
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO DIRECT ELECTRIC UTILITIES TO EXAMINE SPECIFIC RENEWABLE ENERGY SCENARIOS IN THE INTEGRATED PLANNING PROCESS.

1 WHEREAS, the increased use of renewable energy appears to
2 create a conflict of interest for electric utilities that own
3 fossil fuel-based electricity generation facilities; and
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5 WHEREAS, replacing firm power fossil fuel-based electricity
6 generation facilities owned and operated by investor-owned
7 electric utilities with firm renewable resources developed and
8 operated by independent power producers could impact the overall
9 profitability and viability of those electric utilities; and
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11 WHEREAS, the future success of electric utilities in Hawaii
12 depends on their ability to adapt to and incorporate new
13 technologies, and to integrate, operate, and manage the heavy
14 penetration of renewable energy generation on an evolving
15 electricity grid system; and
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17 WHEREAS, currently, electric utilities act through their
18 own resource planning processes to determine the timing and type
19 of new electricity generation capacity introduced to the
20 electric grid. Consequently the electric utilities' resource
21 planning processes have become a de facto state energy planning
22 process as well as a key part of the electric utilities' efforts
23 to meet the mandates of Hawaii's renewable portfolio standards
24 law under part V of chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS);
25 and
26

27 WHEREAS, the State's focus on renewable electricity
28 generation must be based on technically sound, commercially
29 available, and cost-effective resources; and



1 WHEREAS, the State's focus on renewable electricity
2 generation must recognize each island's unique endowment of
3 resources and potential contribution to Hawaii's clean energy
4 future; now, therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities
9 Commission direct that the integrated resource plans of
10 investor-owned electric utilities examine a scenario that
11 replaces existing fossil fuel-based electricity generation
12 plants with renewable energy resources; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
15 direct that the integrated resource plans of investor-owned
16 electric utilities examine a scenario that develops excess firm
17 or intermittent electricity to be transmitted between islands,
18 including plans to develop undersea electricity transmission
19 cables to support transmission of electricity between the
20 islands; and

21
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
23 direct that the integrated resource plans of investor-owned
24 electric utilities consider the following resources:

- 25
26 (1) Electricity generated using geothermal steam on
27 identified geothermal resources to replace or mitigate
28 the use of fossil fuel-based electricity generation
29 facilities;
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31 (2) Hydrogen and other available energy storage
32 technologies used as a source of stored energy to
33 stabilize the grid when necessary; and
- 34
35 (3) Electricity generated by waste-to-energy facilities to
36 serve as an untapped fuel source; and

37
38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
39 is requested to examine:

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41 (1) Its avoided cost calculation methodology;
- 42
43 (2) Ways to maximize the use of distributed generation,
44 including an examination of the appropriateness of



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- 1 current circuit penetration threshold levels for the
2 interconnection of distributed generation resources;
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4 (3) The increased use of energy efficiency programs and
5 technology to meet the goals of the energy-efficiency
6 portfolio standards under section 269-96, HRS;
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8 (4) Ways to minimize the curtailment of renewable energy
9 resources; and
10
11 (5) Ways to modernize the State's electrical grids; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
14 is requested to include in its annual reports for 2013 and 2014,
15 prepared pursuant to section 269-5, HRS, actions taken by the
16 Commission, as well as findings, recommendations, and any
17 proposed legislation necessary to further the purposes of this
18 Concurrent Resolution; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the
22 Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission.
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OFFERED BY: *Denny Coffman*

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