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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [stevechanksg@gmail.com](mailto:stevechanksg@gmail.com)  
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**SB893**

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Feb 18, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steve Chan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 16, 2015



Senator Cynthia H. Thielen, Chair, Committee on Water and Land  
Hearing on Senate Bill 893, Relating to Water and Sewer Distribution Systems  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Professor Steve Chan, PhD  
Chair, Swansea University Network/Relationship Science Analytics PhD Program  
Director, Sensemaking-U.S. Pacific Command Fellowship  
Director, Pacific-Asia Institute for Resilience and Sustainability (AIRS)  
4365 Executive Drive, Suite 670  
San Diego, CA 92121

Dear Chair Thielen and Members,

Water and sewer management costs continue to increase due to the varied issues pertaining to water loss as well as overflows, and this affects both the security and sustainability of not just the city and counties, but also the State of Hawaii. Given the scale of intensifying water management problems, the challenge of effectively tackling these challenges requires a shift in thinking as well as the accompanying decision engineering actions chosen for how water is managed and used.

Currently, the State has access to more than \$100 million in the State Revolving Fund to address many of these issues. The Pacific Asia Institute for Resilience and Sustainability (AIRS) research efforts are designed to assist in capturing data as relates to the location, condition of assets, and water flows. This data can be analyzed and visualized in quasi-real time to generate insight on water consumption behavior and supply conditions, as well as generate alerts of actual or potential losses from leaks and aging equipment across the network. The AIRS research team can also assist in bringing together different partners and funding opportunities to address the mounting water management challenges.

Current systems are generally stand-alone and limited in scalability, but water and sewer systems need to provide an integrated operating picture with robust real-time analytics, modeling, and decision-support capabilities. This will provide greater visibility into what is happening across the water network on all the islands.

This bill will empower the AIRS to recommend the deployment of apropos technology so as to provide comprehensive visibility and situational awareness that well spans water and wastewater operations to include an advanced level of event and incident management, improved decision-making, and enhanced efficiency to benefit the local population.

Ultimately, our city and county managers can use the technology and the insights it provides to more effectively manage demand, effectively control supply through better decisions about what, when, and how much water to store, treat, and distribute. It also enables improved collaboration and more coordinated management across multiple stakeholders by enabling them to access and share data, via a common platform.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Chan", is written over a horizontal line.

Prof. Steve Chan, PhD

