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**Testimony before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

HCR 37/HR 9 – Relating to Donations of Excess Energy from Photovoltaic Panels

**By Ka’iulani Shinsato
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Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.**

Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ka’iulani Shinsato. I am the Director of the Distributed Energy Resources Programs Division at Hawaiian Electric Company. I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiary utilities, Maui Electric Company and Hawai’i Electric Light Company (Hawaiian Electric Companies).

The Hawaiian Electric Companies oppose HCR 37 and HR 9 relating to donations of excess energy from photovoltaic panels.

HCR 37 and HR 9 encourage the electric utilities to implement a program where credits from excess energy received from residential photovoltaic customers may be donated to nonprofit organizations or schools for their electric bills.

By Decision and Order issued on October 12, 2015, in Docket No. 2014-0192 -- the PUC’s investigatory proceeding on Distributed Energy Resources (“DER”) -- the PUC closed the Net Energy Metering (“NEM”) program effective the date of the Decision and Order and also approved new rooftop PV programs to replace NEM. These programs will continue to allow customers to add rooftop solar but in a manner that is fair and sustainable to all customers.

It is important to note that the Companies do not retain the benefit of any forfeited credits; rather, they accrue to the benefit of existing customers.

While HCR 37 and HR 9 are well-intentioned, we have serious concerns as these resolutions are inconsistent with the fundamental premise upon which NEM and the newly approved Customer Grid Supply Programs were based -- to encourage the "right-sizing" of customers' energy generating systems to be used primarily to offset part or all of the customer's own electrical requirements. NEM and the newly created Grid Supply programs were *not* intended to compensate customers for all of their exported generation, such as through a Feed-In Tariff. The proposal outlined in these resolutions can have the unintended consequence of customers over-sizing their DER systems, which in turn, could also preclude non-DER customers from having access to DER offerings.

For all of these reasons, we ask that these resolutions be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 12:10 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR37 on Mar 15, 2016 08:30AM*

HCR37

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for EEP on Mar 15, 2016 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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