:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kapulena@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jason Worchel
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 1373 Honokaa, HI
Phone: 808-775-7247
E-mail: kapulena@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2009

Comments:

Please support ammendments to this bill that address that require Environmental Impacts and Environmental Management Plans.

The Environmental Impacts of "Renewable Energy" projects can be disasterous and are not addressed or mentioned in the current bill.

The Health and Safety of the residents of Hawaii must be the highest priority. Without requiring the Environment Impacts and Environmental Management Plans the Health and Safety we are at risk. There is huge difference between renewable energy and Clean renewable energy. What good is a project that provides renewable energy if it results in increased morbidity and mortality of our residents?

For example, burning euclyptus trees for energy is renewable but the toxic byproducts of combustion of euclyptus are carcinogenic and cause a variety life threatening illnesses. Any potential advantages of this type of renewable energy are useless if we destroy the very people that are to benefit from the energy.

The legislature must protect the people. They must mandat all proposed projects must have an Environment Impact Study and an Environmental Management Plan. Furthermore, DOH should conduct a health survey to gather epideminological data on affected communities so we can monitor the impact of any project that pollutes the environment.

We would be better served by legislation promoting sustainable agriculture rather than placing it at risk by allowing dangerous renewable energy projects.

In summary:

The Bill needs Amendments that Require

- o Environmental Management Plans be submitted as part of the document package to the DLNR...
- o Environmental Management Plans be the Highest Priority in the DLNR selection process...
- o Environmental Management Plans be included in the public hearings information...

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 05, 2009 9:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jerirose@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: DR. Jeri Rose
Organization: Individual
Address: PO82 Papakou Hi 96781
Phone: 8089620008
E-mail: jerirose@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 4/5/2009

Comments:

Rep Frank has implemented a bill to repeal the 1930's Federal law against hemp. Hemp provides the biomass to make Hawaii self-sustaining in production of its own energy. 1 acre can produce 1000 tons of material in 3 months makes 1000 gallons fuel. The material of the plant is superior to wood because lighter to transport, grows faster, less impact on roads for harvest. Do not make a law that does not provide for the potential that hemp offers as a biomass product that immensely improves the value of agricultural land with a crop that has greater potential than any other crop. With Hawaii's all year growing season, an acre is capable of producing 3000 gallons per year fuel for cars or for use in producing electricity. Building materials from hemp are stronger than wood and impervious to termites. This plant can help revitalize Hawaii's economy. It is a renewable and sustainable crop.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2009 11:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kochni@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nicholas Koch
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 122 Paauilo, HI
Phone: 808.937.7441
E-mail: kochni@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2009

Comments:

Honorable members of the legislature;

I am firmly in support of this legislation, as well as its immediate predecessor. The State of Hawaii is sorely in need of investment in activities other than tourism and construction. In addition, it needs to address coming energy shortages proactively.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 05, 2009 2:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: betty.nakashima@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Everette Souza
Organization: Individual
Address: 45-674 Pikake St. Honokaa, HI 96727
Phone: (808) 987-0876
E-mail: betty.nakashima@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2009

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 05, 2009 2:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: betty.nakashima@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB50 on 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 3:00:00 PM SB50

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ignacio Aguilar
Organization: Individual
Address: 8500 Pikake St. Honokaa, HI 96727
Phone: (808) 775-9020
E-mail: betty.nakashima@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2009

Comments: