

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1515

February 17, 2015  
8:30 A.M.

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST PELATRON Q, LLC.

House Bill No. 1515 authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) to assist Pelatron Q, LLC, with the development of waste-to-energy power plants in Hawaii pursuant to Part V, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department would like to advise the Legislature and prospective SPRB parties that should the legislation be approved, approval of SPRB issuance will require further discussion and satisfactory credit underwriting review of the financing components with respect to any proposed financing.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Testimony of Brooke Wilson  
Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Representative Chris Lee, Chair  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

HB 1515 – Authorizing the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to Assist Pelatron Q, LLC.

Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
8:30 AM  
Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Lee and Vice Chair Lowen and members of the committee,

PRP is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.

We support HB 1515 which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Pelatron Q, LLC, with the development of waste-to-energy power plants in Hawaii.

Hawaii imports most of our energy and most of our food. SB 1047 will allow sustainable solutions for the generation of renewable energy and waste management through the development of waste-to-energy power plants.

The State of Hawaii's goal is to meet 70% of our energy needs by 2030 through energy efficiency and renewable energy. In order to meet this goal, we must be creative in the widespread installation of green energy infrastructure equipment.

We respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of HB 1515 to demonstrate our commitment to a sustainable community in Hawaii.



**Testimony of Gary M. Slovin/Mihoko Ito  
on behalf of PVT Land Co.**

Date: February 15, 2015

To: Rep. Chris Lee  
Chair, Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
*Submitted [viaEETestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:viaEETestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)*

Re: **H.B. 1515 Authorizing the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds To Assist Pelatron Q. LLC**  
**Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 8.30 a.m.**  
**Conference Room: 325**

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Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

PVT Land Company submits this testimony in **support** of HB 1515, which authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Pelatron Q, LLC.

PVT supports the intent of this bill, which is to support “the development of renewable and efficient energy systems in the State.” We support the production of clean renewable energy from locally produced solid waste. We agree that the “development of waste-to-energy power plants will contribute to the State's energy security, reduce the State's carbon footprint, reduce the environmental impact of landfilling waste, and add living-wage jobs to the State's economy.”

For these reasons, PVT Land Company supports HB 1515 and respectfully requests this committee pass the measure. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

lowen2-Thomas

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2015 6:05 AM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: mauibrad@hotmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM\*

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/14/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brad Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 8:47 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: babaku@aol.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
douglas Fox	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Incinerators are a money pit. Ask Detroit how their incinerator worked out and how much it cost them. Ask Iceland, France and other places contaminated by incineration. Recycle!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 11:58 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: lucialyou@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM\*

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lucia You	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 7:35 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: miles@aloha.net  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM\*

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Miles Mulcahy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 10:29 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: paulakomarajr@yahoo.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM  
Attachments: write\_quo\_warranto.pdf

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this HB1515 bill. I remind you that you will be held accountable. Read the Quo Warranto to understand the peoples position.

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lowen2-Thomas

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 2:38 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: rfreitasjr@hotmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Freitas Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 5:46 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose. I've read a lot on WTE, especially incineration, it's a toxic technology that doesn't belong in Hawai`i. We need to be intensely recycling. Heck, Seattle just passed a bill that even mandates the recycling of food scraps.

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**Mission : To advocate, educate, and promote the benefits of zero waste to our community and leaders to achieve an Island-wide zero waste management system which conserves and diverts waste from the landfill.**

Testimony Strongly Opposed to HB1515  
House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee  
Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 AM

**LATE**

Aloha Honorable Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee Members,

EEP is the watchdog committee to assure that legislation not in the best interest of SUSTAINABILITY and the ENVIRONMENT does not get passed in the interest of our Islands and the generations to come.

The proposal by Pelatron does not meet the criteria for being sustainable - it is yet another "pipe dream" designed to make people think that their approach will solve all our problems. It Doesn't!

Environmentally the State has made a commitment to waste reduction by 70% with the pledges made in the ALOHA + Challenge. The only way that this desirable goal can be achieved is through processes embedded in the philosophy of Zero Waste where we focus on reduction (both of wasteful consumption AND smarter purchases and packaging), Reuse, Recycling, Repairing durable goods, and deconstruction and salvage. If we can achieve, or even come close to the 70% Goal we will be moving toward the SUSTAINABILITY envisioned in the Aloha + Challenge.

The Pelatron business model takes us in the opposite direction. We would lose the valuable resources we capture through recycling (many recyclable products also contain the most energy - with recycling we preserve that energy - through thermal conversion we lose it!) and the energy provided in the processes is not as efficient nor as clean as many of the resources we are currently using. I highly doubt they would be able to provide energy as inexpensive as the renewables we have coming on-line - the PUC would be hard pressed to approve a more expensive contract that is less environmentally desired than the options we currently have.

ZWK opposes this type of legislation in general. We feel that financial support should not be provided to one vendor over another, especially when the proposed projects are currently part of County solicitations for waste management solutions.



**Mission : To advocate, educate, and promote the benefits of zero waste to our community and leaders to achieve an Island-wide zero waste management system which conserves and diverts waste from the landfill.**

If anything, if funding is to be made available for waste management solutions, it should be available for all proposals, especially those that focus on sustainable solutions rather than the destruction of valuable natural resources.

Also, in the case of Pelatron, we are particularly critical of support for a system with no proven track record and that proposes a totally unrealistic "free" solution. Granting access to State backed Revenue Bonds can be seen as State support for unsustainable, ill conceived, poorly thought out, and un-economical endeavors.

If a proposal seems "Too good to be True", it probably is! With a Pelatron business model we can waste precious resources, pay more for electricity that is less environmentally friendly, provide fewer jobs than focusing on Zero Waste, and take a financial risk with tax payers money. ZWK STRONGLY OPPOSES providing environmentally unsound incentives to businesses.

Thank You for this opportunity to testify.

# Hawai'i Construction Alliance



P.O. Box 179441  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 348-8885

February 16, 2015

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair  
and members  
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Hawai'i State House  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is in **strong support of HB1515**, authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Pelatron Q, LLC.

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, the member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

Pelatron Q, LLC is proposing to develop and construct waste-to-energy power plants utilizing unique patented plasma gasification and vitrification technology. Each of the plants will take produced municipal solid waste and other material that would otherwise end up in a landfill and convert the waste into synthetic gas to produce six to eight megawatts of clean, renewable energy.

Pelatron Q, LLC is a Hawai'i-based company with a strong commitment to ensuring that their waste-to-energy plants have positive impacts on the local community – not just by diverting municipal waste from our landfills and promoting energy security, but in creating quality jobs for Hawai'i residents. To that end, we have been in productive discussions with Pelatron Q, LLC to ensure that local workers have the opportunity to construct the waste-to-energy plants and appurtenant facilities.

Additionally, we note that Pelatron Q, LLC proposes to construct a waste-to-energy plant in Kekaha, Kaua'i. Since the last recession, Kaua'i has been a challenging market for our members, many of whom are currently out-of-work. The construction of a waste-to-energy plant in Kekaha would provide our Kaua'i-based members the opportunity to put their skills to work at home on the Garden Isle.

Therefore, we strongly request your committee's **favorable consideration on HB1515**, authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Pelatron Q, LLC.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyler Dos Santos-Tam".

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Construction Alliance  
execdir@hawaiiiconstructionalliance.org



**LATE**

3375 Koapaka Street, Suite F-220-20  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
www.pelatron-q.com

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015 | 8:30 AM | ROOM 325**

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Honorable Representatives:

Pelatron Q **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the passage of House Bill No. 1515, authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Pelatron Q, LLC with the development of waste-to-energy power plants in Hawaii.

Pelatron Q is a joint venture between Pelatron Power Evolution and Solena Q, a partnership that is developing applications of the patented Solena plasma gasification and vitrification (SPGV) process in the State of Hawaii with various public and private partners. This cutting edge integration is more efficient than any biomass conversion technology on the market today. By utilizing state of the art plasma torches in a closed loop and oxygen-deprived environment, SPGV technology extracts more than 99% of all carbon in the waste stream and converts all organic materials into a bio-synthetic gas. This clean gas can be used for everything from generating electricity to making jet fuel.

Different from H-Power and other systems that *burn* trash, our integration eliminates ash and toxins as by products and with as much as four times the net energy output. Most importantly, the renewable energy which we produce is base load and dispatch power that is cheaper to make than using imported oil or liquefied natural gas. This results in an avoided cost of power generation that can be passed on to the consumer.

Currently, the firm is actively cultivating solutions on Kaua‘i and O‘ahu. The success of these systems will move the State closer to our goals of 70% renewable by 2030, create local ownership and control over power production, generate new jobs for Hawaii’s residents, and contribute to our overall economic and environmental independence as an Island State.

I will be available in person to address any of your questions in detail. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo kakou,

Kekoa McClellan  
President & CEO, Pelatron Q, LLC  
[Kekoa.McClellan@pelatronpower.com](mailto:Kekoa.McClellan@pelatronpower.com)  
1.808.629.7000

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:27 AM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: res1z0vb@hawaiiantel.net  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM



**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please never allow green waste to be burned which is our home grown soil and life support for all of us and our ability to feed our selves. also the best way to keep land fertile, non compacted, water retention, microbial organism rich balanced by nature soil.

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lowen2-Thomas

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Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 11:27 PM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: occupyhilomedia@yahoo.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM\*

**LATE**

**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerri Marks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 8:45 AM  
To: EEPtestimony  
Cc: slwsurfing@yahoo.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1515 on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM



**HB1515**

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sharon willeford	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The People have spoken loudly about this. Zero waste is our goal.

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**LATE**

February 17, 2015

Good morning Agriculture Committee Chair Clift Tsuji, Vice Chair Richard Onishi and members of the committee,

My name is HC "Skip" Bittenbender, I am a resident of St. Louis Drive , Honolulu and I strongly oppose HB1514.

My opposition is related to my experience with the growing, processing and marketing of coffee, cacao, macadamia, guava, and 'awa in Hawaii. My experience is based on my job as extension specialist in CTAHR at UHM for the past 29 years. This is my personal testimony and not the official position of the University of Hawaii.

This bill unfairly targets farmers for using legally approved pesticides without demonstrating that farmers have caused problem in our communities. The manufacture, testing, and application of pesticides is highly regulated by the federal and state governemtn departments working together.

My concern is that this legislation is more about harassment of large farms and the seed industry and not public safety as demonstrated by the Hawaii Department of Health finding that more pesticides in urban Honolulu compared to agricultural areas throughout the State.

Please do not pass this bill rather strength the HDOA's resources to enforce and educate Hawaii's farmers and public in general about safe pesticide usage.

Thank you,

H.C. "Skip" Bittenbender, Ph.D.