



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

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR

**RICHARD C. LIM**  
DIRECTOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [www.hawaii.gov/dbedt](http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**Richard C. Lim**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection**  
Tuesday, February 5, 2013  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

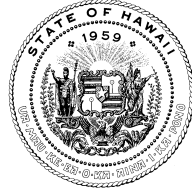
**HB 1149 RELATING TO WIND ENERGY FACILITIES.**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen, and Members of the Committee,

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on SB 1149, which requires the owner of a wind energy facility to be responsible for decommissioning of the facility and to provide evidence of financial security. This bill further mandates that the State's energy coordinator "take necessary measures to complete the decommissioning" if the owner fails to do so.

DBEDT supports the intent of this bill to address concerns regarding future wind facility abandonment. But, we point out that other alternatives to this bill exist, such as establishing rules requiring a decommissioning clause as a provision for obtaining State permits. We defer to the Public Utilities Commission on regulatory options under its jurisdiction in this regard. Furthermore, DBEDT is not an asset management agency and lacks the necessary human and financial resources to carry out the tasks in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310

P.O. Box 541

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Phone Number: 586-2850

Fax Number: 586-2856

[www.hawaii.gov/dcca](http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca)

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013  
8:30 A.M.**

**TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF  
CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1149 - RELATING TO WIND ENERGY FACILITIES**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This measure proposes to require the owner of a wind energy facility to be responsible for decommissioning of the facility and to provide evidence of financial security and outlines the elements of proper decommissioning.

**POSITION:**

The Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate) supports H.B. No. 1149.

House Bill No. 1149  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 8:30 a.m.  
Page 2

COMMENTS:

The Consumer Advocate has expressed the concerns that this bill addresses in a number of Public Utility Commission dockets for the application of approval of power purchase agreements (PPA) between the electric utility and wind energy developers. It has been, and will continue to be, the position of the Consumer Advocate that PPAs for wind energy must contain safeguards against wind turbines being abandoned in the field after they have run their useful life. H.B. No. 1149 is consistent with this position; therefore, the Consumer Advocate supports H.B. No. 1149.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



TESTIMONY BY  
KELLY O'BRIEN, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT  
FIRST WIND

REGARDING H.B. 1149, RELATING TO WIND FACILITIES

BEFORE THE  
HAWAI'I STATE LEGISLATURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325  
8:30 AM

Aloha Chairman Lee and Distinguished Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection. My name is Kelly O'Brien and I am the Vice-President for Development for First Wind.

First Wind has been developing and operating utility scale wind energy projects in Hawai'i since 2006 and to date has invested nearly \$600 million in Hawai'i. We own and operate Kaheawa Wind Power I & II on Maui (51 MW) and Kahuku Wind Power (30 MW) and Kawaihoa Wind Power (69 MW) on O'ahu. We are also involved with several utility-scale solar projects in Hawai'i. First Wind currently employs 25 people in Hawai'i with plans to add 5 more in the near term. We are firmly committed to helping to improve Hawai'i's energy security by decreasing its reliance on fossil fuels for its energy needs. We have a demonstrated record in establishing long-term dialogues and partnerships with the communities we join and we are proud of our accomplishments in establishing successful Habitat Conservation Plans for our projects which ensure a "net benefit" to native wildlife that could be affected by our projects.

First Wind supports the intent of HB1149 and wants to emphasize that in all of its projects, decommissioning is a standard part of First Wind's business practices. In every project we develop and operate, First Wind establishes the security necessary to decommission the project in the future. We take seriously the environmental concerns of the communities we join, particularly as we seek to become long-term partners with businesses and community organizations in those communities. We also work to set the standard in the energy industry for long-term stewardship of the lands our projects occupy.



**Directors**

Jody Allione  
AES-Solar

Joe Boivin  
The Gas Company

Kelly King  
Pacific Biodiesel

Warren S. Bollmeier II  
WSB-Hawaii

TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE  
HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

HB 1149, RELATING TO WIND ENERGY FACILITIES

February 5, 2013

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

The purposes of HB 1149 are to: (i) require the owner of a wind energy facility to be responsible for decommissioning of the facility and to provide evidence of financial security, and (ii) outline the elements of proper decommissioning.

HREA **opposes this measure** as it is not needed. Specifically, all of the windfarms in Hawaii, that we are aware of, have Power Purchase Agreements (“PPAs”) or leases that have decommissioning requirements. Therefore, we see no need for this measure, and we recommend that you hold this measure.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Tuesday, February 5, 2013; 8:30 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 1149  
RELATING TO WIND ENERGY FACILITIES**

The ILWU Local 142 offers comments and concerns about H.B. 1149, which requires the owner of a wind energy facility to be responsible for decommissioning of the facility and to provide evidence of financial security.

Wind energy is widely viewed as efficient, clean energy and is a viable alternative to the use of fossil fuel to generate electricity. In Hawaii, however, wind is sometimes controversial because of where wind development is being proposed.

On its surface, H.B. 1149 seems to be a proper proposal to ensure that wind energy facilities do not become a blight on the environment after they have served their usefulness. However, we are concerned that the bill also seems to impose a relatively low threshold for the definition of abandonment. A wind facility would be considered abandoned for failure to generate electricity for 24 consecutive months for reasons other than “curtailment, repowering, a valid judicial order, or other governmental regulatory action, with no pending negotiations for purchase or a power purchase agreement.”

We urge caution in considering H.B. 1149, which may unduly restrict development of an alternate energy resource that is both environmentally friendly, in the main, and cost-effective. Thank you for allowing us to testify on this matter.

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2013 8:02 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** amorita@clear.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM\*

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Albert Morita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 3:47 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** beverlyzigmond@juno.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
beverly zigmond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Although I totally oppose a wind generating power plant on the island of Lana`i, I support this bill. A wind power facility on a neighbor island like Lana`i would irreparably damage our beautiful, unspoiled north end landscape. This bill would at least require the developer to make the effort to return the land to its previous condition. While the land would never be the same, it is worth the effort to force the despoiler to make efforts to mitigate that loss.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:30 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** preza@sandwichisles.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diane Preza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: A wind power facility on Lānaʻi would irreparably damage our beautiful, unspoiled north end landscape. This bill would at least require the developer to make the effort to return the land to its previous condition.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:12 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** lanaiohana@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM\*

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Donna Stokes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

HB 1149 Testimony - Lance Anderson Lānaʻi City, HI - USA

“A man is rich in proportion to the number of things which he can afford to let alone.” – Henry David Thoreau from Walden. These words written over 150 years ago were never more true than they are today nor more than relevant than they are to the State’s energy policies going forward. Please listen, understand, and feel the uncomplicated truth in these simple words of wisdom. The best way to undo the catastrophic mistake of building an industrial win farm on Molokai or Lānaʻi is not to build it in the first place! This bill represents the bare minimum of forethought on the issue, but should be supported nonetheless. Please vote yes on HB1149.

Thank you for considering my comments. – Lance Anderson

**PEGGY LUCAS BOND**  
**4486 POHAKULOA RD**  
**MAUNALOA, HI 96770**

February 4, 2013

**Testimony for HB1149 Wind Energy Facilities Decommissioning**

I am a resident of West Molokai and am pleased to have this opportunity to submit testimony to HB1149 Wind Energy Facilities; Decommissioning. I strongly support this legislation.

Given the limited open space in the State of Hawaii compared to that of States such as Montana, California, Colorado, Texas, etc., it is important that we protect our precious islands. Decommissioning has been and will continue to be an issue wherever industrial wind turbines are built. Removal and disposal of the wastes on the Mainland is a much more straight-forward issue than it will be in Hawaii.

Thus, I recommend that the penalties mentioned in section 2(c) be applied as a “per day per wind turbine” rather than just “per day” per project.

Additionally, I recommend that the decommissioning plan be subject to an Environmental Impact Statement. I suggest this because the potential wind developer on Molokai has publically said that when decommissioning wind turbines on Molokai, they would consider dumping the “recovered” concrete into the ocean. This would be unacceptable.

I applaud Representative Lee, Evan, Hanohano, Ing, Morikawa, and Nishimoto for bringing this legislation forward. It is much needed because large scale projects like industrial wind farms and the proposed undersea cable have been rushed through approval processes in haste to meet Hawaii Renewable Energy Standards without careful consideration on the impacts – economically, environmentally, public health-wise and technologically.

The Legislature has the responsibility to protect the general population. This bill is a good first step toward showing that the Legislature represents the people of Hawaii not big corporations.

Mahalo,

Peggy Bond

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 6:32 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** rkaye@mdi.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robin Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments: A wind power facility on a neighbor island like Lānaʻi would irreparably damage our beautiful, unspoiled north end landscape. This bill would at least require the developer to make the effort to return the land to its previous condition. While it would never be the same, it is worth the effort to force the despoiler to try.....

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 10:21 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** k.mehana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM\*

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roselani Kaho'ohalahala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Vice Chair

**IN STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1149 Relating To Decommissioning of Industrial Wind Facilities

Hearing: February 5, 2013, 8:30 a.m.

---

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB 1149.

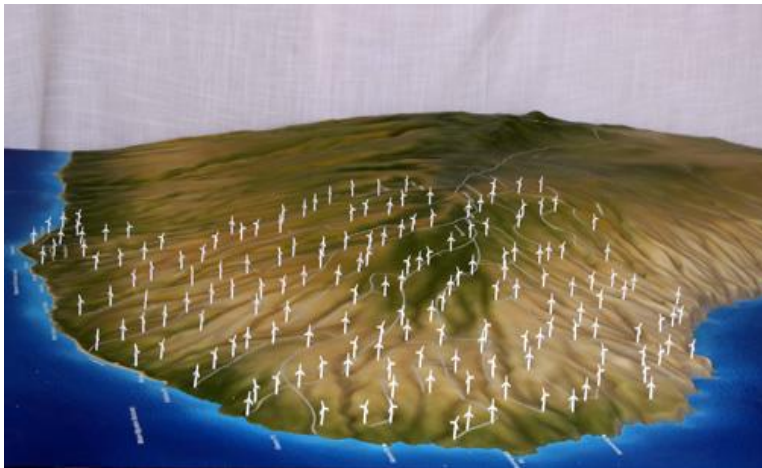
Any developer of industrial-scale wind power plants should be required to remove all material and restore the land to its former or better condition when a facility is abandoned or has reached the end of its useful life.



For six years 37 derelict turbines were left on site on the Big Island.

There is absolutely no rational reason to oppose HB 1149. Any potential developer who opposes decommissioning (or any testimony submitted that opposes decommissioning) may say that the provisions would add to the cost of energy production, but the real concern will be an unwillingness to reduce profit margins.

Would you want to see this in any backyard in Hawaii when it's no longer producing power?



To-scale model of proposed turbine placement

on Lana'i

Submitted by: Sally Kaye, Lana'i City, HI 96763

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:29 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** usana96763@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sherri mora	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If wind energy facilities are put in place they will irreparably damage the landscape and their removal at the end date needs to be mandatory and within 12 months.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2013 8:47 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** susan.osako@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Osako	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Land is the most scarce resource we have in Hawaii. Our islands are crowded with less and less green space. If we are to continue to allow the construction of huge old technology turbines on hundreds of thousands of acres of our diminishing land, then it is critical that we require that not only do we do everything to diminish environmental damage but that the land be restored once the project begins to produce diminishing returns or no returns. Remember, island eco systems do not recover as large continental land areas do. Once gone, the eco system is gone forever. Nauru and Guam are perfect examples.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

4670 Pohakuloa Road  
Maunaloa, HI 96770

February 4, 2013  
HB 1149

Honorable Representative Chris Lee,  
Chair, House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection and  
Committee Members,

This testimony is provided by Patricia I Crandall, resident of Papohaku Ranchlands located on West Molokai. I am a member of the West Molokai Association (WMA) composed of owners of more than 800 properties situated on West Molokai.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1149 and to provide testimony on why the proposed Big Wind project is not the right renewable energy project for Molokai.

Molokai lacks the infrastructure for the construction of a 200 MW wind farm. Specifically, its harbor and roads are inadequate for a project of this scale and its resources, most notably water, would be more than strained for dust abatement and construction of 70-90 concrete pads. In addition, the proposed location for the wind farm is adjacent to the residential development of Maunaloa town and the 800+ properties within the area known as Kaluakoi. The land is naturally dry and sloped and fragile. Dust from construction and noise from turbines would devalue our properties and present potential health hazards. In addition, the proposed site is habitat for several endangered species. Incidental bird kills from wind turbines would be devastating. Finally, the rural view plains we have are important for our tourist trade and remain one reason why most of us live on Molokai.

Big Wind is not the right project in the right place. If it were offered up next to your home, you might well agree. For communities where wind farms have already been constructed or will be constructed, decommissioning them is absolutely essential. They are a source of significant waste after just two decades or less of use. Therefore, I support HB 1149.

Hawaii is to be commended for its goal of increasing renewable energy sources. There are many such projects that would work on Molokai. Unfortunately, it seems that wind turbines were advocated early on as the only choice, but going green at any cost is inappropriate. The financial cost of the cable to Molokai coupled with the cost of constructing the wind farm is extraordinary. There are better suited and less expensive renewable alternatives for energy generation.

Respectfully,

Patricia I Crandall

**Michael Bond**  
P.O. Box 511  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748  
(808) 658-0836  
*bondma@cs.com*

February 4, 2013

Re: HB 1149, Relating to Wind Energy Facilities

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the decommissioning of industrial wind turbines as cited in the proposed HR1149.

As a resident of Molokai with an ohana of many people across all our islands, and as a former international energy company CEO and advisor to over seventy of the world's largest energy companies, I am very concerned about all aspects of turbine tower decommissioning. Major problems encountered in the process include most of the impacts sustained in industrial wind project construction and operation, as well as other negative impacts associated with any huge construction process:

- Major erosion and gulying due to bulldozers, large trucks, excavators, extensive jackhammering, tall cranes and other construction machinery, etc.
- Is the 2,000- ton concrete base to be removed, or just covered over? If it is not removed (or only the top is removed) the base can cause accelerated erosion on surrounding soils. If it is removed, where are the thousands of tons of concrete placed? Where do the thousands of tons of soil to fill the holes come from? What is the impact of removing that soil from that location?
- Erosion : Any wind project decommissioning on steep Hawaii soils will cause enormous erosion from wind and water, much of it going into the ocean and reef.
- Lubricants, oils and other toxic liquids: there will be thousands of gallons of these liquids. Where will they be dumped?
- Destruction of scarce vegetation and perhaps endangered species.

- Additional risk of destruction of Hawaiian sacred sites and other archaeological treasures.
- Additional risk to rare and endangered bird species (pueo, etc.) from nest disturbance to difficult-to-see crane cables, etc.
- Sociological and economic impacts at community and individual level due to such factors as traffic, community disturbance, noise, and dust, as well as the presence of large numbers of outside workers on a small island with insufficient housing resources and no infrastructure to deal with them.

In the case of Molokai and Lanai, no wind turbine towers should ever be constructed, for many reasons, including:

- Despite numerous “community benefit” offers, the vast majority of Molokai citizens are totally opposed to an industrial wind project. Opposition continues to harden: two years ago it was at 93%, last year at 97%, and hit 99% in recent months on the West End. To attempt to impose an industrial wind project on Molokai would be the antithesis of democracy.
- Industrial wind projects do not lower greenhouse gas emissions or fossil fuel use. In hundreds of studies worldwide this has been proven over and over, and is the main reason why most countries are backing out of wind power. It is because wind is so erratic that power companies must run fossil fuel plants constantly in concert with wind projects to keep a constant flow of electricity into the grid. Once wind projects reach a certain percentage on the grid, their generation of greenhouse gases may even exceed that of conventional generation, particularly of natural gas (or LNG).
- For example, the State of Maine last week reported to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that three of the top ten electricity **consumers** in the State were industrial wind projects. They consume more energy than one of the nation’s largest paper mills.
- As I wrote recently in *Pacific Business News*, a supposed 200 MW wind project will only deliver about 18 MW to Oahu, which is 4% of the island’s present electrical demand. For the \$16 billion the Cable and Big Wind will cost (\$35,000 per HECO customer), this is a disastrous investment. For 1/10 the cost, HECO could put full rooftop solar on every home and business on Oahu, and cut Hawaii’s electricity generation climate impacts by 50%.
- The industrial wind project proposed for Lanai is identical. It is opposed by the people, would destroy the Garden of the Gods and many other areas of

national significance, and provide only about 4% of Oahu's present demand.

- Molokai is rated by *National Geographic* as the world's sixth most beautiful island (and most beautiful in Hawaii). It is rated by *Yahoo Travel* and **MSNBC** as one of the world's ten most beautiful islands. Lanai is rated similarly.
- Is it really in Hawaii's best interests to destroy substantial areas (35 square miles) of these two magnificent islands for a \$16 billion boondoggle that doesn't lower greenhouse gases or fossil fuel use, but destroys environments, communities, families and natural beauty while enriching huge energy companies, many of them foreign?
- The High Voltage Undersea Cable presents a very serious obstacle to this project. It would pose enormous potential impacts on whales, porpoises and other marine mammals as well as many fish species. If it interrupted or impeded mating season, it would seriously impact whale populations, arouse enormous international protest, and substantially affect Hawaii's tourism.

"Industrial wind projects have as many environmental impacts as climate change," Britain's Environment Secretary said recently. The government announced it was cancelling all future land-based wind projects, not only because they don't lower CO2 or fossil fuel use, have extensive environmental impacts, but also because they cause "civil insurrection". Any attempt to impose an industrial wind project on either Molokai or Lanai would probably also lead to "civil insurrection".

Most nations worldwide that have implemented industrial wind projects are now canceling new ones.

Please consider in the development of guidelines for industrial wind project decommissioning the following concerns:

1. All concrete bases should be removed and properly disposed of without causing further impacts.
2. The fill for base holes should be returned from where it has been stored during the project's 10-20 year operation.
3. All subground cables and other electrical infrastructure should be removed and their sites returned to pre-project conditions.

4. All other infrastructure should be removed and their sites also returned to pre-project conditions.
5. All roads, pads, etc should be returned to original slopes and vegetation.
6. All contaminated areas should be cleaned and returned to original condition, and the contaminants should be recycled where possible and disposed of without further impacts.
7. All utility facilities elsewhere that are associated with the project and that are not needed should be dismantled under a similar procedure as above.
8. Industrial wind companies frequently try to lower the amount of any decommissioning fund by arguing that most of the materials can be recycled at near the value of the decommissioning costs. This is not true, and results in a decommissioning fund that is too low, and one that the wind power company can walk away from more easily.
9. It must be remembered that most industrial wind companies use LLC – Limited Liability Company – status to sidestep or entirely avoid later commitments such as decommissioning requirements. There are more than 14,000 abandoned turbine towers in the US today, with no way to enforce action upon the long-gone LLCs. Thus any decommissioning agreement must involve a large up-front fee (at least 50% of total decommissioning cost (with no discounts for recycling), and the remaining 50% should be spread out over the next nine years, so that decommissioning is fully funded (with no discounts) by year 10. Many industrial wind projects are either shut or producing at a lower rate by year 10, so it is unwise to stretch the decommissioning funding period any longer.

I thank you very kindly for the opportunity to submit these comments. Please do what is right and malama for our beautiful islands.

Michael Bond  
the Bond Ohana  
4486 Pohakuloa Road  
Maunaloa, HI 96770  
P.O. Box 511  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748  
bondm@cs.com

**thielen3 - Charles**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2013 6:14 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** richun8@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1149 on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM

**HB1149**

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for EEP on Feb 5, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mel	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Developes should estimate wisely for the next 20 plus years for the cost to decommission wind turbines and to restore land

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)