

From: Pat Reilly [mailto:reillyp41@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 1:51 PM
To: Rep. Hermina Morita
Subject: HB2971: FOR

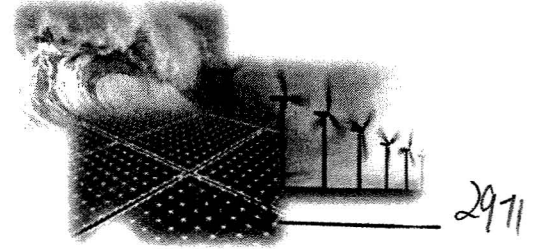
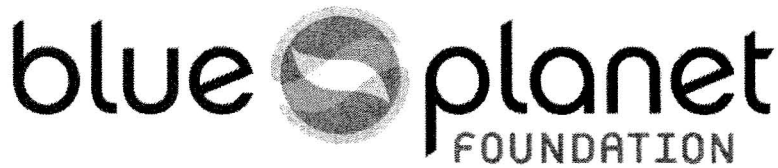
Dear Representative Morita. As a resident of Lana'i, an island to experience major impacts from the proposed wind turbine project, I strongly support including language in the bill to require consultation with residents.

Personally I suggest Lanaians for Sensible Growth as an organization of residents.

Thank you for your work.

Fairfax(Pat)Reilly
PO Box 630111
Lanai City, HI 96763

Bill No. 2971
Support **Y** **N** **X**
Date 2/1
Time 14:53
Cat **AF** **AS** **AX** **B/C**
Type 1 **(2)** **WI**



Support N

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Date 2/2

February 2, 2010, 8:30 A.M.

Room 325

(Testimony is 1 page long)

Time 48

Cat AF AS AX

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2971

Type 1 WI

Chair Morita and members of the Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation generally supports House Bill 2971, a measure that ensures that communities on the island where clean energy facilities will be located are able to actually shape the outcome of the permitting process regarding terms and conditions on a large renewable energy facility permit. This measure will allow the affected communities greater input in the permitting process. Involving the community in the planning and permitting process generally fosters greater acceptance, goodwill, and aloha among all the parties involved—as well as a more well-thought out project.

We note that these amendments affect only the permitting of large (>200 megawatt) renewable energy facilities. We also note that the current law directs the energy resources coordinator to involve the community in the public hearing process and is required to incorporate the public's sentiment regarding the project in the planning process.

Blue Planet has some concerns, however, over the lack of definition of "representatives from the island" who are required to be involved in the permitting process. This has the potential to cause problems in the permitting process or development of the community benefits agreement. For example, some "representatives" may be adamantly opposed to a project, despite overwhelming community support. They could hold a project hostage while demanding an unreasonable community benefits package or unrealistic conditions. The energy resources coordinator, however, is only directed to "work with" the various parties in the law, so we expect reasonable minds to make good faith efforts to "work with" all parties and representatives and come to a decision that represents and balances the community's—and the state's—best interests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jeff Mikulina, executive director • jeff@blueplanetfoundation.org

55 Merchant Street 17th Floor • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 • 808-954-6142 • blueplanetfoundation.org



Bill No. HB2971

Support Y N

Date _____

Time _____

Cat AF AS AX

Type 1 2 WI

February 1, 2010

Committee on Energy & Environment Protection
Representative Mina Morita, Chair
Representative Denny Coffman, Vice-Chair

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2971 WITH REVISION

Dear Chair Morita & Vice-Chair Coffman:

As president of Lāna'ians for Sensible Growth, I offer testimony in support of HB2971 with revision identified below.

LSG was founded in 1987 and has been instrumental in protecting and safeguarding Lāna'i's resources (natural, cultural and historical) and advocating on behalf of initiatives to promote the overall well-being of our island and community. LSG's membership includes many residents from many walks of life. Over the past year, LSG has carried out a comprehensive organizing effort through a series of "talk story" sessions, community meetings, and a survey to elicit residents' current concerns. One of those major concerns, *the ability to shape our own future*, has been expressed clearly and consistently across the demographic spectrum, particularly as it relates to the proposed massive wind farm project on Lāna'i.

On an island where economic power is concentrated in the hands of a single entity, there exists a palpable fear of oppression and retribution that suppresses the free exercise of many residents' honest thoughts and opinions. Moreover, given the current economic downturn and financial condition of Castle & Cooke's on-island operations, Lāna'ians feel all the more weary to speak their minds for fear that anything they say may be taken the wrong way. That is why HB2971 is important.

To provide Lāna'ians with a meaningful "seat at the table" to allow us to shape our own future, I would respectfully request the following revision to HB2971: 1) designating LSG as the entity on Lāna'i that the coordinator would consult/work with to gain public sentiment and input, and determine the terms and conditions of the permit plan and permits and community benefits agreement; or 2) designating LSG as the entity to identify representatives from Lāna'i to participate in determining the terms and conditions of the permit plan and permits and community benefits agreements.

With LSG's twenty year history of community advocacy, the ongoing and comprehensive community organizing efforts, the pre-existing relationships with various Lāna'i community leaders and, most importantly, the value we place on inclusivity, LSG can duly serve as the entity to provide input and allow for Lāna'ians the ability to shape their own future. Therefore and on behalf of the LSG, I support HB2971 with the revision as submitted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DKA', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Donavan R. Kealoha, President
Lāna'ians for Sensible Growth