

SR 25



SCR 64 / SR 25
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION
Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Senate Committee on Water, Land, & Housing

March 15, 2012

2:45 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on SCR 64 / SR 25, which would urge the Public Land Development Corporation (PLDC) to work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to develop geothermal projects on public trust land on Maui and Hawai'i.

The OHA administration will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees **OPPOSE** SCR 64 / SR 25.

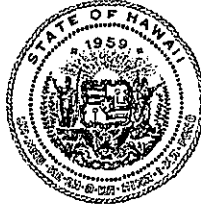
Although OHA recognizes the importance of alternative energy exploration, development of geothermal energy must be done responsibly, with proper regulation and coordination, public hearing, and full assessment of environmental impacts. Over the past 40 years, this Legislature has carefully constructed a process to respond to the unique and complex cultural and environmental issues presented by geothermal energy exploration and development. However, geothermal projects pursued through the PLDC may circumvent this process, leaving many cultural and environmental resources vulnerable to dangerous hazards without adequate oversight.

Act 55 (Session Laws of Hawai'i 2011) appears to have provided the PLDC with potentially the most vast land use and zoning exemptions enjoyed by any agency for its development projects, requiring only that it coordinate "with the county planning departments and the county land use plans, policies, and ordinances." These exemptions could allow the PLDC to bypass planning and management processes—including opportunities for community input—created to protect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, fragile ecosystems, natural resources, and private property. Additionally, these exemptions increase the likelihood of unprecedented and uncoordinated geothermal expansion on Hawai'i's public lands, which could include special management areas, important agricultural lands, and conservation land.

The State should maintain its role in supporting responsible renewable energy development project planning. Geothermal development, because of its unique risks and potentially invasive methodology, should not be encouraged to endanger our

cultural and environmental resources by circumventing state laws meant to protect these resources. Therefore, OHA urges the committees to HOLD SCR 64 / SR 25. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LLOYD M. HARAGUCHI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

POST OFFICE BOX 2359
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Testimony of
LLOYD M. HARAGUCHI
Executive Director**

**Before the Senate Committees on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER, LAND AND HOUSING**

**Thursday, March 15, 2012
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 64/SENATE RESOLUTION 25
URGING THE PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO WORK WITH
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP AND
IMPLEMENT GEOTHERMAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON PUBLIC TRUST
LAND ON THE ISLANDS OF MAUI AND HAWAII.**

The Public Land Development Corporation (PLDC) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 and Senate Resolution 25, urging PLDC to work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to develop and implement geothermal development projects on public trust land on the Islands of Maui and Hawaii. PLDC is amenable to working with DLNR to develop and implement geothermal projects. PLDC will further work with DLNR to identify public trust lands on the Islands of Hawaii and Maui for potential geothermal resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HOUSING
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

SCR 64/SR 25 – Urging the Public Land Development Corporation to Work With the Department of Land and Natural Resources to Develop and Implement Geothermal Development Projects on Public Trust Land on the Islands of Maui and Hawaii
Thursday, March 15, 2012
2:45 pm
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Dela Cruz 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, formerly the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP supports SCR 64/SR 25 – Urging the Public Land Development Corporation to work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and implement geothermal development projects on public trust land on the islands of Maui and Hawaii.

Hawaii is the most fossil fuel dependent state in the nation and thus, we believe it would be necessary to explore the full potential of Hawaii's geothermal resources.

Geothermal energy is efficient and stable and has long term viability to help meet Hawaii's 2030 energy goals, reduce its contribution to global warming, and create a sustainable energy market.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you and we respectfully ask for your support on SCR 64/SR 25.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 64 SENATE RESOLUTION 25

**URGING THE PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO
WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES TO
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT GEOTHERMAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
ON PUBLIC TRUST LAND ON THE ISLANDS OF MAUI AND HAWAII**

**JOINT SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER, LAND & HOUSING**

Thursday, March 15, 2012; 2:45 pm; Room 225

Aloha Chairman Gabbard of the Committee on Energy and Environment, Chairman Dela Cruz of the Committee on Water, Land and Housing and members of the joint committee.

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs supports these resolutions that would explore the natural energy potential of geothermal power on public trust lands on the Islands of Maui and Hawaii. At our recent convention in the Fall of 2011 our delegates discussed, then adopted, a resolution introduced by one of our clubs that:

Urges the State of Hawaii to adopt an energy policy that moves the State towards energy independence by the development of public energy assets on ceded lands including the submerged lands and to fulfill its fiduciary obligation as a trustee of the public trust, including undertaking an inventory of the energy assets of the ceded land trusts.

We are aware that the State has a fiduciary duty to the beneficiaries of the Public Trust that includes the general public and native Hawaiians as stated in the Admissions Act of 1959. It is also the State's responsibility, where public trust lands are concerned, to take action to inventory, protect, maintain and develop renewable energy assets as a means to alleviate the fossil fuel burden on the State's citizens. Consider the possibility that this

kind of exploration, followed by development and implementation, can lead to furthering the State's income. We believe that as well as geothermal energy, and in view of Hawaii's energy insecurity, that all potential sources of renewable energy should be identified and inventoried, to include ocean thermal energy conversion, tidal power and wave power.

In addition to energy assets, there is the potential of income to the State from the natural resources on public trust lands that include submerged lands and water columns. The Natural Energy Lab at Keahole Point has been in operation for thirty years utilizing these public land trust assets. Perhaps the time has come to explore new paradigms for what is now being, and can potentially be, produced there on public lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We urge passage of this measure.

Contact: jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net



Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2012
Time: 2:45 pm
Place: Conference Room 225
Committees: Senate – ENE/WLH

Re: SR25

Aloha Representatives,

The Innovations Development Group (IDG) is a Hawaii based renewable energy Development Corporation owned by Native Hawaiians. It was created to facilitate the development of renewable energy resources of native people, and in summer 2011 presented its development model to legislators of the Energy & Land Committees.

The IDG strongly supports this measure.

IDG strongly supports this measure because it builds upon the accomplishments of last year by urging the Public Land Development Corporation to work with DLNR to facilitate geothermal development on Maui & Hawaii Islands in coming years. The PLDC as created to optimize the value and revenues from our State public trust lands by ensuring that their development can be facilitated, thereby facilitating more revenues to the State general Fund and the Agencies of the State that oversee these public trust assets. As energy needs in Hawaii have expanded, so have energy projects on private lands. These lucrative projects bring significant revenue to private sector but little to State coffers. This Resolution will set priority for the newly created PLDC, to work with the DLNR to expedite renewable geothermal energy development on our own State lands to benefit our State in these times of energy & fiscal crisis.

Kind Regards,

Patricia K. Brandt
CEO, IDG



Indigenous Consultants, LLC

Mililani B. Trask, Principal

P.O.Box 6377 ❖ Hilo, HI 96720

Mililani.trask@gmail.com



Date: Thursday, March 15, 2012
Time: 2:45 pm
Place: Conference Room 225
Committees: Senate – ENE / WLH

Re: SR25

Aloha Representatives,

Indigenous Consultants (IC) is a Hawaii based, indigenous LLC owned and operated by Native Hawaiians. It was created to assist indigenous peoples in developing their renewable energy resources in ways that are: Culturally appropriate, environmentally green and sustainable, socially responsible and economically equitable and affordable. For several years the IC has worked with Innovations Development Group in New Zealand and indigenous Maori developing geothermal resources, which are trust assets of Maori Land Trusts. In addition, the IC has acted as a consultant to other indigenous people in Hawaii and Asia who are addressing development of their trust renewable energy resources in ways that; directly benefit their people, bring in revenues, create small business opportunities and ensure fair & affordable rates to consumers, including themselves and their communities.

Last session the State legislature wisely created ACT 55 and the Public Land Development Corporation (PLDC). This new hybrid State agency will be fast tracking development on public trust lands, which have not been developed because of a lack of State funding. Act 55 facilitated 'public-private' partnerships'. Although Act 55 initially contemplated recreational & harbor related uses, we now all realize that it can be a vehicle to facilitate partnerships for energy development on public trust lands. In the case of geothermal this is very significant because geothermal is an assets of the Trust and belongs to the public & native Hawaiians. The State is Hawaii is the Trustee of the public Trust (including geothermal energy resources) and should be able to receive revenues and benefit directly from these valuable resources.

The Indigenous Consultants strongly supports this measure & urges its passage.

Please support this Resolution,

Mililani B. Trask – Indigenous Consultants LLC

Testimony for ENE/WLH 3/15/2012 2:45:00 PM SR25

Conference room: 225

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Wallace A. Ishibashi Jr.

Organization: Individual

E-mail: wishibashi@ilwulocal142.org

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

Aloha, I am Wallace A. Ishibashi, Jr.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my manao and support of SCR 64 / SR 25 I am a native Hawaiian born and raised here in Keaukaha, Hawai'i. I learned about my culture and customs in the traditional way, from my grandparents and other members of our family. Our family roots are in Waipio Valley in Honokaa. Beyond that my mother's side of the family is from Milolii, a small fishing village in South Kona, where they still practice traditional fishing as a way of life.

I am writing today in support of SCR 64 / SR 25 as the co chair of the Hawaii Island Geothermal working group we have done number of geothermal work shops around the state and have found the majority of our communities value the geothermal resources that we have and has questioned why no further expansion of this resource is not being done? I have always been a supporter of geothermal, back in the 80's when we hawaiians stood face to face in the middle of the streets in opposition to each others point of view. Friends against friends families against families it was a very difficult time in our history as culturally the point of view differs. One side says it is a violation and sacrilege of Tutu Pele. Other side believed it was a gift of Aloha from Tutu Pele. I Still believe that to be true today. Yes we understood what we were up against when we proposed to create this geothermal working group. Resurrecting the old bad feelings over the issues of Geothermal expansion is a reality we must face. But with open discussion and dialog allowing openness and understanding for the culture we were able to overcome allot of the animosity. This was an area of concern in the pass and the failure for open communication hurt the process. We must learn from our pass. Today the high cost of living in paradise doesn't have to be so high. We can not drill for oil or dig for gold here, but we do have geothermal which must reduce the cost of living in Hawaii. Geothermal when done Safely and correctly will propel hawaii in to the future on a sure foundation to push Hawaii forward to be independent from the worlds fossil fuels grip . Peak oil is here and it shows its ugly face everyday when we shop, eat, and fill our cars, and it will not get any better unless we act now, even now is to late we already don't have the luxury of time.

I am a Business Agent for ILWU Local 142 and we face the cost of doing business here in Hawaii on a daily bases, in negotiation the working family of Hawaii are continuously being faced with higher medical cost, reductions in wages, reductions in benefits, reduction of hours, take aways after take aways. Then shopping prices are higher again the working families take it again with higher out of pocket expenses paying more for less is the norm. Gas ! well 7.00 per is right around the corner for sure.

Unless the people see a direct saving on there bottom line it is of no use, as life spirals out of control what can the rubba slipper folks do? The working families have to see a major improvement in there pocket books and geothermal and other alternative energy resources would help provide some of that relief . Again when done properly with an eye on Safety and the people instead of big business, geothermal expansion would be an answer that is needed.

On the Big Island alone we spend over 1 Billion dollars a year to import oil to generate electricity, Imagine keeping the monies here to help our Communities, Counties, and State. Here on the Big Island, Hawaii County's goal is to be 100% off fossil fuel for our electric power generation. And if technology and financial resource allow a inter-island cable to transmit our excess all the better for our sister and brothers on the outer islands. Yes we will take care of our energy needs here first, But if the cable was a reality, savings of 8 Billion and a curtailment of importation of oil state wide could be achieved. We as leader need to take care of out kupuna's keiki's and working families of Hawaii. Imua Hawaii ! be proud of who we are and what we have .

Mahalo for your time and favorable vote of support of SCR 64 / SR 25
Wallace A Ishibashi Jr.
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808-960-3501