



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

LATE

Before the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
March 25, 2013, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 325
SB 1040: RELATING TO ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS
(testimony is two pages)

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kawakami, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,

On behalf of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA), I would like to testify **in strong support for SB 1040**, which authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to consider the value of implementing advance grid modernization technology in the state.

Solar is key to our Green Energy Future

As we all know, Hawaii is dangerously dependent upon imported fossil fuels, and the cost and uncertainty of fossil fuels will only increase. Recent reports have indicated that oil may reach \$180/barrel or more by 2020, and scientists have found that climate change is occurring more quickly than generally believed, with the most current data showing that the Antarctic is warming three times the predicted rate. Transforming our electrical grid to a green energy infrastructure will bring both added security and stability to our state's economy, and also contribute to an overall reduction of greenhouse gasses for everyone.

The grid is the weak link

Hawaii has made tremendous progress in meeting its clean energy goals. In its 2011 Renewable Portfolio Standard Status Report, the Utility reports that installs from net energy metering alone were 29.7 MW, more than double 11.5 MW from 2010. 2012 will show an even larger gain. However, installation of non-utility scale PV on many circuits, especially on Maui, has become difficult as the number of renewables has reached the 15% saturation limit. Once this happens, an expensive study must be performed by the utility customer. And even then, installation is not guaranteed, in spite of relaxed standards in some areas implemented just this last year. Utility scale projects have similar concerns. Simply put, in order to move ahead with our clean energy goals, we need an updated electrical grid that can easily accept the latest technology. This bill would give a mandate to the PUC to put the question of grid upgrades front and center.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Leslie Cole-Brooks
Executive Director
Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA members listed below)

AET, LLC
Alternate Energy
Bonterra Solar
C & J Solar Solutions
Conergy
Energy Industries
Dependable Hawaii Express
Ferguson
Giant Solar
Hawaii Energy Connection
Hawaii Island Solar
Hoku Scientific
Island Pacific Energy
Ku'oko'a
Maui Pacific Solar
Pacific Basin
Poncho's Solar
Rheem Manufacturing
Smart Energy Hawaii
SolarWave Hawaii
Sun Earth, Inc.
Talent HR Solutions
Enecsys Micro-inverters

Affordable Solar Contracting
American Electric Company, LLC
Bureau Veritas North America
Coffman Engineers, Inc.
DHX
Enphase
Energy Unlimited, Inc.
Forest City Residential Group
Grand Solar
Hawaii Home Expo & Marbelhaus Trading
Hi-Tech Plumbing
Honeywell Utility Solutions
Island Solar Service
Kyocera Solar Inc.
Mercury Solar
Phoenix Solar
R & R Solar Supply
Schenk's Specialized Services LLC
Solar Services Hawaii
SolarWorld California
Sunetric
WESCODistribution

Allana Buick & Bers
B. Bautista Electrical
Cano Electric
Allen's Plumbing
Dr. Stephen Allen
Energy Industries
EnergyPro Hawaii
Gexpro
Haleakala Solar
Hawaii Electric Company
HNU Energy
Inter-Island Solar Supply
Kheiron Partners
Lumen Solar, LLC
Morikawa & Associates
PhotonWorks Engineering
REC Solar, Inc.
Schlissel & Associates
SolarCity
Sun King
SunHedge
Unirac

kawakami2 - Rise

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2013 10:41 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: maguinger@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1040 on Mar 25, 2013 15:00PM



SB1040

Submitted on: 3/24/2013

Testimony for CPC on Mar 25, 2013 15:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary A. Guinger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The smart grid will not only give us energy at a cheaper cost but also bring jobs, prosperity, and have Hawaii lead the world on the use of energy.

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