



# NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

*An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism*

Statement of  
**Gregory P. Barbour**  
**Executive Director**  
Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority  
before the  
**COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS**  
March 14, 2014  
9:00am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of  
**HR 33 and HCR 51**  
**REQUESTING THAT THE NATURAL ENERGY AUTHORITY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY GATEWAY  
CENTER BE RENAMED IN HONOR OF GUY HIDEO TOYAMA**

The Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA) is pleased to comment on H.R. 33 and H.C.R. 51 requesting that the Hawaii Gateway Energy Center be renamed in honor of Guy Toyama. As these resolutions are on the NELHA Board of Directors (BOD) agenda for Tuesday March 18, 2014, the NELHA BOD has not taken a formal position at this time.

It is important to note that, at its November 20, 2012 meeting the NELHA Board of Directors unanimously passed a motion recognizing Guy's contribution to NELHA over the past ten years. There was considerable discussion acknowledging the invaluable contributions Guy made to many of the clients at NELHA towards their successful growth and development; his unselfish contribution to the overall development of Hawaii Ocean Science and Technology Park via his leadership role as Executive Director of the Friends of NELHA; and generally his impact as a renewable

energy evangelist in assisting the State of Hawaii achieve its clean energy goals.

Clearly, Guy was a man that was well respected, trusted and admired by the NELHA community.

It is important that his dreams for the future of NELHA, that he worked so hard to build, will live on and become reality. Clearly, his efforts are deserving of some form of remembrance or memorial for his work. We believe the issue is really finding the “right way to do it”.

It is my understanding that considerable time and effort went into the naming of the Hawaii Gateway Energy Center when it was completed approximately 10 years ago. And there have been other proposals to rename the Hawaii Gateway Energy Center over the years. For example, the most recent effort was to rename to the Hawaii Gateway Energy Center after the late U.S. Senator Spark Matsunaga. He was instrumental in NELHA receiving approximately \$30 million in federal funding during the early stages of its development. Accordingly, it is important that the community have adequate time to evaluate the renaming of the Hawaii Gateway Energy Center.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2014 6:33 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** rod@auroraresearch.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/12/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rod Hinman	Guy Toyama Memorial Fund	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Representatives, I am submitting testimony as a member of the Guy Toyama Memorial Fund Steering Committee. The Fund is dedicated to the memory of Guy Toyama by creating scholarships, by offering grants in the areas of education and sustainability, and by other actions. The Gateway Center at NELHA was built before Guy became Executive Director of Friends of NELHA and began using it as his office. However, he breathed life into the structure through his tireless energy and support of NELHA and its mission. As described in the resolution, he helped forge relationships for NELHA and the County of Hawaii, he promoted the products of NELHA's tenant companies, and he educated visiting school groups about sustainability. It seems fitting that this portion of the NELHA facility bear his name. For these reasons, I support HCR51, and urge you to do the same. With Aloha, Rod Hinman Chairman Guy Toyama Memorial Fund Steering Committee

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COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair

Rep. Gene Ward, Vice Chair

Rep. Karen Awana

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Romy M. Cachola

Rep. Ken Ito

Rep. Isaac W. Choy

Rep. Takashi Ohno

Rep. Richard H.K. Onishi

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Jessica Wooley

DATE: Friday, March 14, 2014

TIME: 9:00 am

PLACE: Conference Room 312

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Chairman Tsuji and Members of the Committee,

I submit testimony in favor of HCR51 to rename NELHA's Gateway Energy Center building after Guy Toyama, the former Executive Director of Friends of NELHA who died unexpectedly in late 2012 at age 42.

A community-based Change.org petition for the name change has garnered 288 supporters thus far. I know you will receive testimony from the executive director of NELHA indicating the Board of NELHA doesn't have consensus to rename this building after Guy. There are some who feel Senator Inouye or Sparky Matsunaga may be deserving of the honor, even though the Board hasn't acted to do so. Despite their involvement long ago in helping the building to get constructed, Guy Toyama is more deserving of this particular memorial because he brought what was an empty shell of a building to life in the past 8 years. It was Guy who single-handedly turned the Gateway Center into a true community resource – the number of entrepreneurship, energy, and agriculture and aquaculture events he facilitated there was incredible, and he transformed the building into a gathering place and brought more attention to the important work of NELHA than anyone in its history.

Guy was loved by everyone. He was a true leader in Kona and throughout the state. The Governor proclaimed December 1, 2013 a Guy Toyama Day because he was a champion of sustainability, dedicated to cultivating the hydrogen economy and facilitating sister city and economic development relationships in Japan. A memorial scholarship fund now exists at the Hawaii Community Foundation in his honor.

Mr Inouye and Mr Matsunaga have many other ways they are and can be remembered, including at NELHA. But this is likely the one and only opportunity for the community to remember Guy Toyama for the amazing individual he was for

Kona and Hawaii Island. Please respect the wishes of those of us in the community who knew this, not the NELHA Board members who are primarily not from our island. We know far more than anyone how important Guy was to this community, and how appropriate it is to rename this building after Guy.

Thanks for your consideration,

*Michael Kramer*

Michael Kramer  
Kailua-Kona

**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 8:39 AM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** holland.wood@ikehu.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Holland Wood	Ikehu, Inc.	Support	No

Comments: Guy Toyama was an inspiration to all who knew him. Renaming the Gateway Center in his honor is great for the community as he inspired numerous businesses, non-profits, and individuals.

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Economic Development and Business  
March 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

by  
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, University of Hawai`i at Hilo

**H.C.R. 51 - REQUESTING THAT THE NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF  
AUTHORITY GATEWAY CENTER BE RENAMED IN HONOR OF  
GUY HIDEO TOYAMA**

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Ward and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai`i at Hilo. I am testifying as a member of the Hawai`i Island community in support of H.C.R. 51 to rename the Natural Energy Laboratory of Authority Gateway Center in honor of Guy Hideo Toyama in recognition for his dedicated work to educate Hawai`i and its visitors about energy use and production.

Thank you for the opportunity to support H.C.R. 51. Aloha.

**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 8:52 AM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** gailml@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM  
**Attachments:** HCR 51 Guy Toyama.docx

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gail Makuakane-Lundin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Thomas H. Daniel, Ph.D.**  
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March 12, 2014

Committee on Economic Development and Business  
Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair  
Rep. Gene Ward, Vice Chair  
Friday, March 14, 2014  
9:00 a.m.  
Room 312

OPPOSITION TO: HCR 51/HR 33 - REQUESTING THAT THE NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY GATEWAY CENTER BE RENAMED IN HONOR OF GUY HIDEO TOYAMA

Aloha Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Ward and Members of the Committee!

My name is Thomas Daniel. I served as Scientific/Technical Director of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority and Laboratory Director of its predecessor the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii for 21 years, from 1982-2003. Since 2005, I have been a member of the Board of Directors of the non-profit Friends of NELHA, which provides educational outreach for NELHA.

I respected and admired my friend Guy Toyama from when he first came to NELHA as a representative of one of the first Japanese companies proposing desalination and bottling of deep seawater. Though I opposed his project and others like it on technical grounds, he and I had many good discussions about the pros and cons of such projects and became good friends. After my dismissal from NELHA in 2003, he wrote a strong support letter for me to the Governor and later encouraged me to join him on the Board of the Friends of NELHA. We worked together on the FON Board, as that program moved into the then-new Gateway Center and grew into its primary role of providing outreach for NELHA. Guy was instrumental in negotiating with a hostile NELHA administration to develop the \$1/yr Gateway Center lease that enabled FON to provide the unfunded but legislatively-mandated outreach services that NELHA needed. When FON needed a new part-time Executive Director to coordinate its presentations and activities, Guy volunteered to resign from the Board and take the position. As FON ED, he dramatically expanded and enhanced our outreach programs to encompass many of his wide-ranging interests. In the process, he significantly enhanced the reputation and reach of FON and NELHA, both in Hawaii and throughout the world.

In spite of his many significant contributions, I oppose renaming the NELHA Gateway Energy Center in honor of Guy Toyama because:

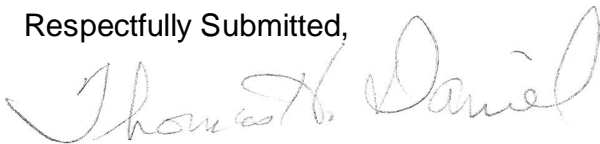
- The Gateway Center was the key federal project developed and sponsored in West Hawaii by Hawaii's US Senator Daniel K. Inouye. I participated in several meetings with the Senator and his staff throughout the 1990s, in which we evaluated plans for bringing a key federal facility to West Hawaii, partly to balance projects that he had supported in his other neighbor island

constituencies – such as the Maui High Performance Computing Center, the Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai, and the large astronomy

- and agricultural projects centered in East Hawaii. When NELHA noted its need for a visitor center near the highway entrance (originally committed to by Hawaii County in the late 70s), the Senator and his staff spent years seeking funding to meet the need. Funding finally became available through the Department of Energy, and the Senator spearheaded efforts to develop a facility to meet the needs of NELHA and the West Hawaii community.
- The “Gateway Energy Center” name was selected and approved by the NELHA Board of Directors after consultation with the Senator, his staff and the NELHA community. I understand that Senator Inouye himself approved of the name, and I know that, though he was proud of his part in bringing it and his many other significant contributions to our State to fruition, he did not want things named after him.
- If the Gateway Center name were to be changed, it might be appropriate to rename it in honor of Senator Inouye, but I don’t think he would have approved of such a change.
- The recent dedication of the Daniel K. Inouye highway in his honor is very fitting and appropriate, especially because of it’s key role in uniting the two sides of our island – another of his forward-thinking initiatives.
- Guy Toyama first came to NELHA at the end of this process, and did not become involved with the Gateway until after it’s completion.
- I’m sure that Guy himself would feel that renaming the center after him would be inappropriate. He’d met with the Senator concerning his other projects, and I believe he knew of the Senator’s long history with the project.

I respectfully submit that the name of the Gateway Energy Center should be maintained. The well-meaning group which is seeking this change should develop other ways of commemorating Guy Toyama. I’ve already suggested and will work with them to develop a more appropriate memorial to Guy’s amazing life and tragic early death.

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas H. Daniel, Ph.D.

DATE: March 13, 2014

TO: House Committee on Economic Development and Business  
Representative Clift Tsuji, Chair

FROM: Barbara Dalton, Governor's Representative  
Office of Governor Neil Abercrombie - West Hawaii

RE: Hearing on HCR 51/HR 33, Friday May 14, 2014, 9:00 AM

Mahalo for the opportunity to express support for HCR 51/HR33, requesting that the NELHA Executive Director rename the Gateway Center "The Guy Toyama Gateway Center at the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority."

Guy Toyama was a beloved figure in Kona who devoted considerable time and resources to NELHA. He was key to creating the organization "Friends of NELHA" and brought in many talented individuals to participate.

The sorrow felt by Guy's many friends and associates over his untimely death has been soothed by their collective efforts to keep up his good work. The recent establishment of the "Guy Toyama Memorial Fund," which seeks to advance innovation and entrepreneurship in areas of environmentally sound practices in Hawaii and around the world, ensures his legacy. Guy's family and friends conduct periodic beach clean-ups at NELHA, sponsor educational events, and contribute in many ways to the West Hawai'i "tech" community.

Guy's spirit lives on in the innovative and creative environment NELHA provides, and it is duly fitting that the Gateway Center, which he was instrumental in bringing about, be named for him. I wholeheartedly support HCR51/HR33.

Again, mahalo.

Very truly yours,

Barbara Dalton

**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 1:37 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** web@1888SIP2YOU.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jesse Law	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HCR 51 says it all and receives my strong support for passage. Guy Toyama was a visionary leader and inspiring agent for positive change in Hawaii and around the world. Having Guy's name on the Gateway Center ties the forward thinking research being done there to the power of the human spirit(s) that are conducting that work. Please pass this resolution to highlight the work of this great human and to inspire others to step up to greatness themselves.

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**ward2-Robin**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:32 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** wendi.kamiya@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendi Kamiya	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the renaming in honor of the late Guy Toyama - a true model of innovation and champion of the aloha spirit.

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**ward2-Robin**

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:37 PM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** brearosa@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM\*

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Breanna Rose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 14, 2014 7:28 AM  
**To:** edbtestimony  
**Cc:** rsaito@sunpowercorp.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR51 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM

**HCR51**

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for EDB on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Riley Saito	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose renaming the NELHA Gateway Energy Center in honor of Guy Toyama because it is inappropriate. The name of the Gateway Energy Center should be maintained.

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