

LATE



February 28, 2012

Thursday, March 1, 2012
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 229

COMMITTEE ON Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

In support of GM 648, Confirmation of Michael Champley for PUC Commissioner

Testimony of Makani Nui Associates, LLC

Dear Legislators,

I urge you to confirm Mike Champley as a commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission.


Mike Champley is a fellow electrical engineer and an utility executive with extensive experience in utility matters [Please refer to Michael E. Champley Resume]. He has spent time in utility dispatch centers, he has managed operational and engineering matters, and he has dealt with rate payers and rate cases. He brings all of this experience to the PUC that in my view, at this time, are needed to help define the direction that the state must go to gain as much independence as possible from fossil fuels. I feel time is of the essence, given the time and investment opportunities available, to minimize the humbug that the state will face in the decade ahead should we not disconnect from imported fossil fuels. The PUC has the authority to lead this state toward a better energy future that collectively the utilities, the Independent Power Producers and especially the rate payers must maneuver. This will require bold and enlightened leadership that the people of Hawaii must have from the PUC. This is why I think that Mike Champley is the right guy, at the right time, who as part of the PUC will be tasked to do a very difficult job.

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So again I urge you to support Mike Champley's confirmation to the PUC.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hilton Unemori".

Hilton Unemori, Member of Makani Nui Associates, LLC

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3/1/2012

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

CPN

9:30 AM

GM648

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Baker and Vice-Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii PV Coalition (HIPVC) strongly supports the candidacy of Mike Champley for Commissioner of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Champley is a highly qualified candidate with the technical skills and personal integrity necessary to safeguard the State's interests in a highly complex policy area that is critical to the state's energy security and macroeconomic competitiveness for the coming decades.

Members of the Hawaii PV Coalition have had the opportunity to work directly with Mr. Champley for three years in various regulatory proceedings prior to his nomination to the Commission several months ago. During this time we have found Mr. Champley to be an incredibly well informed and insightful observer of the electric utility industry in Hawaii. His presence in dockets on issues ranging from Decoupling to Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards has improved the quality of debate and deepened the discussion on all of these issues. As the Commission gears up to address important and complex issues such as reliability standards, smart grid, high penetration of distributed generation, and inter-island cabling of intermittent resources, it is critical that someone with Mr. Champley's engineering knowledge and utility industry experience is involved at the highest levels to ensure that Commission decisions are made in the long term interest of the utility ratepayers and the State of Hawaii more generally.

In short, the Hawaii PV Coalition recommends Mr. Champley to this Committee without any reservations and looks forward to seeing his wisdom and vision incorporated into the decision-making process at the Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mark Duda
Government Affairs Committee Chair, Hawaii PV Coalition

About the Hawaii PV Coalition

The Hawaii PV Coalition was formed in 2005 to support the greater use and more rapid diffusion of solar electric applications across the state. Working with business owners, homeowners and local and national stakeholders in the PV industry, the Coalition has been active during the state legislative sessions supporting pro-PV and renewable energy bills and helping inform elected representatives about the benefits of Hawaii-based solar electric applications.

The Coalition has also taken a very active role in policy discussions to promote best practices for distributed generation and interconnection rules. The Hawaii PV Coalition is currently intervening in two open PUC dockets, the Reliability Standards Working Group (2011-0206) and Rule 14H (2010-0015).

Directors

Jody Allione
AES-Solar

Joe Boivin
The Gas Company

Kelly King
Pacific Biodiesel

Matt Stone
Sopogy

Warren S. Bollmeier II
WSB-Hawaii

TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII
RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

GM 548,

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities
Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL CHAMPLEY for a term to
expire 6-30-2016.

March 1, 2012

Chair Baker, and Vice-Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, I am Warren Bollmeier, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance ("HREA"). HREA is an industry-based, nonprofit corporation in Hawaii established in 1995. Our mission is to support, through education and advocacy, the use of renewables for a sustainable, energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly, economically-sound future for Hawaii. One of our goals is to support appropriate policy changes in state and local government, the Public Utilities Commission and the electric utilities to encourage increased use of renewables in Hawaii.

HREA **strongly supports** the nomination of Michael Champley to join the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission as a Commissioner. We urge you to advise and consent on his nomination. We offer the following comments in support.

- (1) Resume Strong in Engineering and the Regulated Utility Business. Michael Champley has over 40 years in engineering and the regulated utility business with DTE Energy, a major gas and electric company:
 - With his experience, Mr. Champley already comes technically trained to the Commission. For example, is intimately familiar with definitions and applications of such terms such as FERC and NERC, EEI and EPRI, IPPs and EWGs, avoided costs and decoupling, feed-in tariffs and PPAs, availability and reliability.
 - As a manager of utility operations and regulatory affairs for DTE Energy, he understands how utilities work. He will be an invaluable asset to the Commission as they seek to solve the complex issues related to moving our utilities to a cleaner energy future.
- (2) A Character of High Integrity, Openness, and Fairness. In working directly with Mr. Champley, we have found him to:
 - Be a person of high integrity with a keen sense of what is smart and just, i.e., akamai and pono.
 - Have found him to be always open to the ideas and concerns of others, and willing to seek common ground and solutions that will work for all, i.e., again akamai and pono.
- (3) In Short. Mr. Champley has a truly outstanding and unique blend of what is do-able from technical and operational standpoint, and how to get it done in the real world.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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Your Neighbor Island Partner

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE VICE CHAIR BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI**

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 648: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, MICHAEL CHAMPLEY, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Testimony in Support

**By Glenn Hong, President, and Roy Catalani, Vice President, Young Brothers, Limited
March 1, 2012**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 648 concerning the Governor's nomination of Michael Champley to the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii ("**PUC**"). **We submit this testimony in support of Mr. Champley's nomination.**

Mr. Champley's experience as a longtime senior executive for DTE Energy, a major and regulated electric and gas energy company, provides him with a solid analytical foundation that includes a pragmatic understanding of both the potential as well as the realistic needs and limitations of public utilities to achieve public interest objectives. In addition to his work with DTE Energy, his subsequent work with Blue Planet Hawaii (on the key public interest issue of reducing Hawaii's dependency on imported oil) as well as his work as an interim Commissioner demonstrate that he can and will use this experience to seek to achieve public interest objectives in a sophisticated and considered manner.

As a former senior utility executive, Mr. Champley has extensive experience in managing complex economic, public policy and technical issues for a regulated utility, analyzing both business risk, including pressures driven by changes in the economy, as well as regulatory risks, and working to maintain a utility's financial stability and health in order to, among other things, timely maintain and replace infrastructure (and manage the associated issues of maintenance expenses and capital improvements) and maintain service. As a result of reviewing some of his writings and listening to some of his testimony on bills before this body, we believe that Mr. Champley has the critically needed experience to accurately analyze the key elements of a financially sound utility (with full access to capital at reasonable rates, terms and conditions) and the relationship between business and regulatory risks, the financial health of the utility and the ability of a utility to maintain the level and quality of service required by the public and to otherwise achieve outcomes in the public interest.

With the challenges of turbulent economic times, with perhaps unprecedented risks and uncertainties, externally driven cost pressures, and the need for capital in capital-intensive industries, we believe Mr. Champley not only brings the requisite background and experience needed for fair and certain regulation in the public interest, but that he will also work well with other dedicated and experienced Commissioners and Commission staff to develop constructive, creative and realistic solutions to achieve the related objectives of financially healthy utilities and the delivery of quality utility services.

In short, we believe that Mr. Champley's extensive experience and analytical skills make him an excellent choice for the PUC and to address the complex and crucial issues and challenges under the PUC's jurisdiction. We respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment of Governor's Message 648.