

SB 2785



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Testimony SB 2785
Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Governor Neil Abercrombie

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
And

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

February 2, 2012
2:55 pm, Room 225

Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker, Vice Chair English, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and members of the committees, thank you for hearing Senate Bill 2785 Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems. I respectfully request your support of this important measure.

This measure will establish a framework for any future cable proposals to be developed, financed and constructed. By establishing a process, uncertainties will be eliminated. Ultimately, this will lower the cost of any cable project(s) that may be approved in the future, to the benefit of everyone in Hawaii.

It is important to note that this bill does not ensure that there will be an interisland cable. Nor does it stipulate where the cable goes or the source of the energy that it may carry. It only sets up a framework in statute.

A cable proposal can be considered without this bill but this measure helps ensure it will go forward in a manner that benefits the consumer and protects the ratepayer.

Thank you again for consideration of this measure.

TESTIMONY OF HERMINA MORITA
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
AND
COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

FEBRUARY 2, 2012

MEASURE: S.B. No. 2785

TITLE: Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker, and Members of the Committees:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for the development, operation, and potential transfer of ownership of an interisland high-voltage electric cable ("Interisland Cable" or "Cable") system or systems. Specifically, the measure outlines the certification process, the cost recovery mechanism and surcharges for parties involved, and the process by which a local electric utility may acquire the Interisland Cable in the future.

POSITION:

The Commission strongly supports this measure and would like to offer the following comments for consideration by the Committees.

COMMENTS:

The Commission supports this measure as it establishes the process for considering an Interisland Cable. This bill sets forth the regulatory framework through which a cable project would be reviewed and developed, if approved, to connect Oahu to a neighbor island for the purpose of sharing power between islands.

The passage of this bill does not guarantee that an Interisland Cable will be built, only the predictability and certainty of the regulatory process. The bill allows for a cable developer to submit a bid to Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. ("HECO") and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. The Commission would approve the selection of the cable developer and grant a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN"). Besides obtaining a CPCN, the cable developer will also need to conduct an environmental review and receive the required federal, state, and county permits before ever building the Cable. This multi-step Cable review process is in its infancy, and the Commission supports this measure that lays some of the groundwork on which this lengthy and comprehensive review can proceed.

The Commission is well aware of public opposition to the proposed wind farms on Molokai and Lanai, but this bill should not be seen as being exclusively tied to those two projects. Instead, the Commission believes this bill should be viewed as the opportunity to carefully examine how an Interisland Cable may be mutually beneficial to multiple islands throughout the State. To broaden the potential of this kind of development, the Commission recently ordered HECO to re-open the request for proposals for 200 megawatts or greater of renewable energy for delivery to Oahu. This allows HECO to consider all renewable resource options, such as geothermal energy on Maui, or wind energy on Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, in terms of best cost and highest likelihood of project success. However, none of these resources can be developed without a Cable connecting Oahu to one or more of the neighbor islands.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser recently reported that Hawaii has the highest electricity rates in the country. This is not news to most electric customers, especially to those on the neighbor islands who pay higher rates than those paid on Oahu. The Commission is closely examining the potential for the Interisland Cable to help stabilize and lower electricity rates for the islands connected to the Cable through the maximum utilization and increased efficiency of energy assets on each island. For example, electricity rates on Oahu are cheaper than on neighbor islands, because Oahu has lower cost fossil fuels. The neighbor islands on the other hand have an excess of renewable energy that they cannot use and may have to curtail, essentially throwing away that capacity. An Interisland Cable connecting two island grids would create the opportunity for those islands to share most economic and efficient fossil fuel power and excess renewable energy resources. Again, allowing Oahu, for example, to export cheaper power when it

S.B. No. 2785

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is not receiving renewable energy through the Interisland Cable would increase the utilization of that Cable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT AND
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

Thursday, February 2, 2012
2:55 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of
SB 2785
RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS.

Chairs Gabbard and Baker; Vice Chairs English and Taniguchi; and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SB 2785, a priority measure of the Abercrombie Administration to reduce financing costs for inter-island undersea power cables by having a clear regulatory structure in place.

It is the financing mechanism that helps Hawaii build an integrated, inter-island grid network that moves diverse renewable energy power generation sources to the largest electricity market. Such a grid network will reduce the use of imported oil, stabilize and lower energy costs, and provide energy security and grid stability.

SB 2785 establishes the regulatory structure under which interisland undersea transmission cables can be developed, affordably financed, and constructed on commercially reasonable terms, such as those upon which successful cable projects have been undertaken in several locations around the world. Any cable to be built in the absence of this measure will cost more to finance, placing an unnecessary burden on the ratepayer.

Renewable resources – solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energies – may all contribute to powering our state, reducing the unpredictable increases in power costs caused by oil prices.

Our state is already interconnected, with inter-island telecommunications cables for telephone and data, and this Administration's vision is for an integrated electrical grid cable network focused on a long term, statewide renewable energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony and answer any questions you may have.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR



KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JEFFREY T. ONO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012
2:55 P.M.

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE MIKE GABBARD AND THE HONORABLE
ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES

SENATE BILL NO. 2785 - RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC
TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to establish a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

POSITION:

The Division of Consumer Advocacy strongly supports Senate Bill No. 2875.

COMMENTS:

The State of Hawaii needs to become energy independent. There is little debate over this proposition. The rising cost of imported petroleum continues to drive consumers' electricity bills higher and higher with no relief in sight. Renewable energy generation offers the most effective way of stabilizing energy prices, reducing the State's carbon footprint, and keeping capital in the State.

The State of Hawaii is faced with three significant hurdles in its energy generation, transmission, and distribution:

1. Hawaii is isolated from all mainland electric grids. Unlike other mainland states, Hawaii does not have the ability to obtain power from other grids that could supply electricity in times of need.
2. The population of Hawaii is concentrated on one island, Oahu, while abundant renewable energy resources are located on the neighbor islands – geothermal, solar, and wind in Maui and Hawaii counties.
3. Each island is its own electric grid. On the neighbor islands, costly grid infrastructure is spread across relatively few ratepayers.

S.B. No. 2785, the undersea transmission cable bill, is an important step in spurring more renewable energy generation projects, including geothermal, providing greater energy reliability with interconnected island grids, and bringing state-wide uniformity in electricity rates. By laying out the regulatory framework for an undersea transmission cable, S.B. No. 2785 will give cable developers and financiers an element of certainty that does not already exist. For consumers, S.B. No. 2785 makes it clear that the risk if an undersea transmission cable project fails falls on the cable developer until such time as there are electrons flowing through the system.

There is an abundance of geothermal energy on the Big Island that is waiting to be tapped. So much so that the potential supply of geothermal would exceed that island's demand. If that geothermal energy could be exported from island to island via an undersea transmission cable, then the entire state could benefit from that resource.

Furthermore, interconnecting the island grids will lead to greater reliability. If there is a power generation problem on Maui, then electricity could be sent there from

Oahu. Each grid could carry less spinning reserves – generators that are not putting energy into the grid, but must be kept running to make sure demand increases are being met or are available in the event of an outage.

Under Hawaii's current structure, with each island being a separate grid, electricity rates vary from island to island. If the islands are connected via a network of undersea cables, then rates would be uniform for each island the cable contacts.

S.B. No. 2785 also makes it clear that consumers will not begin to pay for the cost of the undersea cable until it is deemed by the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") that the cable is "used or useful" with electricity flowing through the system. An undersea cable project does not necessarily need this legislation for it to proceed. However, without S.B. No. 2785, a cable developer that properly installs the cable, but through no fault of its own, has the project fail before any electrons are flowing, may be able to recover its costs from ratepayers. S.B. No. 2785 puts the risk of project failure on the cable developer until the cable is actually used or useful, as determined by the PUC. Section 269-D(c) of S.B. No. 2785 states as follows:

"(c) Notwithstanding any requirements to the contrary, a high-voltage electric transmission cable system may be deemed "used or useful for public utility purposes" upon commencing commercial operations, subject to the commission's determination and approval."

Under Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 269-16(b)(3), the utility would be entitled to a fair return on its property that is actually "used or useful for public utility purposes." S.B. No. 2785 makes it clear how the determination of "used or useful for public utility purposes" for a cable developer is upon the commencing of "commercial operations." The definitions section of S.B. No. 2785 defines "commercial operations" as having passed acceptance tests performed by an independent qualified engineer and meeting other criteria established by the PUC. It is only then that ratepayers will begin to pay for the project.

By establishing the regulatory framework for an undersea transmission cable, S.B. No. 2785 provides an element of certainty to cable developers, financial institutions, the electric utilities, and consumers from the selection of the cable developer to the payment of the system by consumers. S.B. No. 2785 does not by-pass any current laws that would require an environmental impact statement, nor does it mean that a community on any given island could not rise up to object to such a project. What it does do by setting out a regulatory framework and providing certainty to such a

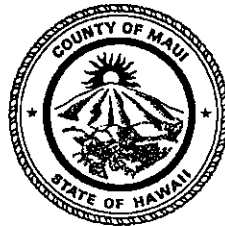
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Senate Committees on Energy and Environment
and Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, February 2, 2012, 2:55 p.m.
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project is to attract developers and financing to this state. By giving geothermal developers the potential to sell energy beyond the Big Island (and possibly Maui), it will foster geothermal development and bring competition to that market that will give Hawaii's consumers the best possible geothermal prices.

It is for these reasons that the Consumer Advocate strongly supports S.B. No. 2785.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

ALAN ARAKAWA
Mayor



TEENA RASMUSSEN
Economic Development Director

COUNTY OF MAUI
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

February 01, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair
Senate Committee on Energy
and the Environment

Re: Comment on SB 2785 (Cable Bill)

Dear Senator Gabbard:

On behalf of Mayor Arakawa, I am pleased to provide the following comments in support of SB 2785.

To begin with, compared with prior cable bills this bill seems to be a genuine effort to look at a statewide cable system, not just the Big Wind idea of long "extension cords" out to windfarms on Molokai and Lanai. Mayor Arakawa supports a true statewide cable system that creates benefits for all of the affected islands.

It is true that this legislation declares a preference for geothermal. It is also true that some people believe that each island should be energy self-sufficient as a matter of principle.

On Maui, we face the reality that our peak energy demand occurs in the evening. As long as that remains true, geothermal is in fact one of the preferred alternatives as it offers firm renewable energy in the evening. Firm renewable energy is what will finally allow renewable energy to replace baseload units. Replacing fossil fuel fired utility units is the only way to get to a shared renewable energy future.

If costs to add additional geothermal generation on the Big Island or Maui

prove consistent with industry norms and prior Hawaii projects, there is reason to expect this power could be sold to the utility at less than 10 cents/kWh. If geothermal energy could be made available to the residents of Maui County at costs below MECOs current avoided cost (approx. 21 cents/kWh) this would in fact be a preferred outcome.

Energy storage is often offered an alternative to the cable. In theory, solar plus pumped storage hydroelectric dams could allow an island like Maui to be energy self-sufficient, but the costs and expected time frame for such a project again support geothermal as a preferred alternative. Our residents keep asking when renewable energy will lower their electric bills. The only way we can see it happening in the next decade is if geothermal power comes online.

Batteries are another storage idea. Although it is true that Hawaii has some of the largest battery installations in the United States for renewable energy facilities, the full truth is that even the largest batteries provide only hours of storage, not days as we would need to replace baseload power. In addition, no battery manufacturer today predicts that the battery will last even half as long as a solar panel without replacing major components like battery cores. Solar panels has exhibited rapid price decreases similar to what has been observed in other types of semiconductors, but the battery industry has only shown incremental gains in efficiency and prices have not fallen dramatically.

In summary, the Mayor supports a cable that will allow use of geothermal energy, and we do view geothermal as one of the preferred resources between now and 2020, but we also expect that the Integrated Resources Planning (IRP) process will identify other alternatives for particular islands.

We hope that this Bill represents a fundamental shift away from a cable to serve two specific windfarms on Molokai and Lanai that lack adequate community benefits, and instead a move toward a shared renewable energy future that offers benefits for all affected islands.

There is much work to be done, and many serious questions about possible impact to marine life from a high voltage cable that must be directly and carefully analyzed in the EIS process.

Suggested changes and clarifications to the Bill:

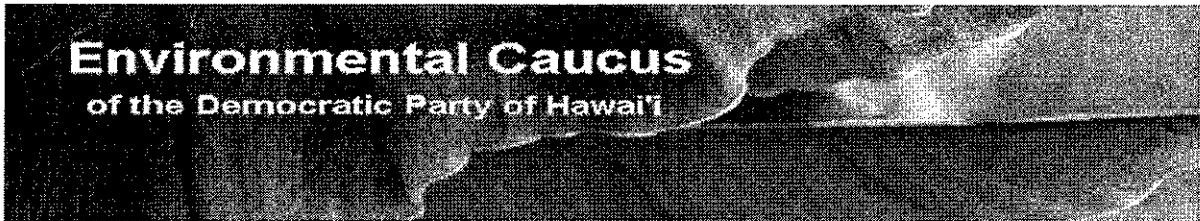
- Section 1, Line 11 change “the most effective” to “an effective” means.
- Section 269-D(c). The “used and useful” language supports oversizing the first leg of a cable from Oahu to Maui island so that it could also transmit geothermal power to Oahu. It should stay in the Bill.
- We support Life of the Land’s position that this Bill should not exclude ocean hubs that could be used in connection with ocean power systems such as OTEC. Even if OTEC is not at the same level of commercialization as geothermal, it does potentially offer the same type of firm renewable energy as geothermal.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. P. McLeod', written over a series of horizontal lines.

Douglas P. McLeod
Energy Commissioner

cc: Mayor Arakawa
Herman Andaya
Keith Regan
Rob Parsons
Zeke Kalua
Bill Medeiros
Kal Kobayashi



Statement Proclamation of Position regarding Hawaii's Alternative Energy Solutions and Big Industrial
Wind Project
from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

We have concerns regarding the protection of endangered species and wildlife and the viability of extending a cable beneath a whale sanctuary. Legal precedent and potential but unknown environmental impacts regarding industrial scale alternative energy projects within protected areas should be evaluated before committing to project approval.

We have concerns about the fairness of State of Hawaii rate-payers bearing the costs of said undersea cable, and Hawaii rate and taxpayers bearing the associated land-based costs.

We are concerned about risks of creating a so-called *cable to nowhere* should the cable be tied through ownership to a wind farm project. We agree with experts who recommend that any such cable should be independent of project and utility alike (Kraples, E., Anbaric; Campbell, B of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher).

We have concerns that the state would expect Lanai and Molokai residents to pay enormous social and environmental in gross external costs with relatively insignificant benefits in return for their enormous sacrifices.

We are concerned that in an effort to support Big Wind, other potential energy sources are being ignored, underfunded and underestimated.

We therefore recommend that the Democratic party of Hawaii and the State of Hawaii as a whole commit to undertake a vigorous plan of action which includes an open, transparent examination of all possible sources of firm power for Hawaii including and not limited to: ocean energy, geomagnetic, geothermal, wastewater conversion, solar power storage capabilities and other potential near-term breakthroughs, before committing the State's resources to any industrial-scale wind power plants wind farms on large scale such as have been proposed for the islands of Lana'i and Moloka'i.

We recommend that a community based decentralized energy solution model be the priority for the unique environment of the Hawaiian islands. Such a model would allow for an individualized energy solution for each island and even perhaps for each ahupua'a.

We also recommend that the state invest in an incubator program in partnership with communities and with University of Hawaii to help give incentive to upstart alternative energy companies.

We also recommend that the State adopt a means to grade various alternative energy solutions in an unbiased consistent and clear manner. The grading system should take into account a solutions potential carbon footprint, its cost to implement as well as its community and environmental impact.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 2, 2012

TIME: 2:55 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225

BILL: SB 2785

Dear Senators:

SB2785, which would facilitate financing and construction for an interisland undersea cable, is seriously flawed legislation.

It is premature, opaque, would prove obscenely expensive for Hawaii's ratepayers and all taxpayers, while turning an indifferent eye to the fundamental foundation of Hawaiian culture: the social and environmental impact on its communities.

It is simply the wrong answer to the right question.

Hawaii must attain energy independence; that part of the proposed legislation is correct. But how does an undersea electric transmission cable linking us all together provide "...increased energy security"? Would it not in fact make us more vulnerable? Either by accident or design, any break or disruption to an interisland undersea cable would clearly endanger the energy security of us all.

This bill positions the proposed undersea cable as providing every island "with backup power." How will it do that, when none of the power produced by the intermittent wind plants proposed on Lana'i and Moloka'i stays on those islands? Are we seriously considering taking over and irreparably destroying a significant amount of our Neighbor Islands so that O'ahu has "backup" power? Is there no other solution to our energy challenges then turning Lana'i and Moloka'i into industrial batteries for O'ahu?

The preamble to SB2785 states that this inter-island undersea cable "has been identified as the most effective and efficient means" to get more large-scale renewables "into a stable grid environment[.]" Identified by whom? Where are studies to support this? [Note: unidentified "economic analyses" last session said Big Wind was the "cost-effective" way to meet energy goals in the first version of this bill, SB367.]

In truth, the entire process surrounding this cable has been opaque and riddled for years with hidden reports and documents, kept private by HECO and the administration.

Friends of Lana`i and Representative Cynthia Thielen asked for the release of the tax-payer funded financial analysis of this project, prepared by Booz-Allen, for well over a year.

Senator Roz Baker was assured by Department of Energy representatives at the beginning of last year's legislative session that it would be released no later than February, 2011. Today is February, 2012, and Senator Baker still hasn't seen it; no one has. HECO documents remain unavailable to the public eye. Costs are hidden. Deals made are hidden. This proposed legislation compounds that opacity; it does not provide the necessary transparency that should be the underpinning of our state's policy-making.

In fact, so much is unknown about this proposed cable that we urge lawmakers to defer SB2785. A Draft Programmatic EIS, initiated in 2010 and scheduled to have been released in December, 2011, has still not seen the light of day. Not a single environmental impact statement has been completed or published; not a single permit has been applied for or issued.

To further illustrate the prematurity of this bill, note that a draft request for proposal (RFP) released by Hawaiian Electric Corporation (HECO) in October, 2011, already seeks bids from cable providers, along with 200MW or more of renewable power for O`ahu. This RFP isn't likely to be released in its final form until March or April, and responses to it are not anticipated until well after this session is *sine die*, in August, 2012. It is possible that there will be sufficient bidders seeking to provide power on O`ahu, for O`ahu, that would render this legislation unnecessary.

Underneath the lofty words of purpose, this bill essentially benefits HECO's corporate structure. HECO cannot afford a project of this magnitude, due to its one-step-above-junk-bond-status, so as written, SB2785 simply exempts HECO from any and all risk in constructing this cable, guarantees that ratepayers cover the costs of the development of this cable, and assures their stockholders of a favorable method of accounting for this income.

The state cannot afford a project of this magnitude either, since it's essentially breaking even. So to whom do we turn to fund it? Make no mistake; it will be us.

But there is much, much more at stake with this legislation. This proposed undersea cable, and its partner, Big Wind on Lana`i, has caused an irreparable fracture in our community. Families are split. Friends are split. Animosity has reached the physical level, as threats have moved from verbal to physical. Intimidation is rampant. The owner of 98% of the island, mainland real estate developer David Murdock, unabashedly threatens to "close down" the island, even when his hotels are mortgaged and the only source of income to pay his debt. Rumors circulate that Lana`i's only hospital, a state owned and run facility, will close. We, the Lana`i community, have become pawns in an economic grab based on pure greed, not an effort to be self-sufficient.

It does not matter whether Lana'i is taken over by 57 or 174 turbines, the intermittent energy created by these turbines would provide so little electricity to O'ahu as to make us all ask -- is the destruction of an island – physically, socially, and culturally -- worth it? I say NO.

This legislation, at this time, is premature and will prove dangerous to all our residents. The “regulatory scheme” it contemplates is just that: a “scheme” to insure profit to investor-owned entities. The State of Hawaii simply does not need this legislation this year.

Please kill this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Robin Kaye
Friends of Lana'i
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Lana'i City, HI 96763
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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 2, 2012

TIME: 2:55 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225

BILL: SB 2785 Inter-Island Cable

PLEASE HOLD

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker, Vice Chairs English and Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Henry Curtis and I am the Executive Director of Life of the Land, Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for four decades. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

We have an opportunity in the debate over the inter-island cable to get things right. We need to dream, to create a healthy future for our keiki.

Which path forward promotes community, `ohana, business and labor opportunities, improves our quality of life, diversifies the economy, makes our pae `aina more secure, stabilizes our energy costs, keeps our energy dollars flowing

within our community, supports small businesses, and promotes community-based decision making?

We should welcome and support an inclusive decision-making process. We can create a community-based plan with broad community buy-in.

Alternatively someone could decide on a specific path that should be pursued without examining any of the financial, job creation, social, environmental, greenhouse gas emissions, and technological implications.

HB2043, introduced by Representative Coffman and Speaker Say, proposes that geothermal be the preferred future alternative

The public utilities commission shall direct public utilities that supply electricity to the public to prioritize the following ... Developing facilities that generate electricity using geothermal steam on existing geothermal subzones ... Coordinating efforts with the state energy coordinator, the board of land and natural resources, and the University of Hawaii to establish new geothermal subzones for development

HB2043 was heard on Monday, January 31, 2012. The PUC testified:

The current IRP framework, revised March 2011, calls for the development of scenarios as part of the planning process. The use of scenarios allows an electric utility to develop several options for meeting future energy demands, while still being adaptable and resilient to circumstances beyond the utility's control. For instance, if geothermal resources do not prove to be as abundant or cost effective as predicted, or community opposition prevents the development of such projects, scenario planning allows for the development of other options to meet the demands of the electrical system within the planning period. ...rather than requiring the Commission to place a priority on specific renewable resources, the Commission recommends considering these resources as the various options in the scenario planning process.

SB 2785, supported by the PUC, proposes that an inter-island cable is the preferred future alternative:

An inter-island undersea cable system has been identified as the most effective and efficient means to introduce the variety of utility scale renewable energy available throughout the Hawaiian islands into a stable grid environment

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) re: Big Wind Programmatic EISPN:

The impacts of the proposed power cable on protected marine species is a concern for our agency, both from short- and long-term impacts of the cable installation, as well as the potential long-term effects of high-level electromagnetic fields emanating from the cable on the seafloor. ...The acoustic impacts could also disrupt the foraging behaviors of the Hawaiian monk seal, a critically endangered species whose populating numbers are still declining...PRD is concerned about the potential for long-term impacts from electromagnetic fields. These impacts are not well understood and it is unclear exactly what effects these fields may have on protected marine species, their prey, and on their predators such as sharks. ...the effects of high electromagnetic fields in the marine environment should warrant a precautionary approach until further studies can answer these questions.¹

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&W) re: Big Wind Programmatic EISPN:

Important fish and wildlife resources occur throughout the proposed project areas, including the coastal, wetland, stream and marine habitats. ...The Service recommends that particular attention be given in the DPEIS to construction, operation and maintenance related impacts on endangered and threatened species, migratory birds, wetlands, streams, coral reefs, fisheries, and rare native species and habitats. ...The DPEIS should include an analysis of potential impacts to affected wetland, stream and coral reef-related ecological functions. ...This project has the potential to have direct and indirect effects to many listed species on various islands. ...The Service considers the spread of non-native invasive species to be a major threat.²

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) re Big Wind Programmatic EISPN:

We recommend analysis of additional alternatives as early as possible.³

¹ <http://www.hirepeis.com/documents/scoping-comments/agencies/DOC-NOAA.pdf>

² <http://www.hirepeis.com/documents/scoping-comments/agencies/DOI-F&W.pdf>

³ http://www.hirepeis.com/documents/scoping-comments/agencies/EPA_comments.pdf

Employment

Should Hawai`i immediately install 1000s of solar systems employing 1000s of Hawai`i's workers? Or should it instead hire a few consultants to plan a project that may never occur?

Economic

Ratepayers would be paying for the renewable energy provided and the billion dollars needed for the cable, the \$2 billion overhaul of HECO's existing fossil fuel generators needed to provide offsets against intermittent loads, and for line losses. Installing rooftop and parking lot photovoltaic panels such, as at the new Home Depot and Lowe's stores adjacent to the Iwilei Transmission Substation, would cut down on a lot of the costs, saving ratepayers a lot of money.

Cultural

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, at their annual National Convention held at Turtle Bay in late October 2011, voted unanimously to adopt a resolution against the cable and calling for each island to be energy self-sufficient:

"Urging Governor Neil Abercrombie and the Hawai`i State Legislature to Support Sustainable, Low Impact Alternative Energy that will make O`ahu Energy Self Sufficient Rather than Dependent upon Lana`i and Moloka`i for its Energy and Protect the Open Spaces, Natural Resources and the Hawaiian Lifestyle of Moloka`i, the last Hawaiian Island."

Sustainability and self-sufficiency require that we look for answers within. This does not require us to reduce our demand, only to supply it locally.

Trade-Offs

Interconnecting islands would allow one island to provide energy, frequency support and voltage support to another island. Maintaining six separate grids allows for greater testing of alternative approaches.

Not all ocean transmissions lines would be covered by this bill

SB 2785 creates a vehicle for a particular type of high-voltage undersea transmission line: those owned by third parties and going between two or more islands.

This bill does not create a vehicle for generic third party ownership of an undersea cable. For example, a transmission company might propose building a high-voltage undersea transmission line from the shore of any island to an ocean hub located on the floor of the ocean. In this case renewable energy producers could hook up

offshore wind energy systems, ocean wave energy systems, and/or ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) systems to the hub. This would vastly decrease regulation and speed up installations, since all coastal and shore operations would have already been completed.

This bill does not cover transmission lines built to ocean hubs, it is limited to provide an opportunity only to those who want to build a cable between two or more islands.

The Legislature has passed bills encouraging the PUC to take up the issue of wheeling. *Castle & Cooke Renewable Energy* favors wheeling. This proposed bill is silent about using undersea cables to wheel power.

O`ahu Resources

O`ahu actually has too many renewable resources. EPRI, a national utility think tank organization (whose members account for 90% of the electricity sold in the U.S.) has just filed a report on wave energy noting that O`ahu could achieve twice its electricity needs from O`ahu waves alone.

Ask any tourist and they will tell you that Waikiki is sunny. Sempra, a Fortune 500 company specializing in large-scale solar and wind projects, has proposed a Pearl Harbor photovoltaic system that would supply about 5% of O`ahu's needs using about 0.7% of the land area of Oahu and at a cost of 20% less than is estimated for Big Wind, on a per kWh basis.

O`ahu has 200 MW of on-shore and 1,000 MW of off-shore wind possibilities.

Go to the Diamond Head lookout and see how few buildings in Waikiki have solar. Walk down Kalakaua Avenue and feel cold air pouring out onto the sidewalks from boutiques trying to lure visitors into their stores. Drive down the street and see street lights on at 10 a.m.; large-scale watering systems spraying while it is raining; hotel rooms with windows that cannot open.

Maximizing Renewable Energy Penetration

The new argument is that the cable can provide frequency and voltage support for isolated island grids. That is, building a \$ billion dollar cable will make the electricity have higher quality.

The PUC Reliability Standards Working Group, which I'm privileged to sit on, is analyzing the utility's grids to determine what new Reliability Standards are needed to maximize renewable energy penetration. This analysis requires engineering studies, production models, economic analysis, etc. of the existing grids. Batteries, new control systems at existing wind farms, new wind and solar forecasting

methods involving distributed monitoring systems, and new computer programs, might be far more effective, and at a significantly lower price.

In a similar vein the University of Hawai`i (UH) Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) is installing a grid-connected battery system at Hawi to determine to what extent it can improve frequency and voltage stability. This is at a cost of \$2M, 1/500th of the cost of the \$1B proposed cable (of course if the inter-island cable goes from O`ahu to Hawai`i Island and includes added lines for redundancy, the actual price tag will exceed \$10B without including cost overruns).

The cable approach assumes that the most expensive gold-plated inter-island cable system is the optimal choice and we should move forward before the analysis of alternatives is complete. The cable, if built, would not reach the Big Island for at least a decade. The problems exist on that island now.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The major greenhouse gas emissions associated with the proposed Lana`i wind facility are: (1) the pulverizing of rocks into cement, probably on Oahu; (2) the ocean shipment of parts and cement; (3) the expansion of the Lana`i Kaunalapau harbor; (4) the building of 100s or 1,000s of miles of roads on Lana`i; and (5) the huge cemented ground support which must be installed for each wind tower.

This must be compared to the greenhouse gases saved from not using fossil fuel to generate electricity.

Land Grab

The mighty and the strong sometimes grab resources controlled by others under the guise that it is better for everyone. Often the grabbers fail to understand the values and beliefs of the grabees. Thus flat windy sites are good for industrial wind facilities but the cultural and spiritual value of the site is dismissed or written off.

To avoid the land grab issue, proponents of this bill have changed their tune, from the idea that Oahu doesn't have adequate sun, wind and waves, to an approach based on crating stable island grids.

Inter-island Cables

If Maui and O`ahu were connected by cables, then a minimum of three cables following two routes would be needed. Since a repair would take up to 18 months to fix depending in part upon whether the damage occurred during whale season (see, Big Wind Programmatic EIS Preparation Notice) it would be wiser to install four cables using two cables per route.

Spinning Reserves

Some generators operate below their maximum outputs to be able to ramp up to offset a sudden shift in supply or demand. The sudden change can be caused by load coming on or off line, changes in solar and wind resources, and Acts of God (unintended loss of transmission or generation component). The amount of spinning reserves needed can be decreased by monitoring cloud cover or wind speed using both actual and dispersed data collection points and computer modeling.

Analysis by the University of Hawaii's HNEI determined that HECO should be able to predict wind resources and thus need less spinning reserves than if they did not bother to try to predict wind resources. HNEI proclaimed that the O`ahu grid could handle an added 600MW of renewable energy including 400MW of inter-island wind. They did not examine the spinning reserve requirements needed in case the inter-island cable went suddenly off-line due to an Act of God. They did not examine what HECO would have to do to handle this situation. The current HECO grid cannot handle a sudden loss of 400 MW. The entire grid could collapse and we would be facing an island-wide blackout.

Oahu Wind Integration Study (OWIS) Final Report (February 2011), prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy, and delivered by University of Hawaii (UH) Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST):

"To maintain adequate system performance during unexpected grid events, the spinning reserve requirement for the island of Oahu is 180 MW. This means that at least 180MW of power can be made available from the units already on-line (by increasing the production from these units) should an event take place. This provides sufficient power should the largest plant, AES, unexpectedly disconnect from the system."

"In the scenario analysis it was assumed that the spinning reserve would be complemented with an additional amount of regulating reserve to account for the sub-hourly wind variability. The regulating reserve is determined by the forecasted wind power and defined by reserve capacity and ramping capability. Therefore, in every hour of the year, the system carries spinning reserves (as a constant 185 MW) and regulating reserves (determined as a function of forecasted wind power). We will refer to the sum of spinning and regulating reserves as the up reserve of the system."

"The largest unit in the HECO system is the AES steam unit. This unit has a net power of about 180 MW (projected to increase to 185 MW). The minimum spinning reserve is based on the trip of AES. HECO was interested in understanding the implications of HVDC cable trips, particularly considering that each HVDC cable is planned (at this point) for a 200 MW rating."

Back-Up Power

Thus, the bill this year states: "Interconnecting the islands ...[will] enable the islands to provide each other with backup power."

The HECO, MECO and HELCO systems' peak loads occurred in 2004. With the installation of energy efficiency devices and on-site generation, demand has fallen. The HECO grid has 600 MW of back-up generators. Do we need more?

Changing Standard Utility Definitions

"Used and useful" is a technical term used in rate cases. It allows a utility to recover costs for a capital improvement project, if the utility can show that the project is used AND that it is necessary to ensure reliability.

This bill does away with that requirement, stating that the "high-voltage electric transmission cable system may be deemed *'used or useful for public utility purposes'* upon commencing commercial operations."

Opposition

Those opposing the Lana`i and Moloka`i wind facilities and the Interisland cable include: Friends of Lana`i, I Aloha Moloka`i, Life of the Land, Hawaii's Thousand Friends, Conservation Council for Hawai`i, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and many individuals.

Technological Limitations

HECO has argued that connecting the 400+ MW of generation in Campbell Industrial Park to the rest of the O`ahu grid requires three transmission lines following two routes. Thus, if one line goes down while a second one is turned off for maintenance, then the third line can handle the load.

HECO has argued that two transmission routes are needed in case one route suffers an Act of God (wind, earthquake, accident).

HECO's grid has spinning reserves that can handle the 200 MW AES coal plant suddenly and unexpectedly going off line.

The proposed cable would be a single line following a single route with 400+ MW of electricity. Thus it violates all three of the above technological constraints of the HECO grid. A single cable following a single route could go off line unexpectedly due to an undersea earthquake, being snagged by an anchor, or any of a number of different reasons. The substations interconnecting the lines could go down. If the line went down, the O`ahu grid would collapse.

Even if the line did not go down, if the cable is supplied by two wind farms each 200 MW in size within the same wind regime, then a sudden drop in wind could drop the load from 400 MW to 0 MW causing a collapse of the O`ahu grid unless HECO had a dozen smaller generators turned on at minimum load awaiting that possibility. Keeping that many generators at their minimums increases the cost/kWh of power produced, increases the pollution/kWh produced and increases the maintenance costs of the equipment.

The Reliability Issue

Any component can fail at any time. The grid is protected from the sudden loss of any generator or transmission component during a period when another generation or transmission component is off-line for maintenance.

Transmission Lines: The grid is currently configured so that, if HECO takes one line down for maintenance and a second line fails, then the remaining components can keep the system viable. Technically this is called the N-1-1 contingency.

Power Plants: If HECO has taken down a generator for maintenance, the HECO grid can take a sudden unexpected loss of its largest remaining generator – the AES 200 MW coal plant in Campbell Industrial Park.

Thus Campbell Industrial Park, with 450-500 MW of generation (AES, Kalaeloa, H-POWER), is connected to the rest of the Oahu grid by three transmission lines following two different routes. The use of two routes is key because any one substation could fail.

This is not an issue on the U.S. Continent because grids are interconnected in so many different ways.

HECO Planning Criteria require 3 Undersea Transmission Lines following 2 Routes

Kamoku-Pukele 138-kV Transmission Line Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (1998) "The Kamoku-Pukele 138-kV Transmission Line is needed for the following reasons: Provide the Pukele Substation with electricity over an entirely separate transmission line corridor, providing an alternative to the existing two transmission lines crossing the Koolau Mountains."⁴

BLNR Decision and Order (June 28, 2002): "With respect to the Pukele Substation, HECO's concern is that if one of the two 138 kV lines servicing that substation is offline for maintenance and the second line goes down for any reason,

⁴ The Environmental Notice (OEQC, June 23, 1998)
http://gen.doh.hawaii.gov/Shared%20Documents/Environmental_Notice/Archives/1990s/1998_Env_Notice/1998-06-23.pdf

then power would be lost to the entire Pukele service area. Having the third line from Kamoku would prevent an outage under these circumstances.⁵

HECO's East Oahu Transmission Project (2005): "There are three Downtown area substations with only two 138kV transmission feeds including the Archer and the Kewalo Substations; the Kamoku Substation has only one 138kV transmission feed. ...The Archer Substation is one of the newer transmission substations on the HECO system, and is fed from the Iwilei and School Street Substations by two underground 138kV transmission lines. These underground lines are relatively new and considered relatively reliable; however, a catastrophic underground duct bank failure could result in loss of power to the Archer Substation for some time depending on the severity of the failure. Installing a third line to the substation would increase the reliability of the substation. ... The Kewalo Substation is also one of the newest transmission substations and is located on Kona Street. Two 138kV underground transmission lines supply power to Kewalo Substation. ...A catastrophic failure to the underground duct bank could result in loss of power to the Kewalo Substation. A third 138kV transmission line to Kewalo Substation would increase the reliability of the substation."⁶

Campbell Industrial Park Generation Station & Transmission Additions Final Environmental Impact Statement⁷ (July 21, 2006): "*Transmission Planning...* Criterion #3 is a check against emergency ratings for double contingency conditions to ensure that the transmission system is capable of handling the power flow for those limited duration instances that two transmission lines are out of service; one due to scheduled maintenance and the other due to fault or failure.⁸ ... Installation of the new line will increase the robustness of the CIP generation and address the CIP reliability concern by providing an additional path for exporting power."⁹

Misleading Statements

SB2785: "Interconnection would also enable Hawaii to make better use of its abundant natural, renewable energy resources such as wind, solar, and geothermal." Misleading: It is the only option that has been analyzed.

⁵ DLNR File No.: OA-2801, In the Matter of Conservation District Use Application for HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC., to Construct a 138-kV Transmission Line at Wa'ahila Ridge, Honolulu, Hawaii. Citations: Revised Final EIS, pp. ES-5 - ES-6; Wong, WDT, p. 3, lines 10-45.

⁶ East O'ahu Transmission Project 46kV Phased Project Final EA Volume 1 of 2 Report p. 2-11. Prepared by Belt Collins Hawaii Ltd.

http://oeqc.doh.hawaii.gov/Shared%20Documents/EA_and_EIS_Online_Library/Oahu/2000s/2005-04-23-FEA-EAST-OAHU-TRANSMISSION-46-KV-PHASED-1-OF-2.pdf

⁷ http://oeqc.doh.hawaii.gov/Shared%20Documents/EA_and_EIS_Online_Library/Oahu/2000s/2006-08-23-OA-FEIS-CIP-GENERATING-STATION-AND-TRANSMISSION.pdf

⁸ p. 1-36: Source: Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., *Engineering Standard Practice Manual*, January 28, 1997.

⁹ p. i-37.

SB2785: "An inter-island undersea cable system has been identified as the most effective and efficient means to introduce the variety of utility scale renewable energy available throughout the Hawaiian islands into a stable grid environment."
Misleading: It is the only option that has been analyzed.

SB2785: "An inter-island undersea cable system has been identified as the most effective and efficient means to ... stabilize and equalize rates in all areas served by the cable." Misleading: The utility could ask the PUC to set one statewide electric rate. The Legislature could mandate it. The PUC could determine it is in the public interest. It is being offered as a carrot to encourage support of the cable but it is not related to the cable. With a cable, rates could remain different for different islands.

SB2785: "An inter-island undersea cable system has been identified as the most effective and efficient means to ...increase Hawaii's energy independence."
Misleading: It is the only option that has been analyzed.

SB2785: "An inter-island undersea cable system has been identified as the most effective and efficient means to ...support the achievement of the renewable portfolio standards established in section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes."
Misleading: Under current state law (Hawaii Revised Statutes) an island can achieve an RPS greater than 100% using only fossil fuel. Assume an island has just two buildings. Building A is the only ratepayer owned building. Building A has an on-site fossil fuel generator producing both heat and electricity. Building B houses a utility generator which makes electricity from fossil fuel and sells it to Building A. The renewable energy penetration level for that island (RPS) equals the on-site heat produced by Building A divided by the electric sales produced by Building B and sold to Building A. Thus the RPS can exceed 100%.

SB 2785 is premature. First we need to determine what future we want. Please hold this bill.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis



CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAII'I

Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
and Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Hearing: Thursday, February 2, 2012 2:55 p.m.
Conference Room 225

In Opposition to SB 2785 Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i opposes SB 2785 because of its significant impacts to the native Hawaiian species and ecosystems we seek to protect. The cable route includes the south Moloka'i coral reef, which is the longest fringing reef north of Australia, and includes the Penguin Bank – an extensive shallow marine habitat, fishing ground for Hawai'i bottomfish vessels, and part of the Hawaiian Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. The cable route also includes the other areas within the sanctuary.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has expressed serious concerns about the short- and long-term impacts of the cable installation, high-level electromagnetic fields emanating from the cable on the seafloor, and acoustics that could disrupt the foraging behaviors of the Hawaiian monk seal, a critically endangered species whose numbers are declining.

The United State Fish and Wildlife Service notes that important fish and wildlife resources occur throughout the proposed project areas, including coastal, wetland, stream and marine habitats. FWS recommended that particular attention be given to the impacts of construction, operation, and maintenance of the cable to endangered and threatened species, migratory birds, wetlands, streams, coral reefs, fisheries, and rare native species and habitats.

The Environmental Protection recommends analysis of additional alternatives to the cable as early as possible. Such alternatives, which will have significantly fewer negative impacts on native wildlife and habitats include solar, especially roof top solar, on O'ahu, and developing renewable sources of firm power on O'ahu.

We also oppose any undersea cable that facilitates an industrial power plant on Lana'i, which could include 200 wind turbines on a quarter of the island. The board of directors of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i passed the attached resolution opposing Big Wind on Lana'i and we are monitoring proposals for Moloka'i. O'ahu must be accountable for its excessive use of energy, and it needs to reduce, reuse, and recycle before turning to the other counties for its energy needs and projects that will result in such destruction of Hawaiian wildlife and wild places.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify. Please oppose SB 2785.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Ziegler



Hawai'i's Voice for Wildlife – Ko Leo Hawai'i no na holoholona lohiu

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Directors: Lida Pigott Burney * Koalani Kaulukukui * Robin Kaye

Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler

Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Attachment to Testimony on SB 2785 Senate ENE/CPN Committees
February 2, 2012 2:55 p.m. Conference Room 225

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL WIND POWER PLANT FOR O'AHU ON LÄNA'I
AND ASSOCIATED UNDERSEA CABLE**

ADOPTED BY THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAI'I BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON NOVEMBER 29, 2011

WHEREAS, the Conservation Council for Hawai'i (CCH) was founded in 1950 and is dedicated to the protection of native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations; and

WHEREAS, CCH has a long history of protecting rare, threatened, and endangered species in Hawai'i, including species on the island of Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, most of the native vegetation on Länä'i has been destroyed by introduced grazing and browsing mammals, or cleared for large-scale pineapple cultivation; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, CCH commissioned a survey of native Hawaiian plants in the Känepu'u dryland forest in the ahupua'a of Ka'ä, northwest Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, CCH presented its first Conservation Award to George C. Munro, Länä'i Ranch Manager, for protecting the Känepu'u dryland forest and native Hawaiian plants on Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Hui Mälama Pono O Länä'i and others have protected and cared for the Känepu'u dryland forest, which is now managed as a preserve by The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i in partnership with the community and with matching funds under the state Natural Area Partnership Program; and

WHEREAS, endangered plants in the Känepu'u Preserve include nä'ü (Hawaiian gardenia), 'iliahi (sandalwood), ma'o hau hele (native yellow hibiscus), and a native morning glory, *Bonamia menziesii*; and

WHEREAS, in 1989 and 1999, CCH took legal action under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), which resulted in the listing of 255 Hawaiian plants as threatened or endangered species, including 37 species on Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, CCH took legal action under the ESA to compel the designation of critical habitat for over 200 threatened and endangered Hawaiian plants, including 300 acres in the northwestern region of Länä'i for the endangered Awalua Ridge tetramolopium, and critical habitat elsewhere on Länä'i for two additional species; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, CCH took legal action under the ESA to protect the endangered 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel) and threatened 'a'o (Newell's shearwater) from harm caused by lights and utility poles and lines in flyways on Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, the summit of Länä'i, Länä'ihale, supports the second largest known 'ua'u breeding colony in the world with active nesting burrows and an estimated 2,000 birds; and

WHEREAS, 'ua'u fly over northwest Länä'i from Länä'ihale to the sea to hunt and feed their nestlings, and fledglings use these flyways on their maiden flights to the sea; and

WHEREAS, scientists believe 'ua'u thrive on Länä'ihale because Länä'i has little land development and few urban lights and tall obstacles, such as utility poles and lines, which, in other locations, disorient seabirds and obstruct flyways; and

WHEREAS, the endangered ae’o (Hawaiian stilt), endangered ‘öpe’ape’a (Hawaiian hoary bat), threatened ‘a’o (Newell’s shearwater), and pueo (short-eared brown Hawaiian owl) also occur on Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, Lāna’i’s marine environment – consisting of nearshore waters, coral reefs, and sandy beaches – supports the endangered koholā (Hawaiian humpback whale), endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua (Hawaiian monk seal), endangered honu ‘ea (hawksbill sea turtle), threatened honu (green sea turtle), migratory shorebirds, and other marine life; and

WHEREAS, Lāna’i is the only island completely surrounded by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, and whales are known to come close to shore; and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service proposes to expand critical habitat for the endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua to the main Hawaiian islands, including the coastline and waters out to a depth of 500 m around the entire northwest end and most of Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, Ka’ea, located on the northwest end of Lāna’i near Ka’ena Point, is named for the endangered honu ‘ea, and nearby Polihua (“cove of eggs”) was once one of the most famous honu nesting beaches in Hawai’i; and

WHEREAS, Castle & Cooke and the Hawaiian Electric Company propose an industrial wind power plant for O’ahu on 22,000 acres (one-fourth of the island) in the northwest region of Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the transport, construction, and operation of 80 to 170 wind turbines, each over 400 feet high with a blade span of 200 feet; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines will require foundations 20 feet by 60 feet by 12 feet deep, large construction pads to accommodate heavy equipment and materials, and large quantities of water for cement and dust control; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction of dozens of paved roads 30 feet wide, including the existing jeep road adjacent to the Kānepu’u Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction and operation of a transfer station on the northwest end of Lāna’i at or near Polihua; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction and operation of an undersea cable between Lāna’i and O’ahu to be funded by Hawaiian Electric Company ratepayers on O’ahu; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines, construction pads, and paved roads threaten the Kānepu’u dryland forest and endangered plants in the northwestern region of Lāna’i, and will destroy or adversely modify critical habitat for the endangered Awalua Ridge tetramolopium; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines will kill and harm the endangered ‘ua’u, including breeding birds and fledglings, in essential flyways linking nesting burrows on Lāna’ihale to the sea; and

WHEREAS, according to federal wildlife biologists, approximately 400,000 birds are killed annually by wind farms in the U.S. – nearly one bird every minute; and

WHEREAS, a study of 'ua'u conducted for Castle & Cooke in 2007 for seven temporary, relatively short, and bladeless wind-measuring towers in the northwest region of Lāna'i, indicates that dozens of birds would be killed by the towers, even with some avoidance of the towers by birds; and

WHEREAS, in addition to harming and killing the endangered 'ua'u, the proposed wind power plant threatens the endangered ae'o, endangered 'ōpe'ape'a, threatened 'a'o, pueo; and migratory shorebirds; and

WHEREAS, the excavation of foundations for wind turbines, and construction pads and paved roads will increase runoff to the ocean, increase siltation of coral reefs, and reduce water quality in the marine environment, including the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and proposed critical habitat for the endangered 'īlioholoikauaua; and

WHEREAS, a transfer station on the northwest end of Lāna'i at or near Polihua will destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat for the endangered 'īlioholoikauaua, and disrupt essential behavior of seals and sea turtles utilizing the coast; and

WHEREAS, the proposed undersea cable between Lāna'i and O'ahu will likely harm threatened and endangered species and other marine life, and degrade sensitive habitat, including the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary and proposed critical habitat for the endangered 'īlioholoikauaua; and

WHEREAS, the proposed industrial wind power plant will hamper, if not completely curtail full scale public hunting of axis deer and mouflon on the northwest end of Lāna'i, which has been managed by the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources under a memorandum of agreement with the landowner for many decades; and

WHEREAS, public hunting pressure reduces the damage caused by these introduced animals to sensitive native ecosystems, such as the Kānepu'u Preserve; and

WHEREAS, native Hawaiian species and ecosystems have intrinsic value, provide the material and spiritual foundation for the living Native Hawaiian culture, and help to sustain the people of Lāna'i; and

WHEREAS, native Hawaiian species and ecosystems on Lāna'i are part of the legacy we leave to our children and generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Council for Hawai'i opposes the proposed industrial wind power plant for O'ahu on Lāna'i, which will harm native plants and animals, and destroy or degrade a substantial portion of Lāna'i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Conservation Council for Hawai'i opposes the proposed undersea cable from Lāna'i to O'ahu associated with the proposed industrial wind power plant on Lāna'i.

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

SB 2785 – Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems
Thursday, February 2, 2012
2:50 pm
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker and Members of the Committees:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters (f.k.a. Hawaii Carpenters Union).

PRP supports SB 2785 – Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems which establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

New data from the federal government shows that Hawaii residents paid the highest rates for electricity in the country in 2010 and Hawaii also has the highest dependency on foreign oil in the nation.

We need framework for cable to be a public utility. Interconnecting the islands via undersea electric transmission cable systems would provide increased energy security, even more so to large population centers, and create system efficiencies. In these difficult economic times, it will create much needed jobs, reduce dependency on foreign oil and provide long term stability to our economy.

Testimony of C. Mike Kido
February 2, 2012
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you and we respectfully ask for your support on SB 2785.



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

25 Maluniu Ave., Suite 102., PMB 282 • Kailua, HI 96734 • Phone/Fax: (808) 262-0682 E-mail: htf@lava.net

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

SB 2785

RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS

Committee Chairs and Members;

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide non-profit water and land use planning organization, opposes SB 2785 that establishes the regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

This legislation is premature. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) process has not been completed including project specific EISs. Until that process is completed and all Statements reviewed, accepted and impacts understood there is no way to evaluate or understand short and long term impacts on the environment, land, ocean, and coastal resources.

Of specific concern are potential impacts to Hawaii's Whale Sanctuary and south Molokai's reef, the largest fringing reef north of Australia.

NOAA (National Marine Fisheries Service) cautions in the In the Programmatic EISPN "...the effects of high electromagnetic fields in the marine environment should warrant a precautionary approach."

US Fish and Wildlife Service expressed similar concerns "This project has the potential to have direct and indirect effects to many listed species on various islands..."

Projects of this magnitude must be considered comprehensively including the electric utility company's revenue requirements and how those requirements will be met. *In other words who will pay for what, how much and for how long?*

Hawaii's ratepayers and fragile environment cannot afford for you to support HB 2785 with little or no fact based information. Please hold this bill in committee.

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012

THE SENATE
Committee on Energy & Environment
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
Thursday, February 2, 2012; 2:55 p.m.

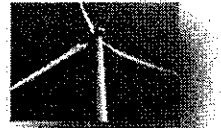
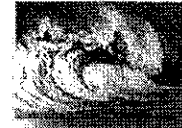
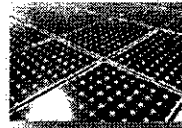
**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2785
RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 2785, which establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

Hawaii has an abundance of renewable energy resources in geothermal, ocean thermal energy conversion, photovoltaic, wind, biomass, and biofuels. However, much of the renewable energy resources are not on Oahu, where most of the State's population resides and the electricity needs are greatest. To transmit electricity generated from renewable sources to areas where it is needed will require a high-voltage transmission cable.

S.B. 2785 will facilitate development of an undersea cable that will link the islands to renewable energy resources. The bottom line is that without the cable, electricity generated on the neighbor islands may be wasted and unused while electricity rates in Hawaii will continue to rise.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 2785. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 2, 2012, 2:55 P.M.

Room 225

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2785

Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the Committees:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports SB 2785, a measure which, *inter alia*, seeks to establish a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system.

While it appears that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has the authority to regulate the owner or operator of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system as a public utility, this measure brings added clarity that such a project would be under the regulatory auspices and framework of the PUC.

Blue Planet Foundation's mission is to end the use of fossil fuels on Earth, starting by making Hawai'i a role model for energy independence. We support the appropriate development of all of Hawai'i's clean, indigenous, and renewable energy sources as quickly as possible. Given Hawai'i's population distribution and the landscape of renewable energy potential, the islands cannot "go it alone" to achieve statewide energy independence. The state's electrical grid system requires modernization to accommodate renewable power, and interconnecting the islands provides greater stability while enabling the maximum amount of renewable energy.

Hawai'i's islands have varying amounts of technologically acquirable renewable energy resources and an uneven distribution of electricity demand based on population and economic activity. Maui, for example, has surplus wind energy at night, while Oahu has an expanding fleet of electric vehicles that could put that energy to work. Legislation to establish a regulatory framework for the implementation of an interisland cable system can provide more certainty, stability, and oversight in the development process. By providing structure for a statewide electrical grid we can get the most out of our state's abundant solar, wind, and geothermal energy resources.

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

BIA-HAWAII

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"Building Better Communities"

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W. Bruce Barrett
Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc.

Testimony to the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection

Thursday, February 2, 2012

9:15 a.m.

State Capitol, Room 325

RE: S.B. 2785, Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Good morning Chairs Gabbard and Baker, Vice-Chairs English and Taniguchi, and members of the committees:

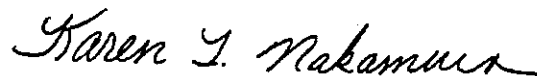
My name is Karen Nakamura, Chief Executive Officer of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, BIA-Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii.

BIA-Hawaii **supports** SB 2785, Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems, which establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

New data from the federal government shows that Hawaii residents paid the highest rates for electricity in the country in 2010 at 25.1 cents per kilowatt-hour. The national average was 9.83 cents. Most electricity generated in Hawaii in 2010 -- 75 percent -- came from petroleum products.

In these difficult economic times, an undersea electric transmission cable system will create much needed jobs, reduce dependency on foreign oil and provide long term stability to our economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you our views.



EVP/CEO
BIA-Hawaii

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

AND

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

S.B. No. 2785

Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Thursday, February 2, 2012

2:55 pm

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Scott W. H. Seu
Vice President, Energy Resources
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Scott Seu and I represent Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiary utilities Maui Electric Company and Hawaii Electric Light Company. The bill establishes a regulatory framework for the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to oversee and regulate the development, ownership, and operation of undersea transmission cables between our islands. We strongly support this measure.

This bill very importantly builds the foundation of establishing a statewide undersea cable network, which could be capable of tying our island electric grids together to improve grid reliability and promote greater use of renewable energy. That renewable energy could come from any number of technologies – geothermal, biomass, wind, solar, wave energy – and from any of our islands.

As we move towards our clean energy future, we envision renewable energy that could be developed from a wide variety of technologies and which could be located on any of our islands, serving all of our customers via an undersea cable network. This legislation will provide greater clarity to developers, the utility, and our regulators about each of our roles and responsibilities, and will ultimately reduce costs and risks to our customers.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Castle & Cooke
Hawai'i

680 Iwikei Road, Suite 510
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
O'ahu: (808) 548-4811 • Fax (808) 548-2980
Lana'i: (808) 565-3000 • Fax (808) 565-3312

Harry A. Saunders
President

Email testimony submitted to Committees website

Testimony by Harry Saunders
President, Castle & Cooke Hawai'i

February 1, 2012

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

February 2, 2012

2:55 pm

Conference Room 225

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

In Support of SB 2785

RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Senate ENERGY and ENVIRONMENT and COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION Committees.

I am Harry Saunders, President of Castle & Cooke Hawai'i. We support SB 2785 because it addresses a critical component to help reduce our dependency on foreign oil, currently our primary fuel source in generating electricity. Recent media articles report that Hawai'i has by far the highest electrical rates in the nation. An undersea marine cable connecting the Hawaiian Islands can facilitate levelized electrical rates statewide, distribute clean energy resources throughout the State and increase our energy security.

This measure affirms and clarifies that a cable entity for the transmission of renewable energy can be a public utility, create a framework to finance an undersea cable, and allows transmission from any island with renewable energy sources to other population and business centers. It would ultimately reduce our dependency on foreign oil and begin to help us to contain our ever increasing electrical costs over the long term.

On behalf of Castle & Cooke, I respectfully request your support for SB 2785. Mahalo and thank you for your consideration of our testimony. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us:

Harry Saunders, President
Castle & Cooke Hawai'i
aktsukamoto@castlecooke.com
548-4884

Richard Mirikitani, Senior Vice President and Counsel
Castle & Cooke Hawai'i
rmirikitani@castlecooke.com
548-4890

Carleton Ching, Vice President - Community and Government Relations
Castle & Cooke Hawai'i
cching@castlecooke.com
548-3793



February 2, 2012

Senator Mike Gabbard
Committee on Energy and Environment
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker!

Enterprise Honolulu strongly supports SB2785. Nearly 40 years ago, Senator Kenneth Brown gave remarks to the State Senate about sharing, caring, and preserving. It provided insight to the values of the parts, the urban core to build the population base of the economy, so that the financial resources of the large population base would help to subsidize the needs of the communities who held a population not large enough to sustain itself, the rural areas to preserve our natural resources, heritage, and our spirituality, and much more.

All islands and communities in the state of Hawai'i, depend on the financial resources of O'ahu and for O'ahu to improve our economic situation and abilities, local resourced energy must be a priority. It is clear, that the tax revenues of our rural communities do not meet the service and infrastructure needs on their own. When looking at this very important decision, please consider the importance of the entire community in sharing. This is not a one sided deal, for all of our communities have shared in the past and if we truly look at history, the largest population has carried the financial production for all the others, hopefully no one ever questions why.

We ask for your consideration and support for SB2785.

Mahalo

Pono Shim
President and CEO, Enterprise Honolulu



ENTERPRISE
HONOLULU
THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

SB2785 (opposed)

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Hearing on Thursday, February 2 at 2:55 p.m. in conference room 225

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and members of the committees,

I am opposed to SB2785. While the goal of obtaining more electricity from renewable sources is laudable, this is not the way to do it. The Neighbor Islands should not be energy sources for Oahu. Oahu gets the electricity and the Neighbor Islands get the impacts of huge wind farms and geothermal plants. Where is the incentive for Oahu customers to reduce their electricity demand? Where are the incentives for the Neighbor Island folks to live with the energy production infrastructure?

Oahu has enough indigenous sources of renewable electricity to supply the energy demand. It will take a lot of work and creative thinking, of course. But studies have shown that solar including concentrated solar, wind, wave, tidal, sea water air conditioning, locally sourced biodiesel, and OTEC (in combination) can provide enough electricity to meet Oahu's demand. And cogeneration can use excess heat energy for useful work.

Oahu can meet energy requirements without building an undersea cable from Maui Nui. I believe each island should provide its own electricity through indigenous energy sources.

In addition, this undersea cable would be the only proposed high voltage line through a marine sanctuary in the U.S. The route includes the Whale Sanctuary.

As the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) stated in the Big Wind Programmatic EISPN:

"The impacts of the proposed power cable on protected marine species is a concern for our agency, both from short- and long-term impacts of the cable installation, as well as the potential long-term effects of high-level electromagnetic fields emanating from the cable on the seafloor. ...The acoustic impacts could also disrupt the foraging behaviors of the Hawaiian monk seal, a critically endangered species whose populating numbers are still declining...PRD is concerned about the potential for long-term impacts from electromagnetic fields. These impacts are not well understood and it is unclear exactly what effects these fields may have on protected marine species, their prey, and on their predators such as sharks. ...the effects of high electromagnetic fields in the marine environment should warrant a precautionary approach until further studies can answer these questions." (<http://www.hirepeis.com/documents/scoping-comments/agencies/DOC-NOAA.pdf>)

SB2785 is not the right solution to our energy demands. It is a silver bullet looking for a problem. Our answer is not a silver bullet, but many different sources on the island where the need is located.

Please hold this bill in committee(s). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Randy Ching

Honolulu

oahurandy@yahoo.com

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Matthew Severns

Organization: Individual

E-mail: matthew.severns@gmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Before permanently disrupting a long-thriving natural ecosystem, I implore you to research alternative means of power production maintained on each respective island. Transmission of electricity through cables is only about 33% efficient, diminishing over distance. Do not let the monetary promises of a narrowly focused corporation cloud your judgement. Employing the use of solar power has more potential to increase the amount of jobs made available, both from production and maintenance, than a wind farm with a 20 year projected lifespan could. Please postpone passage of this bill until further alternatives are explored. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Matthew G. Severns, Fish & Wildlife Biological Aide, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife.

January 31, 2012

Testimony opposing SB 2785, High Voltage Undersea Cable

Aloha Chair and Senators,

I am writing to oppose SB 2785. Though we need to create energy independence, this project is not a rational step in that direction.

At the Democratic Party's Environmental Caucus panel discussions last year, the question was raised how long it would take to repair or replace the cable in the event of an earthquake or other major disturbance. One year was the response from the cable's proponent- one year without power, even if we invest all of the financial and environmental resources required.

With earthquakes devastating communities around the Pacific, it is very unwise to build a system that would leave the largest urban community stranded in the middle of the ocean largely without power for a year in the event of another earthquake.

From an environmental perspective, the risks are also too great. This would be the only high voltage line that goes through a marine sanctuary in U.S. The South Molokai Reef, on the path of this high voltage line, is the longest fringing reef north of Australia. It is not responsible to impact the reef and the future generations that it will provide for, and the people that it provides for now.

The people on Molokai and many people on Lanai don't want this. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at Turtle Bay unanimously passed resolution 11-50 "Urging Governor Neil Abercrombie and the Hawai'i State Legislature to Support Sustainable, Low Impact Alternative Energy that will make O'ahu Energy Self Sufficient Rather than Dependent upon Lana'i and Moloka'i for its Energy and Protect the Open Spaces, Natural Resources and the Hawaiian Lifestyle of Moloka'i, the last Hawaiian Island."

The environmental, financial, and social costs that this cable would incur do not add up to a sensible energy solution.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Aloha,
Laurie Baron
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Uilani Stokes
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Uistokes@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

This is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money that will destroy the land and further erase the culture and history of native Hawaiians. Oahu needs to be accountable for its excessive use of energy and needs to reduce, reuse & recycle before turning to the other counties for its energy needs!

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sosako@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

NOAA, NMFS,USF&W and the EPA all find grave concerns regarding this bill's timing and probable irreversible effect on the eco system in Hawaii, The South Moloka'i Reef, the longest reef in our country, the Penguin Bank, the Whale Sanctuary are just a few areas that could be devastated. At some point in the future when the technology is there, this vision of an undersea cable might become a reality, but right now, no one will even insure the cable because the technology is not proven for the depth and distance. In addition, there are so many other ways to make Hawaii energy independent that do not adversely affect the environment to this extreme degree. We should move ahead with solar and wave energy at this time and then look toward bigger dreams once the technology for the cable catches up.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Patricia Blair
Organization: Individual
E-mail: patriciablair@msn.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I oppose any undersea high voltage cable as possible harm to marine mammals and the environment.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frank Leary
Organization: Individual
E-mail: fleary2012@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

absolutely NO UNDERSEA ELECTRIC CABLE

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Keahi-Leary
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sistapeg@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE UNDERSEA ELECTRIC CABLE

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Grant Kaye
Organization: Individual
E-mail: grantkaye@runbox.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I am writing to express my strooong opposiition to this measure. The proposed cable will run through the nly Humpback whale sanctuary in US waters. The cost is incredibly expensive, and the electric scheme will not provide any electricity to the communities on Lana`i and Moloka`i. Numerous Hawaiian cultural and archaeological sites will be forever destroyed to build the turbines. Wind power is intermittent at best, and would only provide 6-8% of the electricity on O`ahu. Hawai`i needs renewable energy, and needs it now - but this is not the answer. Taxpayer money should not support this bill, and the Senate should not pass it!

Testimony on SB 2785 1/31/2012

Dear Committee on Energy and Environment (Chair English), and the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (Chair Baker), and to all concerned with the proposed undersea transmission cable.

My name is Craig Hockmeyer and I am a member of I Aloha Moloka'i and also a member of The Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound. I hail from Martha's Vineyard Massachusetts and my winter home on Maui. I have been involved with the fight against Industrial Wind development for many years now on Martha's Vineyard and when I discovered the proposed development of these pristine Hawaiian Islands for the same kind of Industrial Wind Development, I could easily see that the development issues surrounding it are very much the same. Industrial Wind is the kind of development that when you start to really look at the inner workings and all aspects of it, the worse it gets. I usually save my arguments and perspectives about the environmental impacts until the end of my presentation because there is so much wrong with the fundamentals of Industrial Wind Development that if one is to consider all the troubling problems; the environmental issues are almost secondary.

First and most importantly, this is Development. The proposal to build Wind Factories on Moloka'i and Lana'i and send the power to O'ahu is a serious development and one has to ask simple and important questions:

Will this development provide power consistently and dependably to the customers?

The answer here is No. Wind power must be backed-up by conventional power supply when the wind does not blow. In fact, the bigger the Wind-Power Supply, the bigger the needed back-up.

How exactly will the Wind-Power be available to the Grid, and at what rate of efficiency does the Wind-factory actually supply?

The answer here is that Wind-Factories operate at only +- 25% of their design output, far below developer claims, and the power is not easily integrated into the existing grid. (e.g.: the power from the wind factory on West Maui is "on stand-by", meaning; it's going nowhere because the grid cannot support it. The proposed under-sea cable is touted as being part of the new "Smart Grid" yet to be developed.)

How much will this Development cost in Dollars, and who will pay for it?

The consumers and tax-payers will be footing the bills for these developments in one way or another. Either from rate increases or from tax-breaks, incentives and funding from our Governments given to the for-profit Developers.

What will be the cost of this development in fossil-fuels to build the machines, install roads, and develop the land and sea to accommodate all this technology?

The wind factory will NEVER produce enough power to off-set those fossil-fuel costs.

These points alone will hopefully pique the curiosity of this board to ask these questions and seek real answers. The proposal to develop the State of Hawai'i into a wind-factory is really quite appalling when one considers our current level of development, where our energy comes from, and how it is used. This wind-development is a big scam, designed to bring profits to a few, and mis-lead the people of Hawai'i into thinking they are supporting "Green Energy" when in fact we are using MORE fossil fuel. The amount of power available to us from the wind can easily be obtained by conserving fossil fuel. Developing un-disturbed areas to "meet the growing demand" is a travesty of common-sense. Please shelve these proposals for Industrial Wind developments until all the costs can be justified and explained. If further evidence is needed to stop this proposal; look at all the questions about Environment Impacts that are on the table un-answered. Risking our natural habitat and it's creatures for a trivial amount of un-reliable and expensive power is simply not wise.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Craig Hockmeyer, 2141 Hua Place #3, Kihei, HI 96753

craigcycle@yahoo.com 508 498 1138

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kaulana Kaho'ohalahala
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kahoohalahala@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Roselani Kaho'ohalahala
Organization: Individual
E-mail: roseluvkau@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pohakamalamalama P. Palmer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: watrbaby@aloha.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

This is not the way to go. A sanctuary should be just that: no intrusions to leak into the environment where the baby Humpback Whales are born and raised their first months of life. The wind farm will not supply the energy you are touting, and we on Molokai will not prosper from the either wind farm or undersea cable which is designed to take from us, not give to us.
WAY TOO much money for projects that will not produce the stated product. CHEAP ENERGY. Not while we are paying \$5.10/gallon for gas.
Aloha.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jason W. Allen
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jwallen92@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Bad idea to go on with this project. Waste of money and destroys land.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karen Nygaard
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kkn@infionline.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. I live in North Dakota and spend several weeks each year on Lana'i in Hawai'i.

I fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana'i or Moloka'i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

We have windmills in the vast North Dakota prairie and I cannot imagine what those monstrous structures would do to the natural beauty of those small islands. I also work near a site that manufactures the blades for windmills and the size of them can only really be appreciated when they are on the ground or being transported on a semi-truck trailer.

Please defer this premature bill.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lorraine M. Coleman
Organization: I Aloha Molokai
E-mail: meherio2@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

SOLAR, SOLAR, SOLAR and all to reduce consumption!
UPDATE existing systems.
Reduce GREED \$ Factor.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Anna Jaquith

Organization: Individual

E-mail: annajaqu@gmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Although I live on Molokai, and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Thank you,
Anna Jaquith
808-286-7989

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Kathleen M. Brindo

Organization: Individual

E-mail: kbrindo@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Although this looks like a "green" act, I believe it in fact is the opposite and could have unintended consequences. I'm a 32 resident of Lanai I have these concerns: In Japan, there was no real knowledge of what would happen with the nuclear power plants during a Tsunami or earthquake. What impact could volcanic activity or earthquake have on a cable? Could it be effectively and swiftly repaired? Environmentally, it would be the only high voltage line to run through a marine sanctuary in the U.S. What will be the impact on the whales, the South Moloka'i Reef and Penguin Bank? Is it the best use of taxpayer money or are there other more sensible uses, such as simply reducing usage or using other technologies? I think this bill reflects only political "buzz words" and corporate economic interest. There should be no rush to pass a bill that

could have so many negative outcomes. Perhaps once again, we could be trading gold for silver. I hope not.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Stokes
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lanaiohana@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I am against the undersea high voltage cable to connect all the islands because it is a waste of the hard working taxpayers monies. I also do not want to depend on other islands resources and they should not depend on ours. The money could instead be used to create each islands own system of energy self sufficiency with their own resources. That is what being self sufficient is all about. Every island has and should use their own resources to accommodate their own demands for energy. That way everyone will learn to conserve. When an island runs low on water, do we hook up to Kauai and take theirs? No, we conserve. The same practice should be used for electricity. I also feel that separate grids on each island would be more safe, cheaper, and easier to maintain versus trying to fix the cable in the middle of the ocean. Again, each island needs to create their own system of energy independence with their own resources. That way we will not waste time and money maintaining and fixing the catastrophies of an under ocean cable, and we will not have to rely on other islands to keep our island in operation. We will all be energy self sufficient.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Janice Hill
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jankaopuiki@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I oppose windfarms on Lana'i. The environmental degradation to the land and sea by building an expensive underwater cable is ludicrous.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bill Leach
Organization: Individual
E-mail: billleach@sbcglobal.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I've been going to Molokai since the early 80's. I fell in love with it back then and still love it because it has not changed much over those 30+ years. The people who live on Molokai understand how unique the island is and want to keep it that way, not just for themselves but for their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and all future generations. Some people look at Molokai and say it is about time that it changed, but there is really no good reason for that to happen. Regarding alternative energy sources it makes sense, to promote solar energy and add it to homes & businesses on Molokai and more importantly Oahu. Most people would probably support that and it could be done for a fraction of the cost of the proposed wind farms and cable across the sea to Oahu. However, to spend billions of dollars to create a disruptive and destructive wind farm and electrical cable makes no sense at all except for the people who will get the billions of dollars to support it and build it. To disregard the pristine reef system, ocean life, from coral to fish to mammals, will be something that will have lasting effects on the islands and its people for generations to come. As lawmakers you are given the responsibility to look out for the interests of the citizens you represent. You also have a responsibility to the Hawaiian Islands and the uniqueness of them in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Please do not look at the proposal to build a cable from Molokai to Oahu and the wind farms on Molokai as progress, but realize that there are other options to conserve and create energy. The negative effects to the people, the island and ocean environment far outway the advantages that are being touted.
Bill Leach

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tim DeLuca
Organization: Individual
E-mail: deluca00@verizon.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Dear Sir, in this dire economic times, how could you possibly be undertaking such a project as this? Running a power cable through miles of deep ocean to feed energy from unproven wind power? This is insane and irresponsible, maybe the recipients need to reduce their energy use and conserve rather than squander? Those proposed wind generator sites would be a huge eyesore to the pristine islands they would be embedded in. I am for "Green" but not when so much is wasted and untested.
Please stop this bill.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anela Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anelamarie@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Taryn Waros
Organization: Individual
E-mail: teri.kalele.molokai@mac.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012
Comments:
Aloha,

Regarding SB2785, I am vehemently opposed to this bill for many reasons. I have spent a great deal of time and energy researching the effectiveness of the industrial wind farms on outer islands and the subsequent inter-island cable for transmission to Oahu.

I believe that if you, as our elected official would do the same, you will realize that this is an unnecessary and expensive assault on our natural resources with limited impact on our goal of being 70% less dependent on foreign fuels.

How can you justify this expense, monetarily and otherwise when a 200 mega-watt wind farm is only expected to generate 10 - 40 % of its capacity? When no one can quite predict what will be lost in the course of the transmission through these unprecedented cables?

Why would you want to justify hasty and unwarranted actions when this would be the only proposed high voltage line to run through a marine sanctuary in the U.S.? When the ultimate goal is to get to geothermal on the Big Island, but to do so in a time frame that will allow HECO to maximize its corporate profits? Desecrating the islands of Lana'i and Moloka'i is not necessary; it only serves to slow down the process in order to allow for depreciation of HECO's current assets. Mayor Arakawa of Maui explained to us why HECO would prefer a forty-year time frame, while it can be done in ten years.

The proposed route includes the South Moloka'i Reef: the longest fringing reef north of Australia and also includes the Penguin Bank: a 20 mile long and 7 mile wide, 200 foot deep, plateau surrounded by 2000 foot deep water and includes the Whale Sanctuary. Please take the time to carefully and completely research the potential and irreversible impacts this project may pose to these invaluable natural resources.

I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Taryn Waros

Kaunakakai, Molokai

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Lisa Galloway

Organization: Individual

E-mail: Lisa.M.Galloway@gmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Please do NOT pass this bill. It is a bad idea! While alternative energy investment is a good thing, this bill has not been carefully thought out. It would be much better for the state to have a cable system that can send/receive BASE or FIRM renewable energy (geothermal, OTEC and wave/ocean technology when feasible) because cable for intermittent wind is not cost effective and will be obsolete when firm sources are available.

If the State or Feds have taxpayer dollars to spend, it should be spent on FIRM renewable technologies. Especially OTEC and ocean/wave that would lead to Hawaii Companies and Hawaii Jobs. Wind power leads to almost no permanent jobs for Hawaii's citizens, and destroys what little land is left, putting the protected marine ecosystem at extreme risk, all for short term profits that leave the state.

Please slow down and THINK! This kind of mistake is not something we can afford. Please OPPOSE this bill.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

"I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Lana`i is my home. My family has been here for generations. I fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jonathan Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

"I OPPOSE SB2785. " This is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money that will destroy the land and further erase the culture and history of native Hawaiians. O`ahu needs to be accountable for its excessive use of energy and needs to reduce, reuse and recycle before turning to the other Counties for its energy needs!" I am a hunter and fisherman on Lana`i. I respect Lana`i and the ocean surrounding it. I hope you will too.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: beverly zigmond
Organization: Individual
E-mail: beverlyzigmond@juno.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, and the setting up of a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. The proposed cable will have an everlasting detrimental impact on cultural sites, natural resources, and endangered species which inhabit the islands. This bill is premature. It is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money. This is all about Big Wind - the industrial power plant on Lana`i - a project I oppose with every cell in my body. While I do endorse sustainability and renewable energy, I also endorse conservation. Let O`ahu reduce, reuse, and recycle before destroying the outer islands. Let's work on firm renewable technologies which are not as destructive. Let's do what is pono, not what will make the developer(s) a lot of money. Please OPPOSE this bill. thank you.
Beverly Zigmond, Lana`i City

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Soon Yai Amaral
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

"I OPPOSE SB2785. I am in my 80's and have lived on Lana`i all my life. My husband was a commercial fisherman and relied on the ocean to sustain us. I hope that my grandchildren will be able to have the same special relationship with the ocean. It is irresponsible to lay this undersea cable. We need to look at other renewable energy resources to help our state. Wind is intermittent and unreliable. You are wasting money that cannot afford to be wasted. Think smarter. Turn off lights.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul Berry
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pbdocberry@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2785. The proposed underwater electrical cable will cost over a billion dollars yet produce no energy itself. Invested in solar on Oahu, this billion dollars could produce 5% of Oahu's electricity, as the Semptra project will at Pearl Harbor. Moreover this cable will put state funds at risk in partnership with a private company that may well go out of business, leaving this vastly expensive cable useless. Finally, the cable may break repeatedly and involve expensive repairs for which taxpayers will be asked to pay.

Thank you for receiving my testimony.

Paul Berry 46-158 Kiowai St, #2411, Kaneohe, HI 96744 Phone 247-4090
pbdocberry@gmail.com

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: S. Kaliko Beamer Trapp
Organization: Individual
E-mail: strapp@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Please do not let the undersea cables be laid, and also do not allow for these huge windfarms to pop up around the islands. We have plenty of SUN here in Hawai'i on our leeward sides to provide enough electricity to hugely reduce our reliance upon imported fuels. I think people in general would support more solar on our rooftops, especially if big businesses get involved (like Costco did) FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT in the long term (i.e. reduced operating costs in the long-term).

Once again, laying this kind of cable is not a good solution to our energy needs. Please do NOT vote for SB 2785. Mahalo a nui iā 'oukou a pau.

na'u

na S. Kaliko Beamer Trapp, Hilo, Hawaii

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Andrea I. Jepson

Organization: Individual

E-mail: jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Although I live in Oahu have spent many hours on LANA`I, and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Andrea Jepson
Kailua Oahu

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Kitamura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Mugs122257@aol.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Although I live in [BLANK] I have spent many hours on [LANA`I/MOLOKA`I/IN HAWAI`I], and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Need further detailed environmental impact studies. Basic investigation. Why hasn't it been done yet?

Please defer this premature bill.

Margaret Kitamura
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James McKown
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jmckown@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Please no undersea cable. We have the necessary resources here on Oahu to address our energy needs without exploiting the resources on neighbor islands. What will we ask our neighbor island ohana to accommodate next? A landfill?

Let us focus investment and financial support on homeowners and business owners to install their own power-generation systems.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Garwin K. Souza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kamasurfah@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

Scrap this island to island high voltage electric cable idea and do something that empowers each major Hawaiian Island to produce their own Eco friendlier electricity. This project will mess up our Eco systems more than we presently know.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Patricia Hopkins

Organization: Individual

E-mail: Outdoorphoto3@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

"I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Although I live in New York State but have spent many hours on LANA`I and other parts of Hawaii, and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Susan Chew

Organization: Individual

E-mail: susaaan@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. I live on Lana`i and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Susan Chew

Lana`i City, Hawaii

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Gordon Chew

Organization: Individual

E-mail: glc86@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. I live on Lana`i and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Gordon Chew

Lana`i City, Hawaii

I **OPPOSE** SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable.

This is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money that will destroy the land and further erase the culture and history of native Hawaiians. Hawaii is the endangered species capital of the world and the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated. Tourists and visitors visit our islands for its natural beauty and hundreds of 400 ft. turbines would not appeal to the distant travelers who believe that the islands of Lana`i and Moloka`i are the last remaining rural places to experience it.

There are many factors that need to be considered about the environment that makes Hawaii distinct:

- The flight path of federally protected migratory birds, including the endangered & threatened seabirds, the Hawaiian Petrel & Newell Shearwaters that nests on Lana`i will be compromised and detrimental
- The route includes the South Moloka`i Reef: the longest fringing reef north of Australia"
- The route includes the Penguin Bank: a 20 miles long and 7 miles wide, 200 foot deep, plateau surrounded by 2000 foot deep water and includes the National Whale Sanctuary
- This would be the only proposed high voltage line to run through a marine sanctuary in the United States

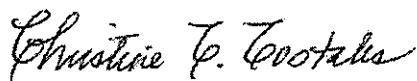
O`ahu needs to be accountable for **over-development** and their **excessive use** of energy. O`ahu needs to reduce, reuse and recycle before turning to the other Counties for its energy needs and the State needs to figure out how to cut the biggest use of fossil fuel, which is **TRANSPORTATION** that is not being fully addressed.

I will continue to fight the cable because it's a waste of money. What often comes to mind is, "*Why do we have to rip-off our teachers and children of Hawaii by cutting back high quality education to support a short-term, costly corporate scheme that is aimed to facilitate an industrial power plant on Lana`i and Moloka`i?*"

Lana`i and Moloka`i are the last remaining Hawaiian islands that can provide a true natural "outdoor classroom" to students of Hawaii and the world.

I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.



Christine C. Costales
P. O. Box 630422
Lana`i City, Hawaii 96763

We **OPPOSE** SB2785, a bill aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. We live on LANA`I, and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated. This is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money that will destroy the land and further erase the culture and history of native Hawaiians. O`ahu needs to be accountable for its excessive use of energy and needs to reduce, reuse and recycle before turning to the other Counties for its energy needs!

We also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor who visits these lovely rural islands – all for an incredibly inefficient alternative energy source! We **OPPOSE** any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

Please defer this premature bill.

Michael and Diana Shaw

P. O. Box 631814

Lana`i City, HI 96763

Adolph Helm

P.O. Box 391 Hoolehua, HI 96729

Phone: 808-567-6580

Testimony: SB 2785

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair, Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Measure: RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS.

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2012

Time: 2:55 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 225 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Position: Oppose

Chairpersons Gabbard, Baker and Vice Chairs English, Taniguchi and Fellow Committee Members:

Aloha,

My name is Adolph Helm a Molokai resident, homesteader and founder member of Aloha Aina Anahaki Mo'omomi (A.A.M.A). A.A.M.A a grass roots Hawaiian Homestead organization. Along with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and the Molokai Homestead community we successfully supported a land use policy change initiative for the Mo'omomi and Anahaki area. This initiative protects the area in perpetuity from industrial and commercial development including large scale wind turbine factories and electrical cables. The land use change also allows the Hawaiian Homestead community to manage the area, its rich cultural sites, and ocean and land resources.

SB 2785 is not in the best interest for Molokai. The potential impacts of a high voltage cable running through the ocean environment near our island may affect an already pristine marine sanctuary, the longest fringing reef north of Australia and the Penguin Banks. The Whales including other marine life and creatures could be harmed from the undersea cable's electromagnetic waves. The damage and unintended consequences may be beyond repair.

In addition the developer will have the luxury of tax subsidies, grants, low cost loans and higher consumer electric rates to pay for the undersea cable and the big wind proposal for Molokai and Lanai. The financial risk for the developer and the utility company are none while the consumer will be saddled with higher electric rates to pay for this project. The people on Molokai believe the economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts far outweigh the benefits of this

project. We also believe in exhausting every means for each individual island to achieve energy self-sufficiency first before interconnecting the Oahu, Maui County and Hawaii County grid.

With I Aloha Molokai (IAM) leading the outreach effort to educate the community regarding alternatives to big wind and the undersea cable I hope you take into consideration Molokai's current position. State lawmakers have witnessed and heard the community speak overwhelmingly in opposition. Numerous surveys, petition drives (over 2000 signatures), IAM's 800 plus members, the state wide Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Molokai 'Aha Kiole, the Ke Ala Pono Alliance and others on Molokai, throughout Hawaii, the mainland and around the world are strongly opposed to the big wind and undersea cable proposal.

There are so many alternative ways to help Hawaii become energy self sufficient. Spending billions of dollars on the big wind and undersea cable project to meet our clean energy goals is unnecessary, a waste of our tax payers money and the implication and damage to the last Hawaiian Islands (Molokai and Lanai) will be profound and devastating.

My roof top PV electric system cut my electric utility cost by 80%. Perhaps as lawmakers we should shift the focus from a centralized monopoly utility control system to more of a distribution one. It makes economic sense and directly helps in our effort to reduce our carbon footprint and reliability on imported oil.

I humbly ask that you not pass SB 2785.

Yours truly,

Adolph Helm

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stacy Crivello
Organization: Individual
E-mail: stacy.c63@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

please save our environment-do not pass any bills relating to the undersea cable. big wind is not for molokai. i support renewable energy - not the big wind farm for molokai. thank you.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Platt
Organization: Individual
E-mail: msoplatt@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

If the State or Feds have taxpayer dollars to spend, it should be spent on FIRM renewable technologies, especially OTEC and ocean/wave that would lead to Hawaii companies and Hawaii jobs.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Daub
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Maggiedaub@yahoo.ca
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

I strongly urge you to oppose SB2785 one quarter of Lanai for 6% of Oahu's energy is tragic. That mat of electricity could be saved by use of trade wind flow thru open windows vs air conditioning, the turning off of lights, and other methods that are FREE I have not yet seen evidence that an environmental impact study has been done relating to spending billions to run a cable through a whale sanctuary.

The people of Oahu do not even seem to be aware of the increase in their electric bills related to paying for this soon to be extinct cable Please say no to this bill Margaret Daub lanai

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charlita tolentino
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Cherry28tolentino@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frances doctolero
Organization: Individual
E-mail: fdoctolero@hhsc.org
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

If this benefits the community then ii am icons with it...if not then why do it"

I understand changes and progress but want to know who bennefits...

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shirlee Newman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: molokaimama@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Only corporate and highly paid Hawaii State officials are touting this sinful display of ransacking two islands. Install solar panels on every home (even every other home) in Oahu and take care of energy; then educate those folks on how to become less dependent on fossil fuels in creative ways, not through destruction of the two, last, truly, Hawaiian islands, the flora and fauna, sea-life and sacredness of each.

I've taught school over 30 yrs. and lived on Moloka'i for 20 yrs. The people at the top of this sham (windmills, undersea cables, etc.) do not live on these islands and haven't a clue as to preservation. Be careful, there's a lot of 'mana' around; what goes around comes around.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Barbara Baird
Organization: Individual
E-mail: bkbflyme@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

I was born and raised in Hawaii. It is my home. I cannot believe that any sane person would vote to fence off hundreds of thousands of acres of pristine land to put up eco unfriendly wind turbines that will destroy the last open lands and vistas we have. Can you honestly justify that just to proceed with the cable. The cable either stands or dies on its own merits. Do not use four hundred foot wind turbines to justify it. Geothermal is the only alternate firm energy that can justify the cable. Please do not stray from that goal. Deny this bill if it will allow huge turbines to desecrate the islands forever.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Norma Caris
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ncarismaui@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Do not pass this bill. EIS studies are important. We live in a fragile eco system. Once a portion is destroyed, can we ever recover. At what point is too much too much. The cable is feasible only for a firm source of energy like geothermal. Do not use monstrous industrial wind farms as an excuse to throw a century of eco awareness out the door. The cable is a good plan by itself with geothermal. Do not exacerbate eco damage by demanding industrial wind turbines as an excuse for it. Oppose this bill until that issue is settled.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Judy Dougherty
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jdougher@fuse.net
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Oppose this bill. There are too many very undesirable items in the fine print. It will be a disaster for our islands over time. I do not object to the cable for geothermal.....I do object to totally dismissing all environmental concerns. We know that people's lives and well being take last place to companies concerned only about the bottom line. There is too much at stake here. The wording on that bill needs to be changed. You cannot destroy all checks and balances when considering the cable....and industrial wind farms. The effects may be detrimental forever.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Helen Earle
Organization: Individual
E-mail: H1earle@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

I spent most of the year in third world countries. This bill smacks of third world politics. It will come back to destroy you. Do not pass it in its present form

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

In **Opposition** to SB 2785, Relating To Undersea Cable
Hearing: February 2, 2012, 2:55 p.m.

Aloha kakou, Chairs Gabbard and Baker and Members of the Committees:

Another year, another legislative session, and (surprise!) -- another cable bill.

Perhaps it would be useful to the Committees to look at last year's attempt, SB 367, and see what, if anything, is different:

- Does SB2785 still exempt HECO from counting surcharges collected from a cable company as income, and allow HECO to collect a fee for acting as the cable company's agent?

- Does SB2785 still permit HECO to elect "not to complete the on-island transmission infrastructure" while nonetheless recovering "all reasonable" costs from ratepayers?

[BUT note: last year SB367 said HECO "MAY recover;" this year SB2785 says HECO "SHALL recover"]

- Does SB2785 still facilitate HECO's purchase of the interisland undersea cable after the ratepayers have funded it?
- Does SB2785 still allow HECO's "revenue requirement" (including an allowed rate of return) to be protected through means such as "automatic adjustment clauses"?
- Does SB2785 still rely on the renewable portfolio standards (RPS) of §269-92 as a hammer to "require" an interisland undersea cable?

[But note: exemptions available for failure to meet the RPS remain large enough to drive a semi-truck through, and any penalty assessed would be paid by HECO shareholders, not ratepayers]

- Does SB2785 still insulate potential cable developers by allowing "non-recourse project financing"?

So what's new this year?

- SB2785 says that an interisland undersea cable would allow all the islands to provide "each other with back-up power" but does not say how, nor does it require bi-directional energy flow.

- SB2785 says that an interisland undersea cable “has been identified” as the “most effective” way to bring “utility-scale renewables” into a “stable grid environment,” but does not say who “identified” it as such, nor provide studies supporting this contention.

[AND note: last year it was “harnessing the wind resources” that was the “relatively cost-effective” means to achieve those pesky RPS according to SB367. Hmm....]

- SB2785 says that an interisland undersea cable would give us “increased energy security,” but it does not explain how this cable would accomplish this.

[NOTE: when an earthquake in 2006 caused massive island-wide power outages on O`ahu, not a single light bulb dimmed in Lana`i City.]

In closing:

- Do the costs of an interisland undersea cable remain unknown?
- Do the placement route and environmental impacts and costs of laying an interisland undersea cable remain unknown?
- Is SB2785 premature?

Please HOLD this bill. SB 367 was premature last session, and SB2785 is premature this session.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment,

Sally Kaye
Lana`i City

Aloha,

I strongly oppose SB 2785. While I agree that Hawai'i needs energy independence, exploiting other islands for the needs of O'ahu is not the pono thing to do. Not only will the undersea cable be of no value to any other island besides O'ahu, but it will also have adverse environmental effects. The proposed cable would pass through a marine sanctuary which is home to endangered humpback whales and Hawaiian monk seals. I am very concerned about how the electromagnetic fields from the cable would affect our endangered marine mammals. Instead of marring other islands with windmills, let's focus more on harnessing solar power on O'ahu. The solar industry employs more people than the wind industry ever could. Additionally, the people of O'ahu need to be educated to become more energy conscious. Supplying more electricity to a wasteful community is not the answer.

Mahalo,

Adam Bensley
2393 Waiomao Road
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 1, 2012

TO:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

FROM:

Lailani Kahn

Resident, Molokai

Dear Senator Gabbard, Senator Baker, and other members of the committee on Energy and Environment, and the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

I am a resident of the island of Molokai and I am strongly opposed to the proposed Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&W), and the Associate of Hawaiian Civic Clubs have all expressed serious environmental and cultural concerns that I'm sure you are already aware of.

Meanwhile, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has recommended that **other options**, aside from this proposed system, be investigated "as early as possible." My concern is that it appears the Governor, HECO, DBEDT, and the PUC have already decided that this is the only option to pursue. I have not seen any information to demonstrate that the implementation of solar systems/photovoltaic canopies across all of Oahu's high rise and residential buildings has been considered as a serious alternative which would avoid the need for pursuing an undersea cable. I understand that solar is being implemented in Pearl Harbor, the new Pearl Ridge Mall, and the Oceanic Time Warner headquarters. These agencies/corporations have made this *their* choice above all others. Why can't this work for Oahu as a whole? THIS would be the alternative of choice if reducing fossil fuel use, jobs and saving ratepayers money were truly the concerns. The inter island cable will require such specific expertise that it seems unlikely that this project will generate a great number of jobs for Hawaii compared to other alternatives. The cost of the cable installation far exceeds the costs associated with solar/PV projects and it is my understanding that the HECO ratepayers would be saddled with this added cost and that no one knows for sure what the true cost will be beyond "ball park figure" estimates.

Oahu still has a great capacity for pursuing wind, wave, and solar energy on it's island. With all of the natural disasters that our globe has been experiencing, and the likelihood of more in the future looming, wouldn't it be wiser to have each island take advantage of it's own renewable resources first, before considering an undersea cable? With all these available and realistic alternatives it is unclear to me why the undersea cable should be permitted.

Robbie Alms argues that neighbor island have much more resources and very little demand and that the theory is to bring this back to Oahu where it is needed. If only it were as simple as that. This approach does not consider the great cultural and environmental costs for the neighboring islands to provide these resources to Oahu. Worse still, the undersea cable and industrial wind turbine proposal appears to benefit HECO and it's shareholders more so than the ratepayers. Some argue that we are one State who should work together, however, Molokai continues to pay far higher rates than Oahu, when it is absolutely possible to charge standardized rates across islands. Apparently, when it suits HECO, they would like us to consider ourselves one State of islands, but when it comes to charging the consumer, it is apparently every island for itself.

Thank you for your consideration. I sincerely hope that you will take to heart the testimony received and vote NO on SB2785 so that these other alternatives can be explored and understood. Let the State of Hawaii consider all of the options and determine the wisest course for our future together.

Sincerely,
Lailani Kahn

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeanne Houlton
Organization: Individual
E-mail: houlton2@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Do not allow this bill to pass. You have political pressure to do so and carpetbagger salesmen telling you its a good thing....it is not. It will take the power away from the legislature and put it in the hands of companies not even based in Hawaii. What are you doing?

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lorraine Dyer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: caleb555kepa@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

This is a bad bill.....it takes all the decision making away from the government and puts it in the hands of a few companies who care not what we will all have to live with once they are gone. A few snakes devastated Guam. Without our eco system in balance what could happen here? We could lose everything....absolutely everything. Do not pass this bill at this time.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Peg Heglund
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pheglund@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

VOTE NO.....this bill is too broad and has too much potential to devastate our eco system. It is poorly written. VOTE NO

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gregory Kahn
Organization: Individual
E-mail: geekahn@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

As a resident of Molokai, I am opposed to the undersea cable for myriad reasons. Focusing on the financial impact, I am an advocate for solar solutions on Oahu because the rate payer will not have to foot the bill for that option, whereas the rate payer will be assessed the cost of the cable, estimated to be 1 billion dollars. When you tally the huge solar projects being implemented by Sempra, Chevron Energy Solutions, Pearlridge Mall, etc., you find that the levels required by the Hawaii Clean Energy Act will be easily achieved without the Big Wind and Undersea Cabled proposals. This is one of many reasons that compel me to speak out as an opponent of this bill.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Doug Weidman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dgweidman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

The undersea cable which clearly leads to an industrial wind farm on Lanai is a bad idea. It will ruin the environment and SB2785 argues that the undersea cable will reduce our energy security and provide "back-up" power for the islands. Lana'i does not want to see its hunting lands become a storage battery for O'ahu's electricity needs.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Bond
Organization: Individual
E-mail: bondma@cs.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

Dear Committee Chairs,

My family has lived in Hawaii for nearly 200 years, and this bill is one of the most destructive things that have happened to Hawaii since that time. In my personal experience as the CEO of an international energy company, and as the consultant to numerous utilities, I have never seen a more fallacious, costly, unneeded and environmentally destructive proposed project than this one. The potential cost of this proposed bill will cause a major increase in residential electricity rates, already the highest in the U.S., and causing financial hardship to families throughout Hawaii. It will also significantly increase commercial and industrial rates, placing our businesses and industries in a less competitive position.

The way to reach greater energy independence in Hawaii is not a multi-billion pork-barrel cable, but rooftop solar on a residential and commercial level. This bill's impact on the whale sanctuary, the Molokai reef, and the islands of Molokai and Lanai will be very negative and permanent, for no justifiable reason. Any cable intended for Molokai or Lanai will supply intermittent energy only, which is of little use to Oahu.

Please do not attempt to use your position in government to destroy Molokai, Lanai, the National Humpback Whale Sanctuary. This is a pork-barrel boondoggle, and will come back to haunt those legislators who propose or endorse it. It is a terrible time when the government turns against the people to enforce the will of big corporations.

Michael Bond
Bond Energy
Bond Investment Group
P.O. Box 511
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

Testimony for ENE/EDT/AGL 2/9/2012 3:45:00 PM SB2512

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karin Gill
Organization: Individual
E-mail: karingill@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:
Strong support.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bobby McClintock
Organization: Individual
E-mail: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:
I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. Although I live in Oahu I have spent many hours on all of our islands and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated, as well as health problems.

I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I OPPOSE any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.

I also fear the health impacts of EMF's (Electro-Magnetic Fields) are not fully understood yet. Communities with turbines are experiencing health problems such as headaches, nose bleeds, loss of concentration along with many other health effects. There is not one community that has these that is not reporting problems.

Please defer this premature bill.

Bobby McClintock, Honolulu, HI

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary E. Catiel
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mcatiel@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB2785, aimed at establishing a regulatory scheme for an under sea cable. I live on Lanai for 40 years, and fear for the effect on the historic cultural sites, natural resources, and endangered species. Where is the EIS? Put the money in education and save the cost necessary for the power transformation when the wind is not blowing, which is quite often. We are a unique island, but proposed cable is not the solution for our sensible energy need. Realize the opposition. Mahalo.

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Sue Haglund

Organization: Individual

E-mail: shaglund@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB2785. This is a premature bill. It's route for the interisland undersea cable includes the Penguin Bank, a 20 miles long and 7 miles wide, 200 foot deep plateau surrounded by 2000 foot deep water. Furthermore this is the WHALE SANCTUARY route. Undersea Cable interisland connectivity does not promote self-sufficiency, low-economic energy costs. This bill feeds into the consumerism pockets of corporations such as HECO and their stakeholders. This bill essentially EXEMPTS HECO in any risk that may go wrong during the construction of this high voltage undersea cable project. And who pays the cost of this horrible big dig project? WE, the Voters. We, the Taxpayers.
DO NOT PASS this bill in the name of the state of Hawaii's Residents.
Thank You.

*"We **OPPOSE** SB2785, aimed at setting up a regulatory scheme for an undersea cable. I live on Molokai, and fear that the impact of the proposed cable on historic cultural sites, natural resources, beauty and the many endangered species inhabiting the islands has not been calculated.*

*I also oppose any undersea cable that is aimed at facilitating an industrial power plant on Lana`i or Moloka`i. Hundreds of 400' turbines will not appeal to any resident, tourist or visitor to these lovely rural islands. I **OPPOSE** any measure that would set in motion a process before the impacts and costs to the islands are fully known.*

Please defer this premature bill.

*Diane and Eric Jensen
Manuela, HI*

Aloha,

My name is Jason Gill. I am writing this letter in regards to SB2785. I am writing this letter because I am outraged by the fact that my kids and I have to sacrifice our natural resources on Lana'i for the needs of Oahu. On the island of Lana'i, we are told that this is an awesome project that will create good jobs, "keep Lana'i green", help the economy of Lana'i, and "save jobs on Lana'i".

These reasons may sound great, but what kind of jobs are we looking at? I recently wrote Harry Saunders, Castle & Cooke's Executive Vice President on 01/28/12, and asked for more information regarding the type of jobs offered, qualifications needed, and type of benefits offered. I still haven't received a response back.

We have Union signs around my entire neighborhood. Most signs have ILWU 142's stance on the windmill project. It reads "keep Lanai Green". Some say, "help us save our jobs, Yes to the windmills!". Since the two resorts on Lanai are the islands primary employer, a large group of supporters of the windmill project are made up of hospitality industry workers. These hospitality industry workers truly believe that the windmill project will save their jobs. So you're telling me that if the hotels run at a combined low occupancy of 40% all year, hotel workers will still retain their work hours and status? From my understanding, hotel occupancy has, and will always dictate hotel workers hours and status, not the windmill project.

I cant help but notice signs that say "Keep Lanai green" . I'm still wondering how the windmill project will "keep Lanai green". To my knowledge, Lanai will still depend on foreign oil, and all power created by the windmill project will be for Oahu. Will Lanai'i use less gas once the windmill project is built? What kind of "green" are we talking about? Are we talking about the amount of green that will be funneled into the pockets of the select few, from the sacrifice made by the many?

Before approving this bill, consider the overall impact that it will create. This is a short term solution for a long term problem. Please don't place this burden on the backs of my children. It's not fair for them to clean up the mess that we've created.

Mahalo,

Jason Gill

Marc D Lindshield

P.O. Box 715
Escondido, CA 92033-0715
Phone (760) 802-0544 Fax (760) 737-6161
E-Mail: Lindshield@sbcglobal.net

February 1, 2012

Chairman Mike Gabbard
Committee on Energy and Environment

Madam Chair Rosalyn H. Baker
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: SB 2785
Comments in OPPOSITION submitted via website and email.

Honorable Chairs and Committee Members,

As a part time resident of Hawaii and having an extensive background in Community Development, Municipal Advisory Panels and oversight committees I have reviewed the documentation available related to SB 2785 and **STRONGLY OPPOSE** the advancement of this Bill. I also acknowledge the BIG money behind this proposal.

It is obvious in the reports by all regulatory agencies that the potential of Negative and Unmitigated Impacts are all but certain. As I read the reports I was alarmed that the concerns raised focused solely on the best case scenario of building the project. There was a glaring absence of any information related to the possible impacts from extreme weather / sea conditions or heaven forbid a Natural Disaster such as a Tsunami.

Allowing this Bill and Project to move forward demonstrates a willful disregard to numerous protected and precious resources. Some major impacts to the South Moloka'I Reef, Penguin Bank and the Whale Sanctuary are obvious, but what about the numerous "unknown impacts"? Are you seriously willing to gamble on that?

I urge you to consider two very important facts. First, any failures, cost overruns, extensive repairs, upgrades etc. will be passed through to the rate payers, not the investors. We have seen this played out time and again on the Mainland. This would further damage the economy and cast shame on an already questionable project.

My second point is more obvious, Water and Power DO NOT MIX !! While we are not "absolutely certain" of the effect on our environment, sea life and precious resources related to electromagnetic fields... we know it exists. Running a power line of this size, weight and design through protected areas and allowing it to rest on the reefs you would not willingly allow divers to walk on is unconscionable.

In closing, I implore you to first completely exhaust all possible alternatives to this project. You are blessed with the opportunity to harvest vast amounts of Solar Power and it has proved very successful in other areas, but there are additional options. Second, if you're still considering this a viable option, please purchase 6-8 50 foot commercial extension cords from Home Depot, plug them in and drape them through your swimming pool or bathtubs and jump in! They're brand new... you know this and yet how certain would you feel sending your kids or yourself in for a bath or swim? **Your innate sense of reason will provide you with the best answer... Power and Water do not mix, sometimes not even as a last resort, the risk is just too great!**

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc D. Lindshield

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kimo Mcpherson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mcpherson.kimo@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

SB 2785 the under sea cable is insanity and is only a corporations big idea to profit from unproven tecnology big bzzzness greed the 90% of molokai people have spoken with testimony on video and mike gabbard knows the numbers.....

Testimony for ENE/CPN 2/2/2012 2:55:00 PM SB2785

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mark Enomoto
Organization: Individual
E-mail: markeno@mac.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I oppose SB2785 based on the lack of transparency from HECO. To date there has not been a EIS done to study the negative and permanent impact of an undersea cable but the communities of Molokai and Lanai have been very vocal about how it will impact their communities and environment for the benefit of Oahu.

1. HECO needs to be forthcoming with documents
2. An EIS needs to be conducted and presented to the people
3. Oahu needs to become self sufficient but not at the cost of other islands