

GM 786

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



GARY L. HOOSER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 27, 2012
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
GM786

Testimony in Support of GM786 nomination of Azita Quon to the Environmental Council

As Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control I offer my strong support of Azita Quon to serve on the Environmental Council.

Ms Quon's broad experience in real estate development, architecture, planning, and land use site development plus an Executive MBA from the University of Hawaii will bring a valuable range of expertise to the discussions and deliberations conducted by the Environmental Council.

I have met with and spoke at length with Ms Quon about the EC, the OEQC and related issues and I am confident that she will be an active and valuable member of the Environmental Council. Therefore I urge the Committee to vote in the affirmative in support of her confirmation.

Ann M. Bouslog
P.O. Box 62074
Honolulu, HI 96839
March 25, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Senator J. Kalani English
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Testimony for Advise and Consent
Senate Energy and Environment (ENE) Committee
Gubernatorial Nominee: Azita Quon (GM786)
Date & Time of Hearing: March 27th 2:50 PM
Board/Commission: Environmental Council

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

I am writing to urge you to confirm Mrs. Azita Quon as a member of the Environmental Council. I have known Mrs. Quon as a friend, a business associate and a neighbor for some 20 years.

Mrs. Quon is an architect with over 25 years of practice in the building and construction industries. She has been involved in the master planning and design of projects in Hawaii and the Pacific Rim. She understands that the built environment has a tremendous impact on our natural environment and on the lives of our citizens. She has been an avid student and user of green technologies, with an interest in protecting and optimizing outcomes for the environment, our communities, Hawaii's economy and government. Mrs. Quon would bring her deep experience, intelligence, integrity and concern for Hawaii to the Environmental Council and the Office of Environmental Quality Control.

I strongly support Mrs. Quon's nomination to the Environmental Council based upon her knowledge of the design and building industries, her efforts in green approaches, and her dedication and willingness to serve our community.

Respectfully yours,



Ann M Bouslog
President, Mikiko Corporation

Eric Lee

March 23, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Senator J. Kalani English
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

I am writing to you as a friend and business associate of Mrs. Azita Quon who is subject to confirmation of her appointment by Governor Abercrombie to the position of Environmental Council. I have known, and worked directly with, Azita for over 2 years and strongly support her nomination.

I have worked for the federal government for over 25 years as an engineer. During that time, I have worked with many Architect-Engineer (A-E) consultants on various plans, studies, and designs. Most recently, I have been involved in Master Planning for military facilities, which is where I met Azita. As a consultant, Azita was an integral part of our federal effort to plan a new base from the ground up.

One of our major goals was to incorporate Green concepts in our master planning and our facility designs. Azita's training and experience as a professional architect, as well as her genuine passion for holistic and harmonious design, enabled her to make significant contributions towards our goal.

To help achieve our goal of meeting/exceeding all federal mandates related to Green building and energy conservation, we commissioned a cutting-edge sustainability study. This study identified all established targets and developed an analytical method to assess the most cost-effective ways to meet those targets. Azita participated in the technical review of that study.

Azita has been part of the architectural community in Hawaii, with over 25 years of practice in the building and construction industry, master planning and architectural projects in Hawaii and in the Pacific Rim. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated her desire and ability to apply Green technologies. Azita's recent experience in federal planning is directly applicable to achieving state objectives and makes her a highly-qualified nominee for the State of Hawaii Environmental Council.

I strongly support Mrs. Quon's nomination for Environmental Council based upon her knowledge in the design and building industry, her efforts in Green approaches to the man-made environment, and her dedication and willingness to serve our community.

Respectfully,

Eric Lee

Jacqueline Epling

March 22, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 21
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator J. Kalani English
Vice Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

Aloha, I am writing on behalf of Mrs. Azita Quon, who is subject to confirmation of her appointment by Governor Abercrombie as a member of the Environmental Council. I have known Azita as a personal friend for over 20 years and strongly support her nomination for this position. Through the years, Azita has demonstrated to me to be a person of high moral character and integrity. She has been flexible and organized in her many responsibilities and has shown her ability to adapt to many new situations. Mrs. Quon lives with the ideal of preserving Hawaii and its beauty through her many endeavors in reducing our environmental blueprint.

I strongly support Mrs. Quon's nomination for Environmental Council based upon her knowledge in the design and building industry, her efforts in Green approaches, and her dedication and willingness to serve our community.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline Epling

AYABE, CHONG, NISHIMOTO, SIA & NAKAMURA

ANN H. ARATANI
SIDNEY K. AYABE*
ROBERT A. CHONG
STEPHEN G. DYER
PATRICIA T. FUJII
STEVEN L. GOTO
KENNETH T. GOYA
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DIANE W. WONG
EDMUND K. U. YEE
CALVIN E. YOUNG

*A LAW CORPORATION

RODNEY S. NISHIDA
(1949 - 2004)

March 23, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator J. Kalani English
Vice Chair, Energy & Environmental Committee
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM786 Azita Quon, 3/27/12, 2:50 p.m.

Dear Senators Gabbard and English:

I am writing in support of Azita Quon who has been recently nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to serve on the Environmental Council.

I am a licensed attorney practicing in the State of Hawaii since 1970. I am the managing partner for the law firm of Ayabe, Chong, Nishimoto, Sia & Nakamura. I have known Ms. Quon for more than twenty years.

I am very pleased with Governor Abercrombie's appointment of Ms. Quon to serve as a member on the Environmental Council. She brings with her over twenty-five years of experience in the architectural field as well as the construction industry. During her career, she has worked with very talented individuals like Vladimir Ossipoff, Joe Farrell, David Bylund and Terry McFarland. Her association with these individuals has certainly contributed to her development in the field of architecture and the construction industry providing her with sensitivity and utility in her projects.

Having known her for many years, I have become well acquainted with some of her projects such as the Moana Pacific, Kapolei Judiciary Building, and the

Celebrating 49 years of service to the community

Senator Mike Gabbard
Senator J. Kalani English
Re: GM786 Azita Quon, 3/27/12, 2:50 p.m.
March 23, 2012
Page 2

Kamehameha School's PE and Athletics Building. The projects reflect sensitivity to the environment with a philosophy towards a green sustainable approach.

Her background and experience certainly exhibit one who is deeply committed in making Hawaii a better place for our future generation. Her goals and objectives are to practice architecture with a design to make a particular development or project environmental friendly.

In my interaction with her over the past years, she has always exhibited her commitment to do what is best for the environment and has shared her concerns about what must be done to preserve our natural environment. Her heart is in the right place in ensuring that environmental concerns play an important part in what is done in the future.

Given her experience and background, she will certainly be an asset to the Environmental Council. Without any reservations, I recommend that this Committee support the appointment of Ms. Quon to serve on the Environmental Council. I thank this Committee for giving me the opportunity to express my support for Ms. Quon's nomination.

Very truly yours,



SIDNEY K. AYABE

SKA:sh

#538081

Testimony for ENE 3/27/2012 2:50:00 PM GM786

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: AUBREY HAWK

Organization: Individual

E-mail: AUBREY@AUBREYHAWKPR.COM

Submitted on: 3/23/2012

Comments:

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English, I am writing as a personal friend of Mrs. Azita Quon, who is subject to confirmation of her appointment by Governor Abercrombie to the position of Environmental Council. I have known Azita for almost 10 years and strongly support her nomination. I applaud her efforts and expertise in using Green design and building technology for our state; as well as her willingness to dedicate her time and expertise in service to our community.

Respectfully,

Aubrey Hawk



JNY Design
210 Ward Avenue, Suite 217
Honolulu, Hawaii
96814-4003

March 23, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capital, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Senator J. Kalani English
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capital, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

Mrs. Azita Quon is a personal friend and business associate whom I have known for over 15 years. I feel that, along with her professional background and her LEED certification, it is with great honor to put forth her for the nomination of Environmental Council.

Azita has been part of the architectural community in Hawaii, with over 25 years of practice in the building and construction industry, master planning and architectural projects in Hawaii and in the Pacific Rim. During years of her career she has demonstrated her whole-hearted efforts to the use of green technologies.

I strongly support Mrs. Azita Quon's nomination for Environmental Council based upon her knowledge in the design and building industry, her efforts in Green approaches to the built environment, and her dedication and willingness to serve our community.

Respectfully,

Jan A. Yamamoto, CID, LEED AP
Principal

Roberto B Yumol, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB MBM

March 23, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Senator J. Kalani English
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

I am pleased to submit this testimony on behalf of Ms. Azita Quon whose nomination is under consideration by your committee for a membership position in the State's Environmental Council.

The Council plays a major role in shaping our State's natural environment, and as a practicing architect for the past 36 years I can see the value and importance of this council to the community in general and to our delicate island environment in particular.

I have recently worked with Ms. Quon the last two years at Parsons and eight years previous at Architects Hawaii Ltd.

At Parsons, I was the Sustainability Program Manager that helped the development of the Navy's sustainability program to which Ms. Quon contributed significantly with her input to the process. As part of her work as the Planner, she was responsible in ensuring that green planning principles as developed by the development team are incorporated accordingly in the master plan. Ms. Quon admirably accomplished this task successfully by actively participating in the numerous charrettes we conducted during the program's development process.

At Architects Hawaii Ltd, I have worked directly with Ms. Quon on several projects where she notably demonstrated her strong grasp of sound environmental principles which she skillfully applied in laying out project master plans. This knowledge was validated by her recent accreditation as a LEED Accredited Professional she received from the US Green Building Council.

In all the years that I have known Ms. Quon, I have found her character to be unquestionably of the highest order and worthy of trust. In the performance of her work, Ms. Quon has always demonstrated skill, reliability, and leadership and has always maintained good relations with her team. I have no doubts that with these qualities and her passion to serve the community, Ms. Quon will be an excellent addition to the Council.

In this regard, I highly recommend Ms. Azita Quon to serve as a member of the State's Energy Council.

Respectfully yours,
Roberto B. Yumol, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB MBM

Testimony for ENE 3/27/2012 2:50:00 PM GM786

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karen Sakamoto-Sato
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kms@nextdesignllc.com
Submitted on: 3/25/2012

Comments:

RE: Mrs. Azita Quon Submission for Consideration and Confirmation to the Senate Energy and Environments Committee

Honorable Chair Mike Gabbard and members of the Committee:

As a principal of a local Honolulu Architectural firm, Next Design LLC, I am in full support of Azita's nomination and confirmation to the State Energy and Environments Committee.

I have known Azita for over 10-years and have had a great relationship with her, both professionally and personally.

Azita's previous as well as current work demonstrate her commitment to good architecture with sensitivity to our culture, community and environment.

I believe Azita will bring thoughtful view point and related architectural experience to the table. She will be a great member of the Committee and will serve all of us very well.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Karen Sakamoto-Sato

Allen K. Hoe

Attorney At Law

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96811-3589

Telephone (808) 521-6927

March 26, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice Chair Senator J. Kalani English
Senatorial District 6
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Honorable Senators Mike Gabbard and Kalani English,

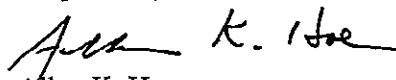
RE: GM786 Azita Quon

I am writing to you as a personal friend of Mrs. Azita Quon who is subject to confirmation of her appointment by Governor Abercrombie to the position of Environmental Council. I have had the privilege to be an acquaintance of the Quon family for over 10 years. I have observed her in her role as a mother, wife and a community leader in which she has excelled. Based upon that I strongly support her nomination to the Hawaii State Environmental Council.

Azita has been part of Hawaii's architectural profession for over 25 years with a practice in the building and construction industry, master planning and architectural projects through out the Pacific Rim. During years of her career she has demonstrated her whole hearted efforts to the use of green technologies.

I strongly support Mrs. Quon's nomination for Environmental Council based upon her knowledge in the design and building industry, her efforts in Green approaches to built environment, and her dedication and willingness to serve our community.

Respectfully,


Allen K. Hoe



Testimony of Azita Quon
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation
To The Senate Energy And Environments Committee
Gubernatorial Nominee, Azita P. Quon
For a Term to Expire on June 30, 2016

On March 12, 2012
GM786

Honorable Chair Mike Gabbard and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. This will be my first time in public service and I am truly honored to serve as a member of the Environmental Council.

I want to also extend a great mahalo to friends and colleagues who submitted letters of support on my behalf.

In the early 80's, like many others who make Hawaii their home, I first came to Hawaii as a visitor. What brought me back year after year was the simple beauty of the islands. I eventually married a local Kama'aina from Hawaii and settled in Oahu. We are proud older parents of a thirteen year old daughter who is a typical teenager, born in the digital world, totally at ease with technology. When I told my daughter that I was nominated to serve the Environmental Council, she told me I should read the paper she researched and wrote a year ago on why we should protect our environment in Hawaii. When she was six years old in kindergarten, she was learning about the 3-Rs of the environment 'Reduce', 'Reuse', 'Recycle' and she was teaching us why we should not waste 'running water' and 'electricity', and why we should grow our own 'food'. She and her generation serve as my daily reminder of why we should protect the environment, especially that of our beautiful islands.

My educational and professional background is architecture. I graduated from the University of Oregon with a 5-year bachelor degree in architecture in 1980 at a time of rising gasoline prices due to foreign oil dependency. My first job in Oregon was to administer a federally funded DOE program which gave Hospitals and Schools grants to implement renewable energy measures and to retrofit their existing facilities to become more energy efficient and independent.

I have been part of the architectural community in Hawaii since the building industry boom of the mid 80's and have had over 25 years of practice with some of the very best architectural firms. Significant influences in my career in Hawaii are numerous. One of my early positions was at Vladimir Ossipoff's firm where I learned to appreciate his deliberate sensitivity to environment present in all of his work. Use of regional materials and craftsmanship, indoor outdoor living, building orientation that took advantage of what each site had to offer. I worked for the firms of Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo and Hemmeter development which brought Hawaii's resort architecture to the forefront in the world.

In 1996, after I received an MBA degree from University of Hawaii with a focus in real estate development I got more drawn to design strategies driven by a vision and awareness towards preserving and maintaining a strong sense of community, preserving environmental quality for people and communities, preserving precious mauka-makai vistas, encouraging open space and landscape design in high density urban areas, and green sustainable approaches to architecture and development. I joined the firm of Architects Hawaii and for the next nine years I was able to work on a number of very significant buildings in Hawaii. Working with Mr. Joe Farrell I was involved in realizing some of the first high density high-rise residential developments of the decade-*Lanikea Towers* in Waikiki, and the *Moana Pacific* in the Kakaako district. I was able to design green sustainable approaches to architecture and development in the *Kapolei Judiciary Building* and the *Kamehameha School's PE and Athletics Building* with architects David Bylund and Terry McFarland.

In 2009, encouraged by the 'Green Building movement', I became LEED certified. I continue to practice architecture with the 'Green' design at heart, knowing that it has the promise of environmental, economical and social benefits that impact all building stakeholders, including owners, developers, builders and the general public at large. Most recently with the Planning Team of Parsons/AECOM and NAVFAC Pacific, I was involved with the master planning efforts for the new base for relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam, worked closely with the Sustainability team leaders and experts to address federal mandates and recommend green approaches to site development, water efficiency, and energy reduction.

While it is so encouraging to see an increase in Hawaii's awareness towards Green building standards for sustainable site development and building design, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality, it is still up to individuals, business owners and professionals to make a contribution towards reducing our environmental footprint in the way we live and do business. My source of inspiration is our sons and daughters. On an individual level, I hope to be able to assist the *Environmental Council (EC)* and the *Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC)* to achieve its goals and make a contribution towards protection of Hawaii's environment for our future generation. The built environment greatly impacts our natural environment. Green environment benefits everyone, designers, builders, developers, owners, government and our economy.

March 16, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senatorial District 19
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Questionnaire
Nominee: Azita Quon GM786

A written statement that addresses the following questions:

- (1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Environmental Council?

I have been part of the architectural community in Hawaii for over 25 years. Hawaii is my home and I welcome the opportunity to serve the community and contribute my expertise to creating a better place for the children of Hawaii. I understand the profound impact the built environment has on our natural environment, economy of the State, as well as on the health and well-being of the community. As a citizen, I stand for the protection and quality of the environment we live in. My thirteen year old daughter is my constant reminder of why we should care for Hawaii.

- (2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council?

EC is a liaison between the OEQC and the public on environmental issues. The Council represents the public's interest on those issues that impact the environment. I understand this responsibility. As an architect and planner, I am continuously challenged to design a project that reflects the delicate balance between programmatic needs, the effect of the building on its site and surroundings, and creating a facility that will be good for Hawaii's community now and for future generations. The role and responsibilities of the EC's members are to be an advocate for public interest and contribute to fair and sensitive solutions on environmental issues that will create positive outcomes. The whole community well-being is ultimately what matters.

- (3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council, 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 Environmental Council.

I have the educational and professional background, experience and expertise in architecture and planning. I am a registered architect in the State of Hawaii and am LEED certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Under the US Green Building Council's leadership, LEED has come a long ways since its inception. It has been embraced

by the industry players, owners, developers, builders and has given the tools and knowledge and standards to design and build Green buildings and communities that can maximize both economic and environmental performance.

I graduated with a bachelor degree in architecture from the University of Oregon. My first job in Oregon was to administer a federally funded DOE program which gave Hospitals and Schools grants to implement renewable energy measures and to retrofit their existing facilities to become more energy efficient and independent. When I first came to Hawaii, one of my first mentors in architecture was Vladimir Ossipoff. I learned to appreciate his deliberate sensitivity of integrating a building into its environment, the use of regional materials and craftsmanship, indoor-outdoor living and building site orientation.

Over the span of some 20 years, I have been fortunate to have worked with some of the more notable architects and firms in Honolulu. I worked for the firms of Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo and Hemmeter development which brought Hawaii's resort architecture to the forefront in the world. At Architects Hawaii, I was able to work on a number of very significant buildings in Hawaii implementing sustainable approaches to architecture - - seeking harmony in site design and building orientation to maximize human comfort and well-being, to respect the locality's sense of place through use of regional materials and local craftsmanship, and looking for ways to reduce energy usage and use of renewable energy.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

The following are important targets: updating the rules that trigger EIS; updating the list of Exemptions under the EIS; making recommendations to the State and support legislation that protects environment.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Environmental Council?

Three qualities are as follows:

- Over 25 years of experience as an architect and planner in the building industry and in Hawaii. Offer the EC this expertise and experience. Architecture plays an important role in shaping the environment and in the quality of the environment.
- As an architect, we are trained to sift through parameters and challenges and be a problem solver. We have learned to be good listeners, to review and analyze facts, find reasonable and sensitive solutions. Offer these attributes in formulating decisions at the EC.
- Knowledgeable in LEED and sustainable approaches to the built environment. Offer the EC this expertise.

- (6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Environmental Council?

My recent experience with the master planning for the Guam Build-Up. It furthered my understanding of how: 1) Sustainability plays an important part in the planning of the proposed Base; 2) the complexity of the EIS process for a project of this significance. The Department of the Navy prepared the Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental effects associated with the Guam Build up requiring multiple volumes of documents that went through all the proposed actions and alternatives for the development. A project of this scale and magnitude had a very lengthy public comment period to finalize the draft EIS.

- (7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Environmental Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

From past experiences and participation in some community neighborhood meetings, I know that there are always opposing and controversial viewpoints, especially around environmental and community sensitive issues. Architects could be perceived as unfriendly to the environment. However, as architects, we are really trained to be good listeners, look at facts, and find reasonable and sensitive solutions. We are in the position of creating true environmentally sensitive solutions.