
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AND THE HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY TO EXPEDITE THE CONCLUSION AND RESOLUTION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DOCKET NO. 2012-0092 FOR FIFTY MEGAWATTS OF GEOTHERMAL-DERIVED ELECTRICITY ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which
2 establishes renewable portfolio standards, and subsequent Energy
3 Policy Directives of the State of Hawaii support the development
4 of Hawaii's indigenous geothermal resources as a key element of
5 the State's diversified energy approach; and

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7 WHEREAS, \$4,500,000,000 was expended to import oil into
8 Hawaii in 2013, and the economy of the State remains highly
9 vulnerable due to the annual export of dollars to import oil;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Geothermal Working Group studied the
13 feasibility of geothermal development on Hawaii Island and found
14 that geothermal energy can be developed as the cheapest and most
15 reliable form of base load power for Hawaii County, and
16 recommended that the State support the development of Hawaii's
17 vast geothermal resources as a high priority for the State's
18 energy and economic security; and

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20 WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii, in its Replies to Statements
21 of Position in Docket No. 2013-0141, stated that "the focus for
22 the Island of Hawaii . . . is on energy projects that provide
23 cost reduction benefits to ratepayers . . . and that improve and
24 maximize integration of additional lower cost renewable energy";
25 and

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27 WHEREAS, the State and County of Hawaii's priority for
28 geothermal energy development and integration of geothermal
29 electricity have not progressed for several reasons including:



- 1 (1) The refusal of Hawaiian Electric Industries and its
2 subsidiary utility companies to address "Principal
3 Issues" in its Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)
4 resulting in its failure to meet State requirements
5 for Certification by the Independent Entity in July
6 2013;
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- 8 (2) Numerous delays by Hawaii Electric Light Company,
9 Inc., (HELCO) in the posting and progression of a
10 Request for Proposals For Renewable Geothermal
11 Dispatchable Energy and Firm Capacity Resources for
12 the Island of Hawaii, and its failure to address
13 planning concerns of the Public Utilities Commission,
14 specifically, HELCO's modeling and analysis of its
15 system, excess capacity, fossil generation
16 requirements, and treatment of dispatchable renewable
17 energy generation, which was verified by the
18 Independent Observer, Boston Pacific Company, Inc., in
19 its letter to the Public Utilities Commission dated
20 February 21, 2014, which stated in part, "we find the
21 lack of clarity in HELCO's planning inhibits anyone
22 from determining . . . how the project solicited by
23 the RFP should be defined in terms of size, capacity
24 factor and dispatchability"; and
- 25
- 26 (3) HELCO's reluctance to retire its fossil fuel plants on
27 Hawaii Island and accommodate more geothermal
28 electricity as the most affordable and reliable firm
29 renewable resource for Hawaii ratepayers, and the
30 insistence of Hawaiian Electric Company and HELCO that
31 the priority for the geothermal Request for Proposals
32 is only performance standards that are comparable to
33 the operational capabilities of the HELCO fossil
34 fueled facilities; and
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36 WHEREAS, any further delay of the outstanding Request for
37 Proposals For Renewable Geothermal Dispatchable Energy and Firm
38 Capacity Resources for the Island of Hawaii to select a
39 geothermal developer from a qualified final bidders group may
40 not be in the public interest; now, therefore,

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42 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of The Twenty-seventh
43 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
44 House of Representatives concurring, that the Public Utilities



1 Commission and HELCO are urged to expedite the conclusion and
2 resolution of Request for Proposals Docket No. 2012-0092 for
3 fifty megawatts of geothermal-derived electricity on the island
4 of Hawaii; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County
8 of Hawaii, Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission, and
9 President of HELCO.

