

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 373**

David G Rietow  
64-5314 Puukapu Street  
Kamuela, HI 96743

March 23, 2010

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Hee,

RE: ADC Confirmation Hearing.

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

1. ADC Board Member. I believe that my 40 years of experience in Hawaii's agriculture has given me the ability to manage agricultural businesses in Hawaii with a sense of history and the knowledge of the business environment. I feel that I can use this knowledge and experience in the execution of ADC's objectives.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?

2. Role and Responsibilities. I think that ADC's primary role is to bridge the gap between government and private industry (agriculture) where this gap hampers a segment of the industry's ability to function. I believe that ADC's primary objectives are to preserve agricultural land and water. Good examples are ADC's management of the Waiahole Ditch System on Oahu and the Kekaha lands on Kauai.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

3. Qualifications. I have acquired the knowledge and experience from managing diversified agricultural businesses in Hawaii over the past 40 years that have provided me with the skills needed to both understand and to make decisions on agricultural infrastructure projects. I have designed and installed irrigation systems, managed water systems, managed fully integrated agribusinesses with up to 175 employees, created business plans for agricultural projects, and been a member of other boards or commissions where the decision making process involves discussion and sometimes compromise.

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- (4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
4. Accomplishments. I would like to see ADC continue with its acquisition and management of water systems and land where this acquisition and management have a significant positive impact on segments of Hawaii's agriculture.
- (5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?
5. Qualities. a) Good manager. b) Excellent people skills. c) Work well with others. These qualities are essential where a group of individuals, such as a board, are required to review information, discuss the relevance of the information to the project being addressed, and make appropriate decisions.
- (6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation?
6. Experience. I don't think that there is any one experience that makes me a better board member. I believe that it is my overall experience gained by working within the agribusiness community that makes me an objective thinker and decision maker, and this is my value to ADC.
- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Development Corporation? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?
7. Conflicts of Interest. I don't see any possible conflicts of interest. Should there be one, I would bring it to the Board's attention and if necessary get a legal opinion from the AG's office.

I have enjoyed my first term as an ADC Board member. The current Board is a diverse group that works well together and makes good decisions in support of our current mission to preserve agricultural land and water in Hawaii.

Please let me know if there is any additional information that you may require.

Sincerely,

David Rietow  
808 885-5807 (home)  
808 885-4666 (business)  
808 896-6418 (cell)

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
Wednesday, March 31, 2010  
3:15 p.m.  
Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 373  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAVID G. RIETOW,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture strongly supports the consideration and confirmation of David Rietow for another four-year term to the ADC board.

During his initial term on the ADC board Mr. Rietow has been an active participant and brings a focused and analytical perspective to board discussions. Drawing upon his extensive business background, he has capably chaired the ADC Kekaha Sub-Committee.

Mr. Rietow received a BS in Agronomy from Arizona State University and served as an army officer. Following his military service, Mr. Rietow joined Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd. where he was a Field Establishment Supervisor. He then became a Vice President at Mac Farms of Hawaii. Since 1983, Mr. Rietow has been a Vice President and Co-owner of Puna Flowers and Foliage, Inc. which is one of Hawaii's largest growers and marketers of tropical flowers and foliage. Also since 1983, he has been a Managing Member of Agricon Hawaii LLC, which is an agribusiness consulting firm that

specializes in providing technical and financial information for tropical crops, livestock, and aquaculture. In 1988, he became the President and co-owner of Agro Resources, Inc., an agribusiness management firm that plans, develops, and manages diversified agribusiness ventures.

Mr. Rietow is actively involved with his industry and community. He is the current President of the Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association, Chairperson of the Hawaii Employer's Mutual Insurance Company, and co-founder and past secretary of the Hawaii Flower and Nursery Credit Association. In addition, he has served as Vice Chair of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, the past Chair of the West Hawaii Explorations Academy, board member of the Hawaii Island YMCA, past board member of the Waimea YMCA, and past secretary of the Hilo County Farm Bureau.

We believe that Mr. Rietow will continue to be a valuable contributing member of the ADC board and ask for your support for his confirmation.



STATE OF HAWAII  
**AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF ALFREDO LEE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 31, 2010  
3:15 p.m.  
Room 229

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 373  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAVID G. RIETOW,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2014

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) strongly supports the consideration and confirmation of David Rietow for another four-year term to the ADC board. David has a solid background in agribusiness management. After receiving a degree in agronomy from Arizona State University and serving in the Army, Mr. Rietow started his agricultural career with the Maui Pineapple Company. He subsequently joined Mac Farms and became Vice President of production. Throughout his career he has been involved with running other various agribusinesses including Puna Flower and Foliage, Agricon Hawaii, and Agro Resources.

Mr. Rietow is also active with many trade and professional organizations, including the Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association, the Hawaii Employer's Mutual Insurance Company, the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, the West Hawaii Explorations Academy, the Hawaii Island YMCA, the Waimea YMCA, and the Hilo County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Rietow has been coming to the ADC board meetings and is an active contributor to board discussions. He is the Chairperson of the ADC Kekaha Committee. He brings to the board valuable business and management experience. We feel he has been and will continue to be a great asset on the board.

Thank you.



MAUI'S WINERY

— *Tedeschi Vineyards, Ltd.* —

Date: March 29, 2010

TO: THE 2010 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Paula Hegele, President, Tedeschi Vineyards, Ltd.

RE: Testimony on GM 373  
For Consideration and Confirmation of David G. Rietow  
ADC Board of Directors - Term to Expire 06-30-2014

I would like to provide my strong support for your consideration and confirmation of David G. Rietow to another four- year term to the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) board of directors.

As a recent appointee to the ADC board of directors, I have a new understanding for the commitment and the complex matters of the ADC board. In my short time on the board, David Rietow has been an active and knowledgeable member, providing insight and expertise on many issues. His experience with ongoing board matters and as a leader on the Kekaha Committee is of great value to the ADC board members and their efforts. Please approve David Rietow's continued service to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Hegele  
President



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**From:** Sam Lee [kauaibonsai@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 1:46 PM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** alfredo lee  
**Subject:** support for the re-confirmation of two individuals to the board of directors - agribusiness development corporation

**To:** Honorable Clayton Hee  
Chairperson, Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture  
and Hawaiian Affairs

**From:** Sam Lee

**Subject:** Testimony in support of the confirmation of ~~Duane C.K. Lau (GM 372)~~ and David G. Rietow (GM 373) for second terms as members of the Board of Directors, AgriBusiness Development Corporation.

**Date, Time, Place :** March 31, 2010, 3:15 PM, Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit testimony on behalf of the re-appointment of Duane Lau and David Rietow to the ADC board. Both gentlemen have long and successful histories in Hawaii agriculture. Their resumes speak for themselves. Their experience and knowledge has been an important asset in the furtherance of the mission of ADC. Please re-appoint them.

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 373**  
**(END)**