

TESTIMONY OF HERMINA MORITA
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MARCH 25, 2014
8:35 a.m.

MEASURE: H.C.R. No. 241

TITLE: Urging the Public Utilities Commission to End Consideration of an Interisland High-Voltage Undersea Electric Transmission Cable System and Industrial Wind Facilities on the Island of Lana`i

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

DESCRIPTION:

H.C.R. No. 241 urges the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to “terminate consideration of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system and the construction of industrial-scale wind energy generation facilities on the island of Lana`i.”

POSITION:

The Commission would like to offer the following comments for the Committee’s consideration.

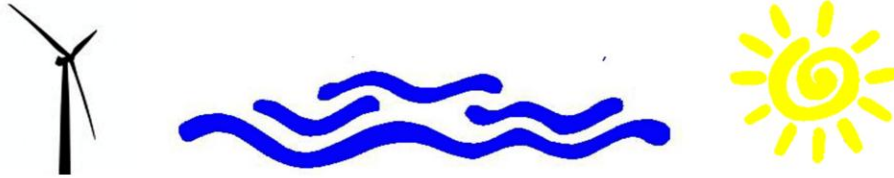
COMMENTS:

H.C.R. No. 241 discusses issues directly related to two ongoing Commission proceedings.¹ Therefore, the Commission is precluded from addressing the substantive

¹See Commission Order No. 31355 Initiating Order, Docket No. 2013-0168, Instituting a Proceeding to Review the Progress of Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC’s Proposed Lanai Wind Project, filed July 11, 2013; see also Commission Order No. 31356 Initiating Proceeding, Docket No. 2013-0169, Opening a Proceeding to Investigate Whether an Oahu-Maui Interisland Transmission System May Be in the Public Interest, filed July 11, 2013.

issues raised in this measure and will, if necessary, comment only on procedural matters related to open dockets at this time. However, resolutions are important vehicles to communicate legislative policy and guidance to the Commission. As such, upon adoption, resolutions offering guidance to the Commission will be incorporated into the relevant proceedings and will be afforded proper weight as the Commission deliberates these matters.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this measure.



LIFE OF THE LAND

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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 25, 2014

TIME: 8:35 A.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

RE: HCR 241 Inter-Island Cable

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

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for four decades. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

What would you do if you wanted a new car and the car dealer said, "I have only one car on the lot and available for sale. While the car costs \$200K, it is the cheapest car on the lot."

Would you buy it? Or go elsewhere to look at alternatives?

Life of the Land supports a robust evaluation of alternatives in terms of reliability, effectiveness, costs and impacts.

Most PUC regulatory proceedings have a Schedule or Timeline, Confidentiality (Non-Disclosure) Agreements, Discovery, Testimony and some method of ascertaining the truthfulness or credibility of testimony and exhibits.

The Big Wind / inter-island cable dockets (2013-0168, 2013-0169) do not have these necessary steps.

The American Bar Association (ABA) website asserts that "Discovery ...is designed to prevent trial by ambush,"¹ and that "the purpose of Cross-Examination is to test the credibility of statements."²

Formal proceedings allow parties to use credible facts and persuasion to protect their interests.

Formal proceedings allow the Commission to make rulings that are reasonable and defensible.

Formal proceedings allow credibility-tested documents and testimony to be used in future proceedings.

Formal proceedings allow courts to have a formal record to turn to.

Life of the Land believes that the allegations, innuendos, and self-serving statements made in these inter-island dockets need to be tested with formal testimony, exhibits, discovery and an Evidentiary Hearing.

The proposed Inter-Island Cable project has morphed. It started at a utility proposal.

It is now a governmental proposal. HECO, the original advocate for the project now states that it is no longer needed.

Governmental agencies DBEDT and the Consumer Advocate (CA) have stepped up to the plate and to argue that it is needed.

1

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/resources/law_related_education_network/how_courts_work/discovery.html

2

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/resources/law_related_education_network/how_courts_work/crossexam.html

Proof that the cable is a good idea is hard to justify using facts.

HECO has submitted to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) a request that more than eight O`ahu solar projects be exempt from Competitive Bidding.

These solar projects would produce electricity at the lowest average rate for renewable energy found anywhere in the State.

All renewable projects on Maui and the Big Island cost more, even before adding in the price to ship the electricity to Oahu.

Life of the Land has heard all sorts of self-serving statements about how a proposed cable would increase reliability and decrease the need for spinning reserve.

These statements are vague and contradict long-standing utility and regulatory policies.

Proponents of these schemes present the outcomes of various models and simulations. The underlying models are shrouded in secrecy. These models are often owned by third-parties who will not give access.

(Caveat: LOL Executive Director was the IRP Advisory Group member who signed an NDA with Swiss multinational ABB and who was given the user manuals and 100 GB of data files for Navigant's Strategist Resource Optimization program)

While Life of the Land is in favor of a definitive timeline, LOL does not favor the elimination of the testimony, discovery and credibility testing phases of the docket.

A tentative deadline of December 31, 1014 would be more realistic.

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March 24, 2014

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 325
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee:

SUBJECT: H.C.R. 241 URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO END CONSIDERATION OF AN INTERISLAND HIGH-VOLTAGE UNDERSEA ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEM AND INDUSTRIAL WIND FACILITIES ON THE ISLAND OF LANAI (Public Hearing: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 8:35 AM in Conference Room 325)

As the Lana`i member on the Maui County Council, I would like to offer personal testimony in support of H.C.R 241. This resolution urges the Public Utilities Commission to terminate consideration of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system and the construction of industrial-scale wind energy generation facilities on the island of Lana`i.

In my view, the Big Wind Lana`i project is not a viable alternative, in terms of community benefits, protection of the environment and cultural resources, and maintaining the rural character of Lana`i.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony in support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Riki Hokama".

RIKI HOKAMA
Council Member/Lanai seat

cc: Council Chair Gladys C. Baisa

The Prairie Voice

In China, the true cost of clean, green wind power experiment: Pollution on a disastrous scale! By SIMON PARRY in China and ED DOUGLAS in Scotland
Last updated at 10:01 PM on 29th January 2011

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1350811/In-China-true-cost-Britains-clean-green-wind-power-experiment-Pollution-disastrous-scale.html#ixzz1Ce0LJlbg>

This toxic lake poisons Chinese farmers, their children and their land. It is what's left behind after making the magnets for Britain's latest wind turbines... and, as a special Live investigation reveals, is merely one of a multitude of environmental sins committed in the name of our new green Jerusalem.



The lake of toxic waste at Baotou, China, which has been dumped by the rare earth processing plants in the background.

On the outskirts of one of China's most polluted cities, an old farmer stares despairingly out across an immense lake of bubbling toxic waste covered in black dust. He remembers it as fields of wheat and corn.

Yan Man Jia Hong is a dedicated Communist. At 74, he still believes in his revolutionary heroes, but he despises the young local officials and entrepreneurs who have let this happen.

‘Chairman Mao was a hero and saved us,’ he says. ‘But these people only care about money. They have destroyed our lives.’

Vast fortunes are being amassed here in Inner Mongolia; the region has more than 90 per cent of the world’s legal reserves of rare earth metals, and specifically neodymium, the element needed to make the magnets in the most striking of green energy producers, wind turbines.

Live has uncovered the distinctly **dirty** truth about the process used to **extract** neodymium: it has an appalling environmental impact that raises serious questions over the credibility of so-called green technology.

The reality is that, as Britain flaunts its environmental credentials by speckling its coastlines and unspoiled moors and mountains with **thousands** of wind turbines, it is contributing to a vast man-made lake of poison in northern China. This is the deadly and sinister side of the massively profitable rare-earths industry that the ‘green’ companies profiting from the demand for wind turbines would prefer you knew nothing about.

Hidden out of sight behind smoke-shrouded factory complexes in the city of Baotou, and patrolled by platoons of security guards, lies a five-mile wide ‘tailing’ lake. It has killed farmland for miles around, made thousands of people ill and put one of China’s key waterways in jeopardy.

This vast, hissing cauldron of chemicals is the dumping ground for seven million **tons** a year of mined rare earth after it has been doused in acid and chemicals and processed through red-hot furnaces to extract its components.



Wind power's uncertainties don't end with intermittency. There is huge controversy about how much energy a wind farm will produce (Pictured above, wind turbines in Dun Law, Scotland)

Rusting pipelines meander for miles from factories processing rare earths in Baotou out to the man-made lake where, mixed with water, the foul-smelling radioactive waste from this industrial process is pumped day after day. No signposts and no paved roads lead here, and as we approach security guards shoo us away and tail us. When we finally break through the cordon and climb sand dunes to reach its brim, an apocalyptic sight greets us: a giant, secret toxic dump, made bigger by every wind turbine we build.

The lake instantly assaults your senses. Stand on the black crust for just seconds and your eyes water and a powerful, acrid stench fills your lungs.

For hours after our visit, my stomach lurched and my head throbbed. We were there for only one hour, but those who live in Mr Yan's village of Dalahai, and other villages around, breathe in the same poison every day.

Retired farmer Su Bairen, 69, who led us to the lake, says it was initially a novelty – a multi-coloured pond set in farmland as early rare earth factories run by the state-owned Baogang group of companies began work in the Sixties.

'At first it was just a hole in the ground,' he says. 'When it dried in the winter and summer, it turned into a black crust and children would play on it. Then one or two of them fell through and drowned in the sludge below. Since then, children have stayed away.'

As more factories sprang up, the banks grew higher, the lake grew larger and the stench and fumes grew more overwhelming.

'It turned into a mountain that towered over us,' says Mr Su. 'Anything we planted just withered, then our animals started to sicken and die.'

People too began to suffer. Dalahai villagers say their teeth began to fall out, their hair turned white at unusually young ages, and they suffered from severe skin and respiratory diseases. Children were born with soft bones and cancer rates rocketed.

Official studies carried out five years ago in Dalahai village confirmed there were unusually high rates of cancer along with high rates of osteoporosis and skin and respiratory diseases. The lake's radiation levels are ten times higher than in the surrounding countryside, the studies found.

Since then, maybe because of pressure from the companies operating around the lake, which pump out waste 24 hours a day, the results of ongoing radiation and toxicity tests carried out on the lake have been kept secret and officials have refused to publicly acknowledge health risks to nearby villages.

There are 17 'rare earth metals' – the name doesn't mean they are necessarily in short supply; it refers to the fact that the metals occur in scattered deposits of minerals, rather than concentrated ores. Rare earth metals usually occur together, and, once mined, have to be separated.



Villagers Su Bairen, 69, and Yan Man Jia Hong, 74, stand on the edge of the six-mile-wide toxic lake in Baotou, China that has devastated their farmland and ruined the health of the people in their community

Neodymium is commonly used as part of a Neodymium-Iron-Boron alloy ($Nd_2Fe_{14}B$) which, thanks to its tetragonal crystal structure, is used to make the most powerful magnets in the world. Electric motors and generators rely on the basic principles of electromagnetism, and the stronger the magnets they use, the more efficient they can be. It's been used in small quantities in common technologies for quite a long time – hi-fi speakers, hard drives and lasers, for example. But only with the rise of alternative energy solutions has neodymium really come to prominence, for use in hybrid cars and wind turbines. A direct-drive permanent-magnet generator for a top capacity wind turbine would use 4,400lb of neodymium-based permanent magnet material. In the pollution-blighted city of Baotou, most people wear face masks everywhere they go. 'You have to wear one otherwise the dust gets into your lungs and poisons you,' our taxi driver tells us, pulling over so we can buy white cloth masks from a roadside hawker.

Posing as buyers, we visit Baotou Xijun Rare Earth Co Ltd. A large billboard in front of the factory shows an idyllic image of fields of sheep grazing in green fields with wind turbines in the background. In a smartly appointed boardroom, Vice General Manager Cheng Qing tells us proudly that his company is the fourth biggest producer of rare earth metals in China, processing 30,000 tons a year. He leads us down to a complex of primitive workshops where workers with

no protective clothing except for cotton gloves and face masks ladle molten rare earth from furnaces with temperatures of 1,000°C.

The result is 1.5kg bricks of neodymium, packed into blue barrels weighing 250kg each. Its price has more than doubled in the past year – it now costs around £80 per kilogram. So a 1.5kg block would be worth £120 – or more than a fortnight’s wages for the workers handling them. The waste from this highly toxic process ends up being pumped into the lake looming over Dalahai. The state-owned Baogang Group, which operates most of the factories in Baotou, claims it invests tens of millions of pounds a year in environmental protection and processes the waste before it is discharged.

According to Du Youlu of Baogang’s safety and environmental protection department, seven million tons of waste a year was discharged into the lake, which is already 100ft high and growing by three feet each year.

In what appeared an attempt to shift responsibility onto China’s national leaders and their close control of the rare earths industry, he added: ‘The tailing is a national resource and China will ultimately decide what will be done with the lake.’

Jamie Choi, an expert on toxics for Greenpeace China, says villagers living near the lake face horrendous health risks from the carcinogenic and radioactive waste.

‘There’s not one step of the rare earth mining process that is not disastrous for the environment. Ores are being extracted by pumping acid into the ground, and then they are processed using more acid and chemicals.’



Inside the Baotou Xijun Rare Earth refinery in Baotou, where neodymium, essential in new wind turbine magnets, is processed

Finally they are dumped into tailing lakes that are often very poorly constructed and maintained. And throughout this process, large amounts of highly toxic acids, heavy metals and other chemicals are emitted into the air that people breathe, and leak into surface and ground water. Villagers rely on this for irrigation of their crops and for drinking water. Whenever we purchase products that contain rare earth metals, we are unknowingly taking part in massive environmental degradation and the destruction of communities.'

The fact that the wind-turbine industry relies on neodymium, which even in legal factories has a catastrophic environmental impact, is an irony Ms Choi acknowledges.

'It is a real dilemma for environmentalists who want to see the growth of the industry,' she says. 'But we have the responsibility to recognise the environmental destruction that is being caused while making these wind turbines.'

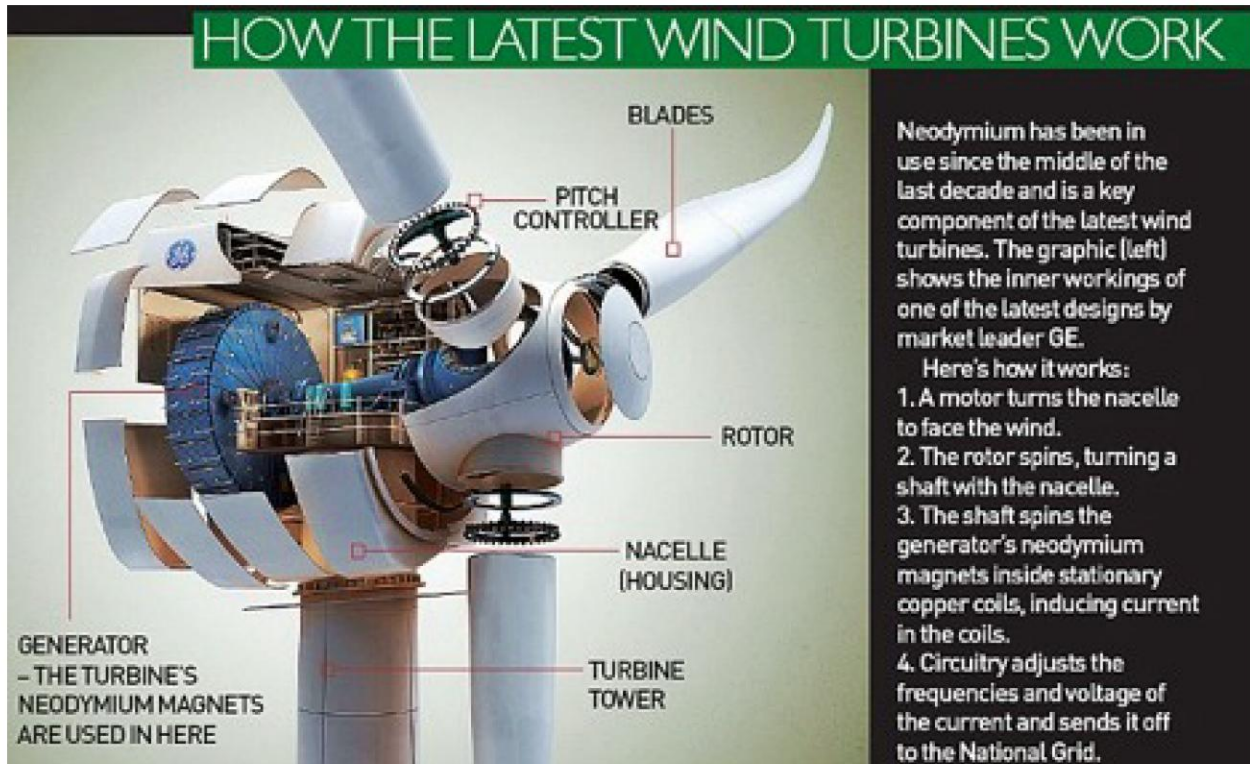
It's a long way from the grim conditions in Baotou to the raw beauty of the Monadhliath mountains in Scotland. But the environmental damage wind turbines cause will be felt here, too. These hills are the latest battleground in a war being fought all over Britain – and particularly in Scotland – between wind-farm developers and those opposed to them.

Cameron McNeish, a hill walker and TV presenter who lives in the Monadhliath, campaigned for almost a decade against the Dunmaglass wind farm before the Scottish government gave the go-ahead in December. Soon, 33 turbines will be erected on the hills north of the upper Findhorn valley.

McNeish is passionate about this landscape: 'It's vast and wild and isolated,' he says. Huge empty spaces, however, are also perfect for wind turbines and unlike the nearby Cairngorms there are no landscape designations to protect this area. When the Labour government put in place the policy framework and subsidies to boost renewable energy, the Monadhliath became a mouth-watering opportunity.

People have been trying to make real money from Scottish estates like Jack Hayward's Dunmaglass. Hayward, a Bermuda-based property developer and former chairman of Wolverhampton Wanderers, struck a deal with renewable energy company RES which, campaigners believe, will earn the estate an estimated £9 million over the next 25 years. Each of the turbines at Dunmaglass will require servicing, which means a network of new and improved roads 20 miles long being built across the hills. They also need 1,500 tons of concrete foundations to keep them upright in a strong wind, which will scar the area.

Dunmaglass is just one among scores of wind farms in Scotland with planning permission. Scores more are still in the planning system. There are currently 3,153 turbines in the UK overall, with a maximum capacity of 5,203 megawatts.



Around half of them are in Scotland. First Minister Alex Salmond and the Scottish government have said they want to get 80 per cent of Scotland's electricity from renewables by 2020, which means more turbines spread across the country's hills and moors.

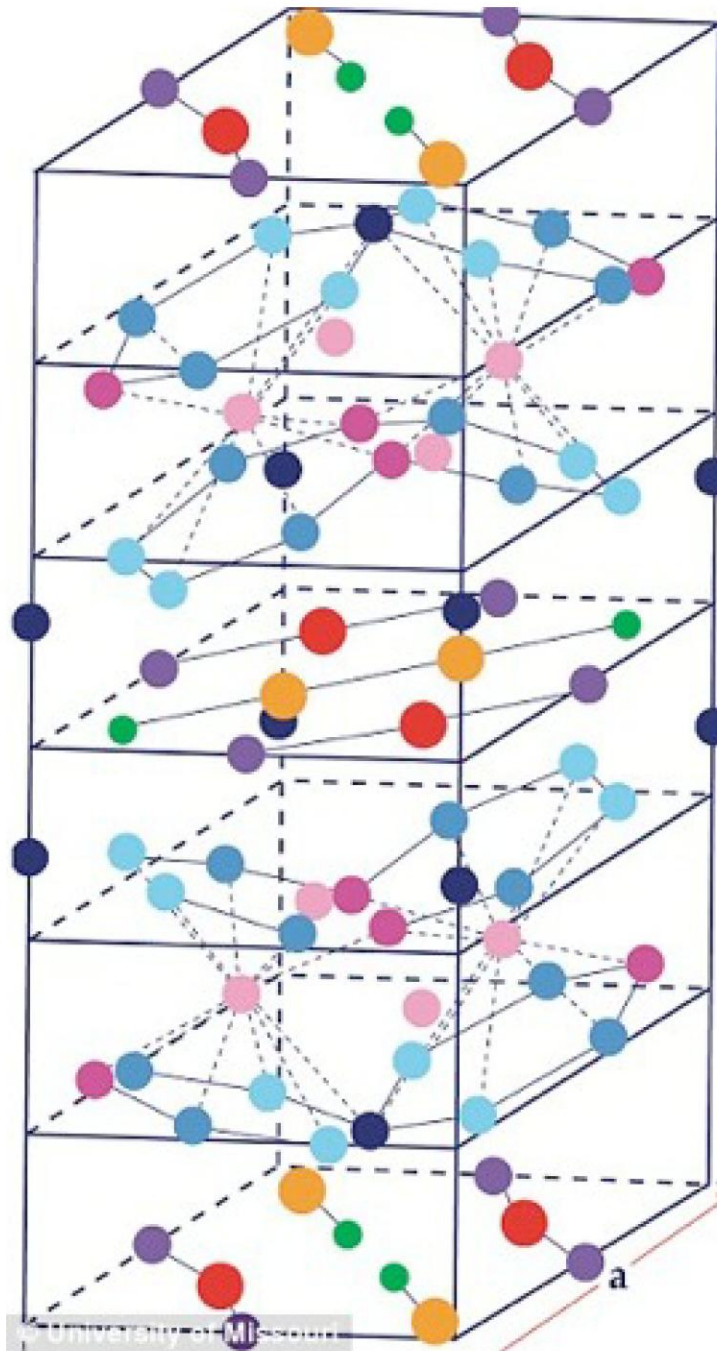
Many environmental pressure groups share Salmond's view. Friends of the Earth opposes the Arctic being ruined by oil extraction, but when it comes to damaging Scotland's wilderness with concrete and hundreds of miles of roads, they say wind energy is worth it as the impact of climate change has to be faced.

'No way of generating energy is 100 per cent clean and problem-free,' says Craig Bennett, director of policy and campaigns at Friends of the Earth.

'Wind energy causes far fewer problems than coal, gas or nuclear. If we don't invest in green energy, business experts have warned that future generations will be landed with a bill that will dwarf the current financial crisis. But we need to ensure the use of materials like neodymium and concrete is kept to a minimum, that turbines use recycled materials wherever possible and that they are carefully sited to reduce the already minimal impact on bird populations.'

But Helen McDade, head of policy at the John Muir Trust, a small but feisty campaign group dedicated to protecting Scotland's wild lands, also points out that leaving aside the damage to the landscape, nobody is really sure how much carbon is being released by the renewable energy construction boom. Peat moors lock up huge amounts of carbon, which gets released when it's drained to put up a turbine.

Environmental considerations aside, as the percentage of electricity generated by wind increases, renewable energy is coming under a lot more scrutiny now for one simple reason – money. We pay extra for wind power – around twice as much – because it can't compete with other forms of electricity generation. Under the Renewable Obligation (RO), suppliers have to buy a percentage of their electricity from renewable generators and can hand that cost on to consumers. If they don't, they pay a fine instead.



One unit cell of Nd₂Fe₁₄B, the alloy used in neodymium magnets. The structure of the atoms gives the alloy its magnetic strength, due to a phenomenon known as magnetocrystalline anisotropy

There's a simple beauty about RO for the government. Even though it's defined as a tax, it doesn't come out of pay packets but is stuck on our electricity bills. That has made funding wind farms a lot easier for the government than more cost-effective energy-efficiency measures. 'If you want a grant for an energy conservation project on your house,' says Helen McDade, 'the money comes from taxes. But investment for turbines comes from energy companies.' Already, RO adds £1.4 billion to our bills each year to provide a pot of money to pay power companies for their 'green' electricity. By 2020, the figure will have risen to somewhere between £5 billion and £10 billion.

When he was Chancellor, Gordon Brown added another decade to these price guarantees, extending the RO scheme to 2037, guaranteeing the subsidy for more than a quarter of a century. It's not surprising there's been an avalanche of wind-farm applications in the Highlands. Wind speeds are stronger, land is cheaper and the government loves you.

'You go to a landowner,' McDade says, 'and offer him what is peanuts to an energy company yet keeps him happily on his estate so they can put up a wind farm, which in turn raises ordinary people's electricity bills. There's a social issue here that doesn't get discussed.' By 2020, environmental regulation will be adding 31 per cent to our bills. That's £160 green tax out of an average annual bill of £512. As costs rise, more people will be driven into fuel poverty. When he was secretary of state at the Department of Energy and Climate Change, Ed Miliband decreed that these increases should be offset by improvements in energy efficiencies. It's a view shared by his successor Chris Huhne, who says inflation due to RO will be effectively one per cent. Britain's low-income families, facing hikes in petrol and food costs, will hope he's right.

Individual households aren't the only ones shouldering the costs. Industry faces an even bigger burden. By 2020, environmental charges will add 33 per cent to industry's energy costs. Jeremy Nicholson, director of the Energy Intensive Users Group, says that, 'Industry is getting the worst of both worlds. Around 80 per cent of the contracts for the new Thanet offshore wind farm (off the coast of Kent) went abroad, but the expensive electricity will be paid for here.' Our current obsession with wind power, according to John Constable of energy think-tank the Renewable Energy Foundation, stems from the decision of the European Union on how to tackle climate change. Instead of just setting targets for reducing emissions, the EU told governments that by 2020, 15 per cent of all the energy we use must come from renewable sources. Because of how we heat our houses and run our cars with gas and petrol, 30 per cent of electricity needs to come from renewables. And in the absence of other technologies, that means wind turbines. But there's a structural flaw in the plan, which this winter has brutally exposed.

Study a graph of electricity consumption and it appears amazingly predictable, even down to reduced demand on public holidays. The graph for wind energy output, however, is far less predictable.

Take the figures for December, when we all shivered through sub-zero temperatures and wholesale electricity prices surged. Peak demand for the UK on 20 December was just over 60,000 megawatts. Maximum capacity for wind turbines throughout the UK is 5,891 megawatts, almost ten per cent of that peak demand figure.

Yet on December 20, because winds were light or non-existent, wind energy contributed a paltry 140 megawatts. Despite billions of pounds in investment and subsidies, Britain's wind-turbine fleet was producing a feeble 2.43 per cent of its own capacity – and little more than 0.2 per cent of the nation's electricity in the coldest month since records began.

The problems with the intermittency of wind energy are well known. A new network of cables linking ten countries around the North Sea is being suggested to smooth supply and take advantage of 140 gigawatts of offshore wind power. No one knows for sure how much this network will cost, although a figure of £25 billion has been mooted.

The government has also realised that when wind nears its target of 30 per cent, power companies will need more back-up to fill the gap when the wind doesn't blow. Britain's total capacity will need to rise from 76 gigawatts up to 120 gigawatts. That overcapacity will need another £50 billion and drive down prices when the wind's blowing. Power companies are anxious about getting a decent price. Once again, consumers will pay.

Wind power's uncertainties don't end with intermittency. There is huge controversy about how much energy a wind farm will produce. Many developers claim their installations will achieve 30 per cent of their maximum output over the course of a year. More sober energy analysts suggest 26 per cent. But even that figure is starting to look generous. In December, the average figure was less than 21 per cent. In the year between October 2009 and September 2010, the average was 23.6 per cent, still nowhere near industry claims.

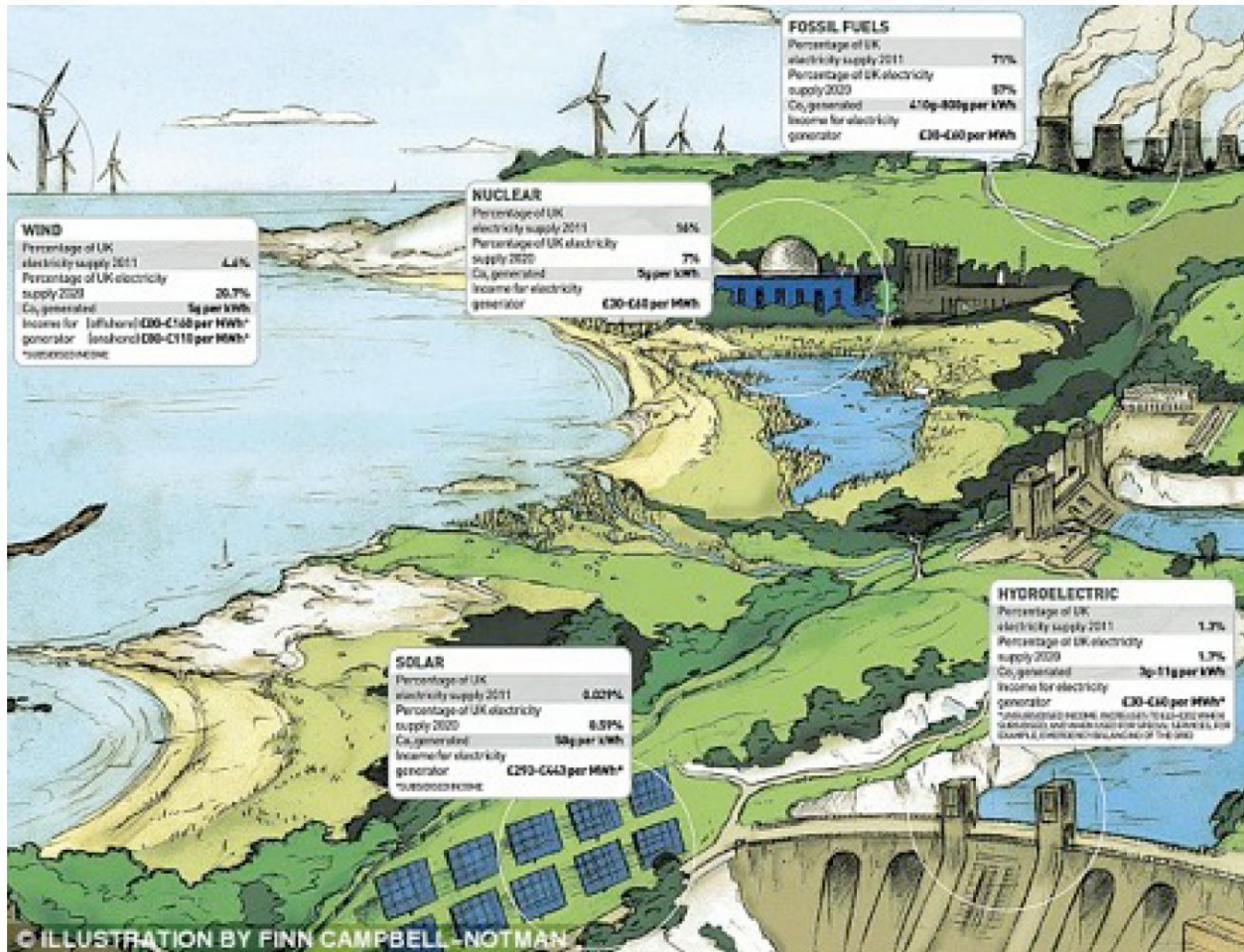
Then there's the thorny question of how many homes new installations can power. According to wind farm developers like Scottish and Southern Electricity, a house uses 3.3MWh in a year. Lobby group RenewablesUK – formerly the British Wind Energy Association – gives a figure of 4.7MWh. In the Highlands electricity usage is even higher.

Last year, a report from the Royal Academy of Engineering warned that transforming our energy supply to produce a low-carbon economy would require the biggest investment and social change seen in peacetime. And yet Professor Sue Ion, who led the report, warned, 'We are nowhere near having a plan.'

So, against the backdrop of environmental catastrophe in China and these less than attractive calculations, could the billions being thrown at wind farms be better spent? Undoubtedly, says John Constable.

‘The government is betting the farm on the throw of a die. What’s happening now is simply reckless.’

NUCLEAR, COAL, SOLAR, HYDRO, WIND: HOW THE ENERGY OPTIONS STACK UP
[Enlarge](#)



The British energy market is a hugely complicated and ever-changing landscape. We rely on a number of different sources for our energy – some more efficient than others, some more polluting than others.

Here, you can see how much energy each type contributes, how much they are predicted to contribute in 2020, how much carbon dioxide they generate and how efficient they are.

Renewable energy sources receive varying subsidies – which are added to our energy bills – as a result of the government’s Renewables Obligation, whereas ‘traditional’ sources do not.

Critically, government cost figures do not include subsidies, whereas our measure shows precisely how much money a power station receives for each megawatt-hour (MWh) it produces, which includes the price paid for the energy by the supplier and any applicable subsidy. This is an instant measure of an energy supply's cost-efficiency; the lower the figure, the less that energy costs to produce.

Note: figures relate to UK energy production. Approximately seven per cent of our electricity comes from imports or other sources

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1350811/In-China-true-cost-Britains-clean-green-wind-power-experiment-Pollution-disastrous-scale.html#ixzz1Ce0YhT1N>

HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Wong	Hawaii's Thousand Friends	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

Thank you for hearing this Resolution, and for your continued support of the Lana'i community.

Two years ago, when members of the Legislature came over to Lana'i, they heard loudly and clearly from our community. We were in steadfast opposition to Big Wind, and that has only intensified and expanded. We have stated for years — in public meetings on every island, in Legislative hearings, on Lana'i with sign-waving, in newspapers, television and radio, and with the ever-proliferating “NO WINDMILLS ON LANAI” signs all over our island — that Big Wind on Lana'i was a boondoggle; a one-way extension cord for O'ahu's unceasing demand for more and more electricity.

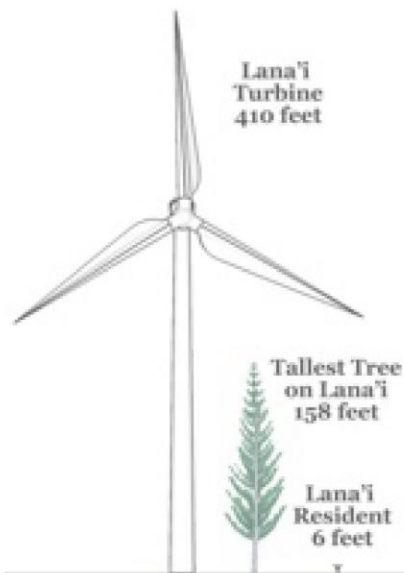
Big Wind should never have gotten any “legs.” It was estimated to cost tax and ratepayers at least \$3+ Billion dollars, and that was five or six years ago! Unfortunately, the PUC gave Big Wind on Lana'i its first foothold on our wallets. As then Commissioner Les Kondo wrote in his stinging dissent in Docket 2009-0327, the PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind.

It's way too expensive, way too destructive, and — NOT ONE — environmental impact statement has been undertaken. In the last seven years of division, mistrust, lies and fights, our community was ripped asunder by this proposed project, yet not a single permit has been granted to move this project forward, other than one for the meteorological towers placed on Lana'i in 2007.

Big Wind's necessary extension cord, the proposed 70 mile long undersea cable, has had no EIS either. In fact, throughout these past seven years of struggle, no landing site was ever determined, no final costs provided, no true benefits to Lana'i agreed upon, no community support (other than through Murdock's intimidated ILWU supporters) demonstrated. Brothers and sisters were not speaking to each other. Family dinners banned the word “windmill” from the kitchen table. Friendships deteriorated; violence was threatened and in some cases pursued. It was horrible.

But we've begun to heal. The new majority landowner has expressed no support for, nor do any signs of Big Wind appear in his plans for Lana'i's future. The union members who believed Murdock's threats to close down the island now realize they were groundless. Our economy is improving, our disagreements no longer about an industrial wind power plant.

But as you know, Murdock retained some rights to develop his wind power plant. No one but Murdock and Ellison's lawyers, the Consumer Advocate and the PUC have seen these rights. So the threat of Big Wind remains over Lana'i's head.



And thus, this resolution. We recognize that resolutions are not binding. Right now, the fate of Big Wind lies with the PUC. In its current Docket 2013-0168, the PUC has asked Castle & Cooke to both demonstrate that they have made “progress” on Big Wind since the sale of Lana’i, and to prove that Big Wind on Lana’i is “still in the public interest.” It would be important for the PUC to know that the pulse of the House favors ending Big Wind now.

It is time to right that wrong; end Big Wind on Lana’i. We ask your support to see that this disruptive, destructive project is “Gone with the Wind.”

Mahalo,

Robin Kaye for Friends of Lana’i

Aloha,

I support this resolution and ask you to do the same for these reasons:

- Big Wind on Lana'i would be only a "generation"-tied, one-way system, sending all our power by undersea cable through the Humpback Whale Sanctuary to O'ahu, leaving Lana'i with thousands of acres in historic Ka'a ahupua'a irreparably damaged.
- Both DBEDT and HECO have stated publicly that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS.
- The Lana'i community has consistently spoken out against Big Wind; it would devastate this small rural island.
- The Governor has stated that putting all those wind turbines on Lana'i's culturally significant and strikingly beautiful North End doesn't fit with the new majority landowner's vision for Lana'i any more than it does with the rest of us who live here.
- The new landowner has not said he wants any part of Big Wind, a project that would be contrary to his stated vision of a completely sustainable island.
- The PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind. It is time to right that wrong--- end Big Wind on Lana'i.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lisa Galloway, PhD
Lana'i City, HI 96763

Aloha All,

I am in full support of HCR241 (8:35 a.m., Room 325). This is very important legislation! Please support this bill!

Wendy Raebeck

Aloha!

I am in support of putting an end to Big Wind on the island of Lana'i. Along with the community I grew up with there, I have spoken out against the idea of wind turbines being placed on our beautiful countryside. I have heard all the arguments and through it all, it is a joy to see the land untouched by this Big Wind Project, a blessing indeed. It is good to stop fighting with forces that cannot understand how important the simple love of land can be to the majority that appreciate what little land they have. Allow the community of Lana'i the peace of mind that their basic lifestyle has been a testament to, an island to be protected from anything that would cause its current quality or condition to deteriorate.

Mahalo!

~Leimomi A Detillion

Dear Committee,

I am writing to voice my support for HCR241.

The Lana'i community has consistently spoken out against Big Wind. The wind farm would ruin historic land.

The new landowner has not said he wants any part of Big Wind, a project that would be contrary to his stated vision of self sustaining island.

The Governor has stated that putting all those wind turbines on Lana'i's culturally significant and strikingly beautiful North End doesn't fit with the vision of either the land-owner or the residents of Lanai.

Both DBEDT and HECO have stated publicly that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS.

These are reasons enough to to put a final end to the Big Wind project.

Thank you,

Kevin Brown
Kaunakakai

--

Home (808) 558-0808

I would like to testify in support of HCR 241

We must put a stop to Big Wind for Lana'i once and for all. The Lana'i community is against having the Big Wind here on Lana'i. It will completely alter our land and our lifestyle with no benefit to our people.

Both DBEDT and HECO have stated that it (Big Wind on Lana'i) is no longer needed to meet the state's RPS.

The cost of Big Wind and the undersea cable will become a burden for all of the residents on our state. Only the companies putting in the wind mills and the undersea cable will benefit.

The Governor has said that putting all the wind turbines on Lana'i doesn't fit with the new majority landowner's vision for a sustainable Lana'i.

Please support this resolution and put an end to even discussing Big Wind on Lana'i.

Linda Kay Okamoto

Resident of Lana'i

Dear Representative Lee,

Please put a stop once and for all to the Big Wind project on Lana`i. Our family has lived here for many generations and we feel that this project would ruin our beloved Lana`i. We have been involved in discussions about this proposal throughout the past several years. Please consider the negative impact it would have on this island. Please help us to protect Lana`i for future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,

The Preza and Amaral `Ohana

From: KB [<mailto:bingcars4now@gmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2014 8:49 AM

To: CPCtestimony

Subject: HCR241, 8:35 AM, Room 325

Dear Committee,

I am writing to voice my support for HCR241.

The Lana'i community has consistently spoken out against Big Wind. The wind farm would ruin historic land.

The new landowner has not said he wants any part of Big Wind, a project that would be contrary to his stated vision of self sustaining island.

The Governor has stated that putting all those wind turbines on Lana'i's culturally significant and strikingly beautiful North End doesn't fit with the vision of either the land-owner or the residents of Lanai.

Both DBEDT and HECO have stated publicly that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS.

These are reasons enough to to put a final end to the Big Wind project.

Thank you,

Kevin Brown
Kaunakakai

--

Home (808) 558-0808

From: Sam Dimaya [<mailto:ahakea346@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2014 7:38 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: HCR241

Support

Samuel Dimaya Jr
Sent from my iPhone

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair
Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Vice Chair

Re: HCR241

March 25, 2014 8:35 a.m., Room 325

Chair Lee, Representative Thielen and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in **SUPPORT** of HCR 241, for the following reasons:

- Big Wind on Lana'i is a one-way "generation"-tie system, that would send all our power by undersea cable through the Humpback Whale Sanctuary to O`ahu, leaving Lana'i with thousands of acres in historic Ka'a ahupua'a irreparably damaged.
- Hawaiian Electric (HECO) and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) have both publicly said that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS or O`ahu's energy needs.
- The Lana'i community and others from around the state –and the world - have consistently spoken out against Big Wind and the devastating impacts it would have on this small rural island.
- The Governor has stated that putting hundreds of monstrous wind turbines on Lana'i's culturally significant and strikingly beautiful North End doesn't fit with the new majority landowner's vision for Lana'i, any more than it does with the vision of other Lana`i residents.
- Big Wind is a proposal that would contradict the majority landowner's stated vision of a completely sustainable island.
- O`ahu should meet its own power needs, including learning to conserve its energy uses.
- The PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind – it is time to pull the plug.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sally Kaye
511 Ilima Ave.
Lana`i City, HI 96763

HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 241.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
beverlyzigmond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: RE: HCR241, 8:35 AM, Room 325 Aloha, and thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HCR241. I would like to share the following reasons why I support this resolution. Big Wind on Lana'i would be only an industrial wind generating plant, a one-way system, sending all our power by undersea cable through the Humpback Whale Sanctuary to O`ahu, leaving Lana'i with thousands of acres in historic Ka'a ahupua'a irreparably damaged. Both DBEDT and HECO have stated publicly that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS. The Lana'i community has consistently spoken out against Big Wind; it would devastate this small rural island. The new landowner has not said he wants any part of Big Wind, a project that would be contrary to his stated vision of a completely sustainable island. The PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind. It is time to right that wrong--- end Big Wind on Lana'i. These are just a few reasons why I support this resolution. Please pass this resolution. mahalo. Beverly Zigmund Lana`i City, Hawaii 96763

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alicia morrier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thorne Abbott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martha Willett Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support ending once and for all, the Big Wind Project on Lana'i island. The community is not supportive of it. I am part of the community of Lana'i. DEBET says it is not needed. HECO says Oahu no longer needs it. It is in the way of the landowners plan for a self sufficient island. Please end this project that will otherwise forever change and ruin our tiny island. I have grown up here since 1957. This is my home.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chelsea trevino	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill and hope that our legislators will see that the big wind issue has more of a negative impact on our state in regards to the energy it is meant to create. There is evidence that the reasons for its need to help Oahu with it's energy consumption is no longer applicable. We must look at the long term issues of it's impact to the land and people that can be of great demise rather than the short term need to fill an energy need for today.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Koohan Paik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah dela Cruz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this Resolution to assure that (to quote from The Wizard of Oz) Big Wind on Lana'i is "really most sincerely dead." There is no support for the project other than from David Murdock and his investors. The only so-called benefits for the community were those agreed to between Hawaiian Electric and Castle & Cooke. HECO no longer needs the Lana'i power. Castle & Cooke can't provide most of the benefits since it no longer owns Lana'i, and the remainder of the benefits are so manini that they're an insult to that little fish. The harm to our community has been pointed out many times. A Lana'i hunting expert says a bullet can travel four miles so hunting would, most assuredly, be banned in the proposed project area, and the developer can no longer provide comparable acreage for hunting. Hunting provides recreation and subsistence. The turbines would harm our high end tourism as construction would be disruptive, and their appearance would detract from the natural surroundings. The project area is in a historic ahupua'a overlooked by one of Lana'i's major tourist sites. The turbines would be built in a steep area so the earth displaced by the turbine bases and grading for access roads would flow into the ocean which is part of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary which surrounds Lana'i. The runoff area is inhabited by endangered monk seals and turtles. We've been living with the threat of Big Wind for years. Please vote in favor of the Resolution and lift that threat.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Stokes & Ciso Lagmay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ed Wagner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Big Wind on Lana'i would be only a "generation"-tied, one-way system, sending all our power by undersea cable through the Humpback Whale Sanctuary to O`ahu, leaving Lana'i with thousands of acres in historic Ka'a ahupua'a irreparably damaged. Both DBEDT and HECO have stated publicly that Big Wind on Lana'i is no longer needed to meet the State's RPS. The Lana'i community has consistently spoken out against Big Wind; it would devastate this small rural island. The Governor has stated that putting all those wind turbines on Lana'i's culturally significant and strikingly beautiful North End doesn't fit with the new majority landowner's vision for Lana'i any more than it does with the rest of us who live here. The new landowner has not said he wants any part of Big Wind, a project that would be contrary to his stated vision of a completely sustainable island. The PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind. It is time to right that wrong--- end Big Wind on Lana'i.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joy cash	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geoffrey Lasr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This idea of a cable is just that an Idea. Let it stay an Idea instead of having the public get involved in a big payout. Alternate energy and on site usage (solar) are getting more competitive Conservation should be the main theme of energy. WE DO NOT NEED A CABLE OR THE EXPENSE THEREFORE I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
penny s	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LANAI SAYS NO TO BIG WIND TURBINES ON THERE ISLAND...MOLOKAI
SAYS A BIGGGG NOOOOOO TO TURBINES ON LANAI
LANDSCAPE.....PASS THIS BILL TO END SPECULATION AND CORPORATE
GREED THIS IS NOT A WIND WIND FOR ELECTRIC RATE
PAYERS.....SAY NO TO BIG WIND ON LANAI

HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulana Kahoohalahala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keri Zacher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Bond	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this very important legislation. The people of Lanai and Molokai do not want industrial wind towers and we don't want an interisland high voltage cable. It is unfair to increase Hawaii's already astronomical electricity rates with a boondoggle like this. Please represent the people of Hawaii, not Castle & Cooke.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maggie daub	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Aleck	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Re: HCR 241 Tuesday March 25 Rm 325 8:35 a.m. From: Nancy Aleck
Strongly Support It's rather incredible that we have "privately owned" islands as part of Hawaii nei. With one owner having a hold on the homes and livelihoods and future of the people of Lanai, it has been challenging, even dangerous, for the people to speak out. And yet, many have! I support an end to the discussion and threat of Big Wind on Lanai. The community doesn't want it, DBEDT says it's not needed, HECO says O'ahu no longer needs it. This resolution urges the PUC to right a wrong by terminating any further consideration of Big Wind on Lanai. Thank you. Nancy Aleck PO Box 61212 Honolulu 96839

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this Bill. Cable systems for power are obsolete with the advent of free wireless energy.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy Lucas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is very important for the future of Lanai and the protection of the Hawaiian culture.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sherrian witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roselani Kahoohalahala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha legislators, Decentralized power protects us from massive outages caused by natural disasters or sabotage. mahalo, Cory Harden

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/22/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: No more destruction of endangered habitats! Hawaii Island does not wish to support the indulgence of energy abusers. We have alternatives. Thank You!

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
SUE HORNER	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It's time to put a definitive, unequivocal end to Big Wind on Lanai. The community doesn't want it (and never did!), DBEDT says it's not needed, HECO says O'ahu no longer needs it; even the Governor says it would be "in the way" of the new landowner's vision of a self-sufficient Lanai. This resolution urges the PUC to right a wrong by terminating any further consideration of Big Wind on Lanai.

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jan Murray	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Mahalo Janet Murray

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/23/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Travis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support. Rooftop solar will provide more renewable power than the State and Utility can easily absorb. It makes any discussion of new, unneeded centralized generation and inter island sharing a boondoggle that can only serve to try (unsuccessfully) to perpetuate the Utility's business model.

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I support Bills HCR241 and SCR100. Please no windmills on Lana'i. Please no underwater sea cables connecting islands.

Mahalo,

Janice Hill

2844 Ohina Street

Kihei, HI 96753

Please pass this, and stop construction of any undersea power cables to transport wind power from Lanai to other islands, and stop construction of big windmills on Lanai for powering other island destinations.

I am a Maui voter.

Mahalo,

Martha Martin

P.O.Box 790300

Paia, HI 96779

Sent from my iPad

Support
Rohana Dimaya

I am submitting testimony in support of HCR 241 because I believe it is time to put to rest the idea of Big Wind on Lanai. This resolution urges the Public Utilities Commission to right a wrong by terminating any further consideration of this project. It is obvious that no one wants Big Wind on Lanai except perhaps Mr. David Murdock. We don't need it.

March 23, 2014

RE: Testimony - House Continuing Resolution (HCR) 241 – Submitted by
8:30 AM, Monday, March 24, 2014

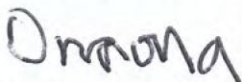
Dear Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of
Hawai'i:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 100 and House Concurrent Resolution
No. 241- That the Public Utilities Commission be urged to terminate
consideration of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable
system and the construction of industrial-scale wind energy generation
facilities on the island of Lana'i

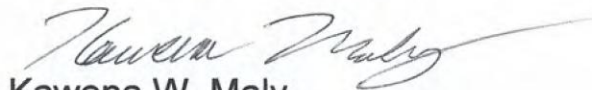
We humbly ask your support of this resolution for the good of the 'āina,
honua ola (living environment - cultural landscape), the island of Lāna'i,
and people of Hawai'i. The project is the wrong action, and does not solve
our energy needs. It is not sustainable, and threatens the very environment
that makes Hawai'i, Hawai'i.

Your kind consideration of this resolution and our request is sincerely
appreciated.

Me ka ha'aha'a,



Onaona Maly



Kawena W. Maly

P.O.Box 631599
Lāna'i City, HI 96763

808 565-7174

Thank you for hearing this Resolution, and for your continued support of the Lana'i community.

Two years ago, when members of this Committee came over to Lana'i, you heard loudly and clearly from our community. We were in steadfast opposition to Big Wind, and that has only intensified and expanded. We have stated for years — in public meetings on every island, in Legislative hearings, on Lana'i with sign-waving, in newspapers, television and radio, and with the ever-proliferating “NO WINDMILLS ON LANAI” signs all over our island — that Big Wind on Lana'i was a boondoggle; a one-way extension cord for O'ahu's unceasing demand for more and more electricity.

Big Wind should never have gotten any “legs.” It was estimated to cost tax and ratepayers at least \$3+ Billion dollars, and that was five or six years ago! Unfortunately, the PUC gave Big Wind on Lāna'i its first foothold on our wallets. As then Commissioner Les Kondo wrote in his stinging dissent in Docket 2009-0327, the PUC should never have granted a waiver from competitive bidding for Big Wind.

It's way too expensive, way too destructive, and — NOT ONE — environmental impact statement has been undertaken. In the last seven years of division, mistrust, lies and fights, our community was ripped asunder by this proposed project, yet not a single permit has been granted to move this project forward, other than one for the meteorological towers placed on Lana'i in 2007.

Big Wind's necessary extension cord, the proposed 70 mile long undersea cable, has had no EIS either. In fact, throughout these past seven years of struggle, no landing site was ever determined, no final costs provided, no true benefits to Lana'i agreed upon, no community support (other than through Murdock's intimidated ILWU supporters) demonstrated. Brothers and sisters were not speaking to each other. Family dinners banned the word “windmill” from the kitchen table. Friendships deteriorated; violence was threatened and in some cases pursued. It was horrible.

But we've begun to heal. The new majority landowner has expressed no support for, nor do any signs of Big Wind appear in his plans for Lana'i's future. The union members who believed Murdock's threats to close down the island now realize they were groundless. Our economy is improving, our disagreements no longer about an industrial wind power plant.

But as you know, Murdock retained some rights to develop his wind power plant. No one but Murdock and Ellison's lawyers, the Consumer Advocate and the PUC have seen these rights. So the threat of Big Wind remains over Lana'i's head.

And thus, this resolution. We recognize that resolutions are not binding. Right now, the fate of Big Wind lies with the PUC. In its current Docket 2013-0168, the PUC has asked Castle & Cooke to both demonstrate that they have made "progress" on Big Wind since the sale of Lana'i, and to prove that Big Wind on Lana'i is "still in the public interest." It would be important for the PUC to know that the pulse of the House favors ending Big Wind now.

It is time to right that wrong; end Big Wind on Lana'i. We ask your support to see that this disruptive, destructive project is "Gone with the Wind."

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This is testimony that I am in support of HCR 241

Sherri Mora

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HCR241

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Frith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I STRONGLY URGE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO END CONSIDERATION OF AN INTER ISLAND HIGH-VOLTAGE UNDERSEA ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEM AND INDUSTRIAL WIND FACILITIES ON THE ISLAND OF LANA'I. Mahalo for taking my public testimony.

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.

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HCR102

Submitted on: 3/24/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 25, 2014 08:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Freitas Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this!!!

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.

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LATE

Aloha...

With respect, I support this bill to end the big wind and cable threat to Lanai. Individual islands need to look at energy solutions that are sized appropriately for their island. How is it "green" to turn parts of neighbor islands into industrial facilities so that Oahu has renewable energy. Oahu, as an island, must come up with their own plan for energy which is right for them, but not at the cost of the other islands. Bring some sense to the energy picture.

Cheryl Corbiell

Molokai resident.

--

Cheryl Corbiell
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