

# HB2883

RELATING TO MAKAHA VALLEY.

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a flood study on Makaha Valley. Appropriates funds. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB2883 HD2)

TOM BERG  
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HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL • DISTRICT I  
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Testimony in Support of HB 2883 HD2  
To  
The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Senate WLH Committee  
March 20, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.  
In Conference Room 225

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Malama Solomon  
and Members of the WLH Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of HB 2883 HD2 that requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a flood study of Makaha Valley.

Makaha was a history of terrible flooding that threatens human lives and has potential for great property damage.

Makaha flooding problem continues on today and the threat to human lives and property needs to be remedied as soon as possible before the next rainy season of winter storms and hurricanes in upon us.

I strongly urge this committee to appropriate adequate funds to fund the Makaha Valley flooding study as the state has a duty and responsibility to take affirmative action to address flood for the public's health and safety.

I plan to request funds to address the Makaha Region's flooding problem that is within the City's jurisdiction. Both the City and State must take responsibility. I urge you to continue your efforts to find solutions to resolve the flooding hazard in Makaha.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support.

Dane Wicker

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2012 3:20 PM  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Cc:** kaluhiokalanik@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2883 on 3/20/2012 1:30:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 3/20/2012 1:30:00 PM HB2883

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Lu Faborito  
Organization: Makaha Hawaiian Civic Club  
E-mail: [kaluhiokalanik@aol.com](mailto:kaluhiokalanik@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 3/15/2012

Comments:

with amendments: alot of the debris was from private landowners and citizens farther up the valley. Will they be assessed some part of the expenses to conduct this study?

Jane Wicker

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 16, 2012 1:18 PM  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Cc:** uilanipat@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2883 on 3/20/2012 1:30:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 3/20/2012 1:30:00 PM **HB2883**

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: **Support**  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Patricia L. Patterson  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [uilanipat@yahoo.com](mailto:uilanipat@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2012

Comments:

Aloha, Chair and members of Committee on Water, Land and Housing: I am in favor of requiring the DLNR to conduct a flood study of Makaha Valley and request that you hold the Board of Water Supply in the same position as other land owners. Please have this study conducted soon, not the July 1, 2030, date shown in the Notice of Hearing for March 20, 2012. Mahalo!

## Testimony in Support of HB 2883

Dear Chairperson and Committee Members,

I strongly support passage of HB 2883 primarily because I and my neighbors believe Makaha is susceptible to dangerous and uncontrolled flooding. Passage of this bill will provide an accurate understanding of the drainage and flooding problems that exist in Makaha Valley and will provide an essential assessment of the dangers affecting current and future residents and businesses within the valley.

- A drainage system was built in the upper elevations of Makaha Valley in the 1970s and early 1980s. The system was approved by the C&C of Honolulu, although “as built” drawings do not match the developer’s original “approved” engineer plans.
- The Makaha drainage system was intentionally built to divert water flowing off the surrounding mountains to Makaha stream on the western side and Eku stream on the eastern side of the valley.
- The BWS/C&C purchased the 4,009 acres surrounding Makaha valley in 1987, including the Makaha Valley drainage system that protects the valley.
- The Makaha drainage system failed during heavy rains in 1996/97 and flooded many properties below it, including severe damage to the Makaha Valley Towers. The portion of the system that protects the Towers was eventually repaired by the C&C.
- The same drainage system on the eastern side of the Valley also failed in several areas during the 1996/97 flooding, primarily damaging only undeveloped properties directly below it. Breaches of this system and any inspections that might have been made were not reported but aerial photos clearly show significant damage occurred.
- On Dec 11, 2008, a short but heavy rain storm in Makaha Valley caused severe flooding in Makaha Heights including Mauna Olu Estates, Makaha Valley Plantations, Kili Drive, Makaha Valley Road, Makaha Valley Country Club and Makaha Resort Golf Courses as well as Makaha Marketplace and homes, business and properties throughout Makaha Valley. Virtually all of these flood waters originated from the Makaha valley drainage system located on BWS/C&C property.
- The BWS performed routine maintenance on portions of the drainage system on the eastern side of the Valley up until and after the 2008 flooding, but in June 2009 the BWS claimed it has no responsibility for fixing or maintaining the drainage system.
- Over the years, the condition of the Makaha drainage system has deteriorated. The system will not repair itself and flooding risks are geometrically increased as flood waters reach the lower elevations of the Valley and place the high density homes and businesses in danger. Until these repairs are made, unsafe conditions will place Makaha residents and businesses at great risk for loss of life and property.

Thank you,

AL Frenzel, (808) 343-4916

Corner of Farrington Highway and Makaha Valley Road



Dec 2008

Makaha Resort Golf Course



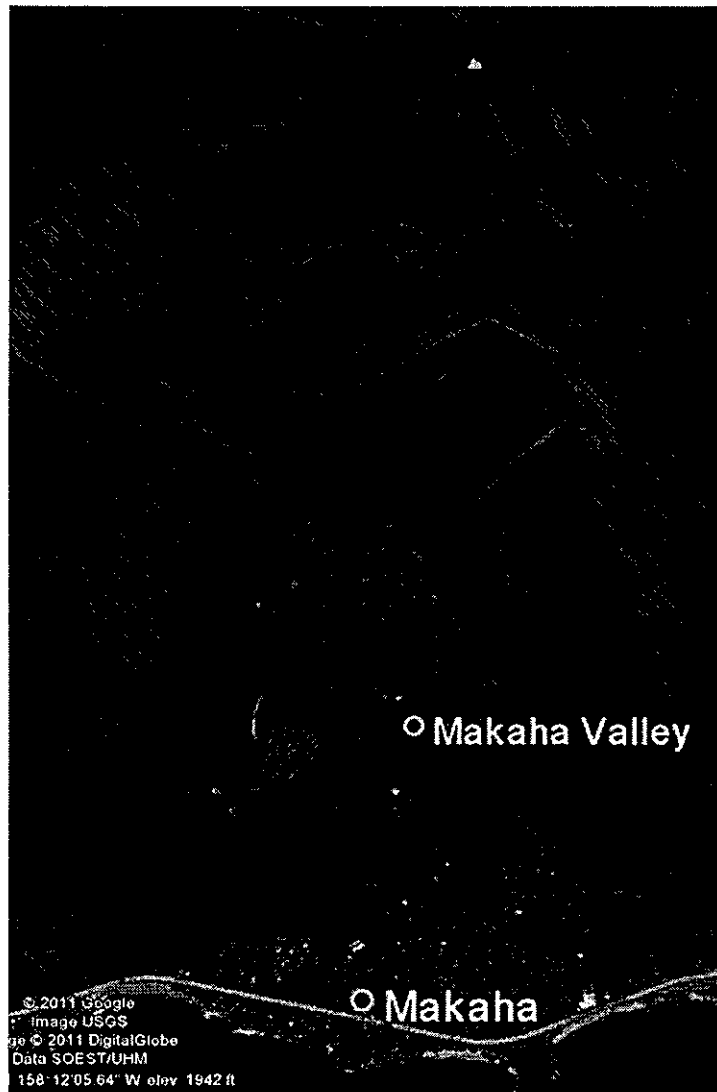
# Makaha Marketplace

corner of Farrington and Makaha Valley Rd

Dec 11, 2008

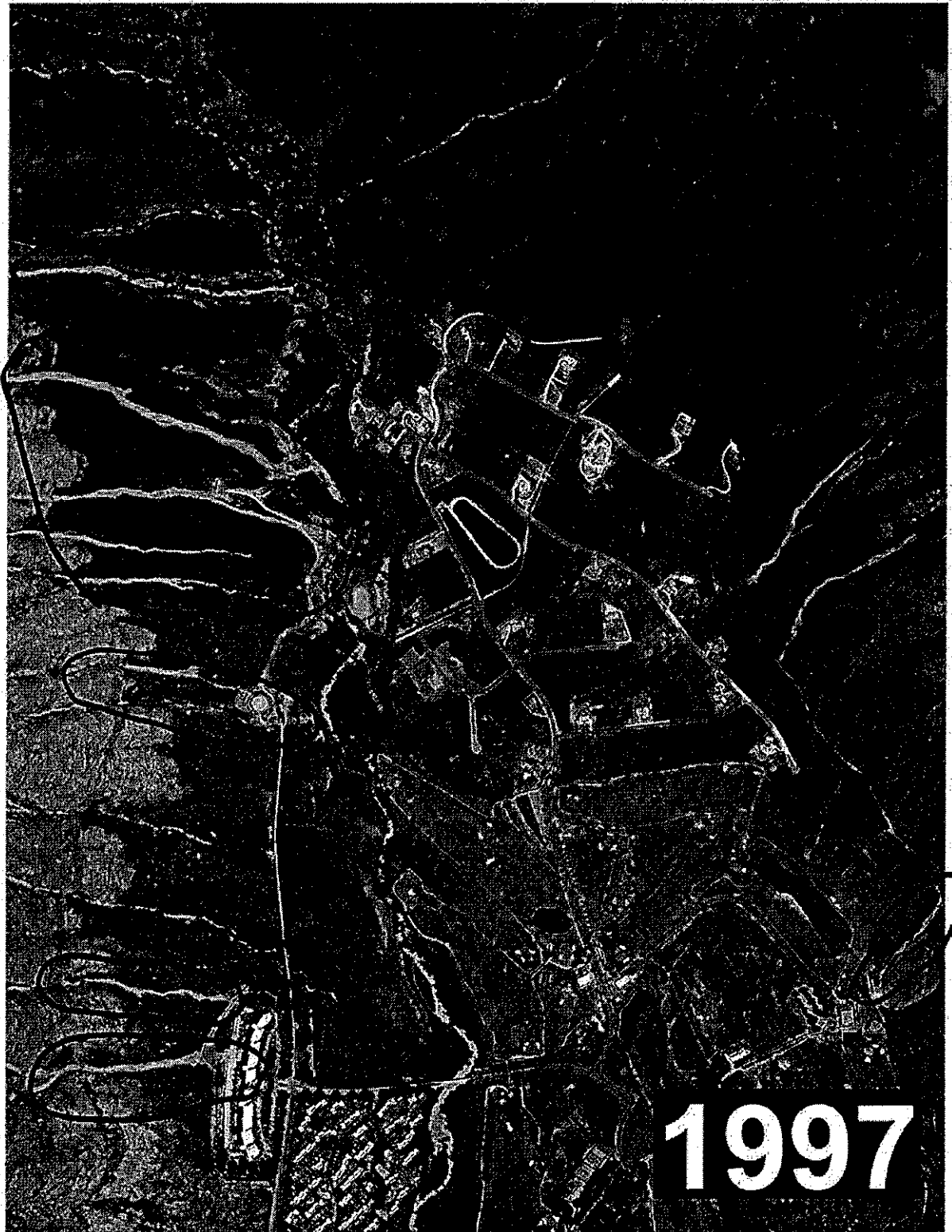


**BWS Drainage System – Filled with Debris**

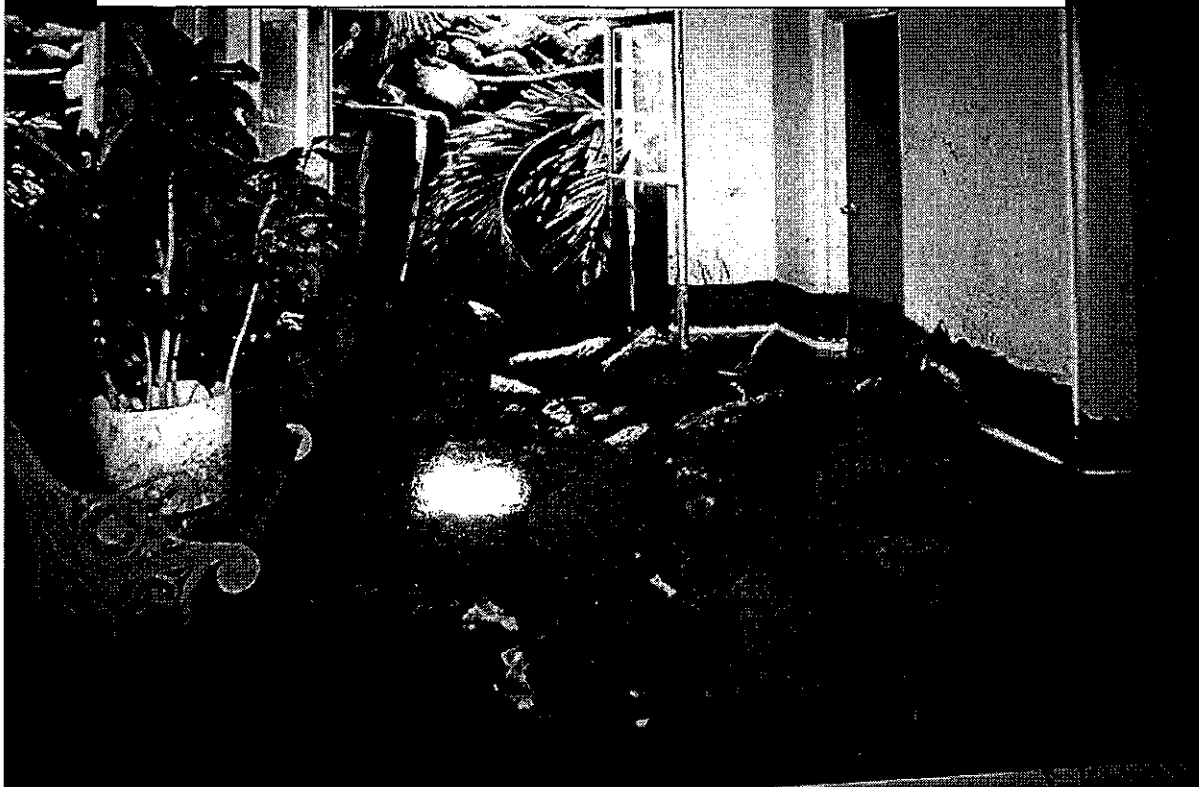




**Aerial Photo February 1997**



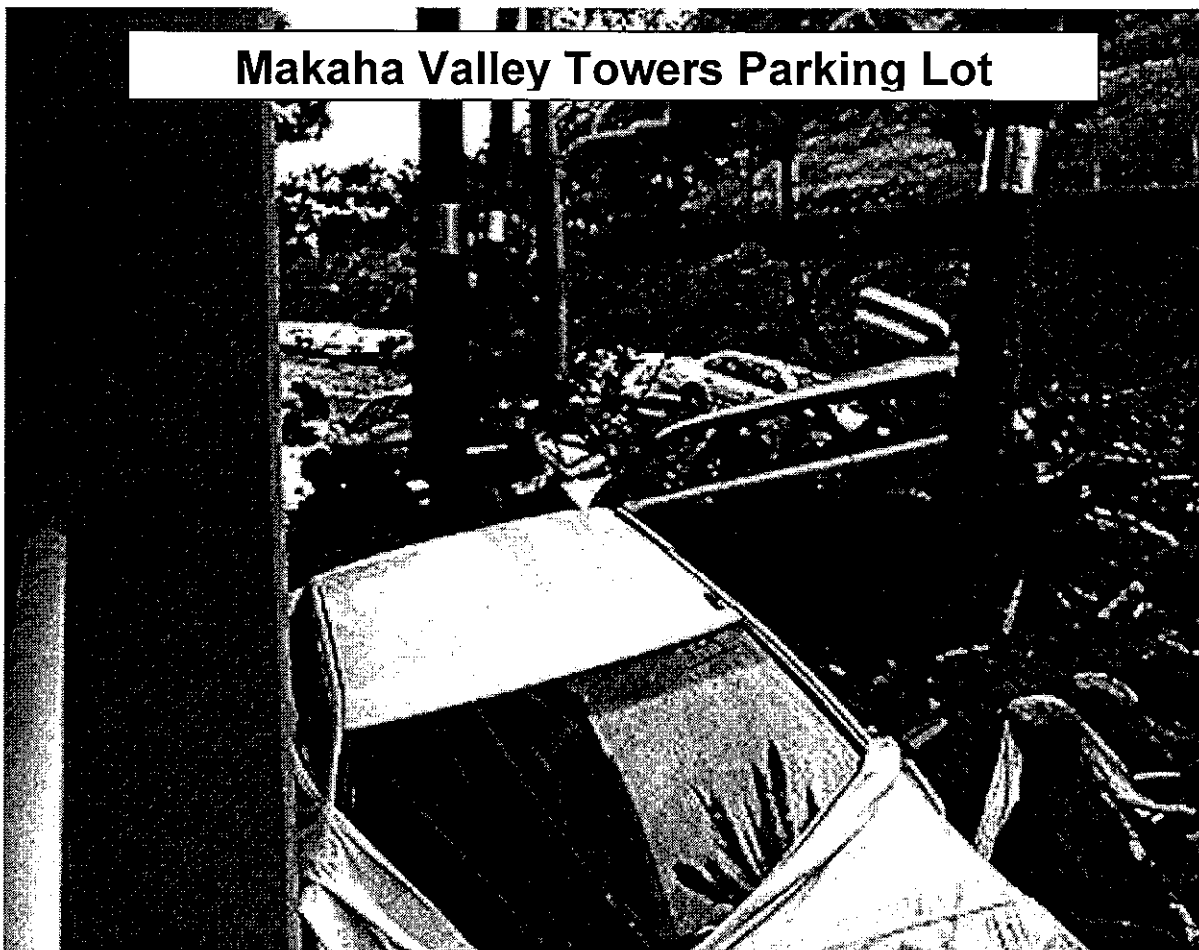
**Makaha Valley Towers Lobby**



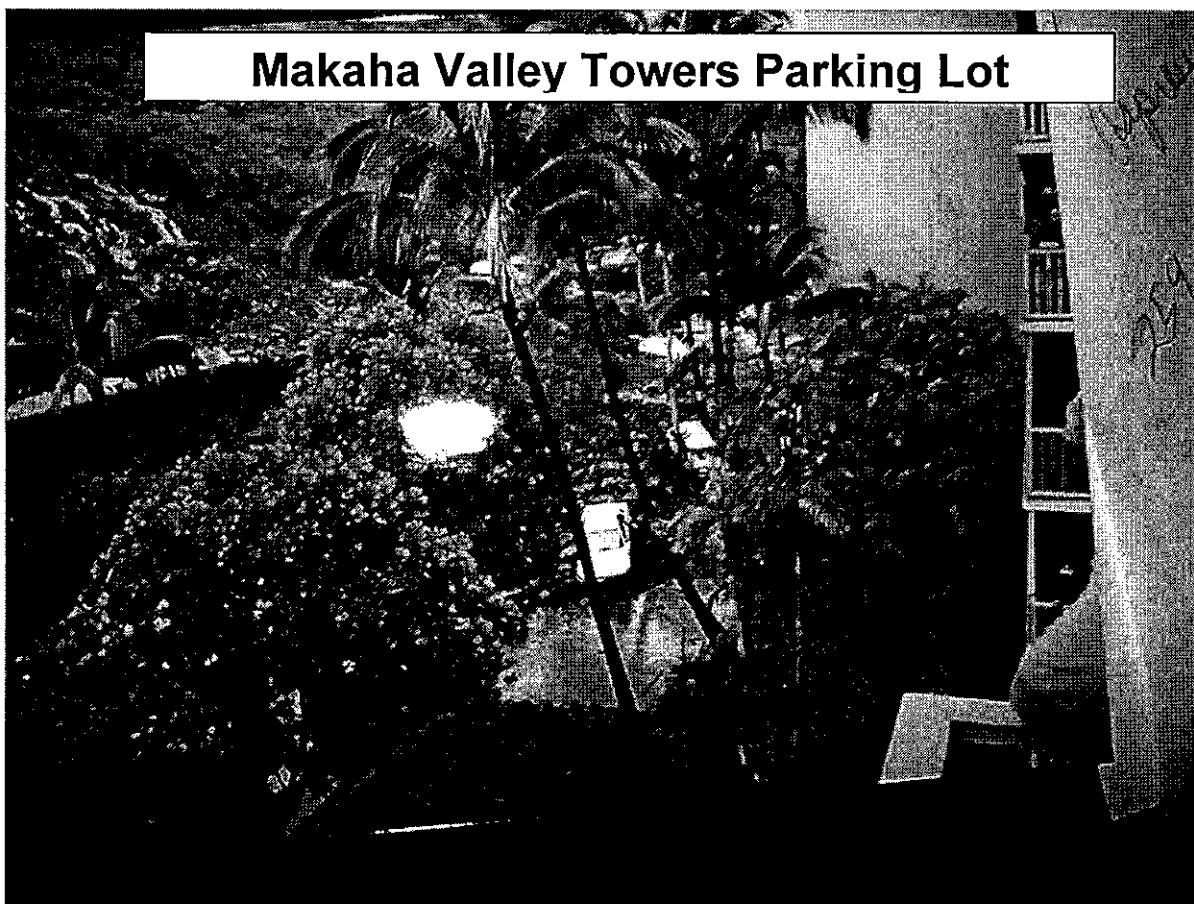
**Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot**



**Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot**



**Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot**



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND AND HOUSING

Tuesday, March 20, 2012  
1:30 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2883, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO MAKAHA VALLEY

House Bill 2883, House Draft 2 proposes to appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds and directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a flood study for Makaha Valley, Oahu. This study would: 1) Identify specific recommendations for the control of storm drainage throughout the study area to reduce recurring flooding to residences and businesses; 2) Perform cost-benefit analysis of the recommendation; 3) Provide an evaluation of the recommendations; 4) Include a timetable for implementation; and 5) Address other issues deemed necessary or relevant by the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The Department supports the intent of this measure; however, has significant concerns regarding the cost implications to conduct such a study on the Administration's Executive Supplemental Budget request and future implementation of the recommendations.

In order for proper analyses, recommendations, and cost estimates to be made, detailed hydrologic and hydraulic modeling of the watershed would need to be performed, along with the collection of required topographic data and investigation and interviews relating to flood incidents and histories within the community. The Department estimates a study of this scope would cost approximately \$500,000. Without appropriate funding, the Department will be unable to implement and complete the study requested. Once contracted, such a study would take 12 to 18 months to complete, well beyond the requested reporting period.

Furthermore, a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations will be contingent upon available funding and actions of the appropriate government agencies or private parties that will have jurisdiction to implement these flood control measures. Preliminary investigation indicates that a significant amount of the landownership in the valley may be private and the Department raises concerns that may result from the proposed use of public funds for private purposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI  
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS