

# GM652

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Report Title: Public Utilities Commission

Reappointment: No

Representing: Commissioner

Residence: Maui

Present: Yes



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

Testimony of  
**Ford N. Fuchigami**  
Administrative Director, Office of the Governor

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
April 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m., Room 229

In consideration of  
**Governor's Message 652**

Confirmation of Jennifer Potter  
Member, Public Utilities Commission

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Jennifer Potter as a Member of the Public Utilities Commission. Ms. Potter is an assistant specialist with the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute. Prior to joining (HNEI), Ms. Potter was a senior scientific engineering associate in the Energy Markets and Policy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

During her tenure at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, she was the project lead on the 2025 California Demand Response Potential Study for the California Public Utilities Commission. Ms. Potter also worked at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District in various positions, including enterprise performance data manager, principal market analyst, and project manager. Ms. Potter was also an electric analyst for the City of Roseville in California.

Ms. Potter earned her bachelor's degree in international studies and economics from Southern Oregon University, and her master's degree in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University. Ms. Potter's education and professional background will be extremely valuable as Hawaii strives towards its 100% renewable energy goal. This administration is committed to transforming the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Jennifer Potter will support our employees at the Public Utilities Commission in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

TESTIMONY OF RANDY IWASE  
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

April 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m.

**MEASURE:** Gov. Msg. No. 652  
**TITLE:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

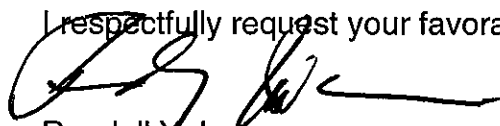
Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Please permit me to take this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of the nomination of Jennifer M. Potter as commissioner with the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC").

As set forth in Ms. Potter's impressive resume, she has had a wealth of valuable experience in the utility and renewable energy fields. For example, Ms. Potter served as a technical researcher on Hawaii's Pathway to an Open Grid project that forecasts potential DER adoption scenarios. She served as Co-Principal Investigator, researcher and author of demand response technical papers for the Department of Energy. She served as a Principal Market Analyst for the Sacramento Utility District (SMUD) and was responsible for annual forecast of electricity retail load requirements for the electric utility. She served as project manager and planned, implemented and managed SMUD's Smart Grid Consumer Behavior Study. She also served as Demand Side Specialist – Energy Efficiency Program Planner.

The PUC is presently reviewing and will act on several rate case filings from the electric utilities, private water companies, gas company, and Young Brothers. We are also reviewing the application to acquire Hawaiian Telcom. These are all complex, voluminous, and important cases that will have direct impact on the public. Additionally, the PUC will continue to actively pursue the State's RPS and Energy Efficiency goals. In this regard we continue to actively and aggressively pursue such initiatives as Time of Use (TOU), Demand Response, Distributed Energy Resource and Community Base Renewable. The workload is heavy and the learning curve is steep. As a commissioner, Ms. Potter, with her extensive background and experience can and will "hit the ground running".

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Ms. Jennifer M. Potter.

  
Randall Y. Iwase

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
LT. GOVERNOR



RANDALL Y. IWASE  
CHAIR

LORRAINE H. AKIBA  
COMMISSIONER

JAMES P. GRIFFIN  
COMMISSIONER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
465 S. KING STREET, #103  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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April 11, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
State Capitol, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

RE: Testimony in Support of Governor's Message No. 652

Thank you for the opportunity to support the appointment of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission ("HPUC"). Ms. Potter's background combines strong technical expertise with practical industry experience implementing the types of customer-focused initiatives that are expected to help meet the state's Renewable and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards. With this combination of expertise and experience, she is highly qualified for the position and will be ready to serve the public from day one.

In her prior roles, Ms. Potter led high profile demonstration projects and studies of demand-side management technologies, innovative utility pricing programs, and customer data management and analytics. Since moving to Maui, she has worked on several projects with local stakeholders analyzing distributed energy resource technologies. Through these experiences, Ms. Potter has developed in-depth knowledge that will immediately benefit the Commission's review of new investments and programs to meet Hawaii's clean energy goals.

As this Committee knows well, the duties of a Commissioner extend beyond the energy sector and require more than technical knowledge. From my interactions, Ms. Potter is highly motivated by public service and exhibits the ability to learn and understand the broader set of industries regulated by the HPUC. Furthermore, in looking at her resume, you will see that she has served in every professional role with distinction. For these reasons, I encourage you to consider her nomination favorably.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Potter's nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Griffin".

James P. Griffin, Ph.D.  
Commissioner



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
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Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
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Statement of  
**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND  
HEALTH**

Thursday, April 12, 2018  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of  
**GM 652**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JENNIFER POTTER,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2024.**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT), **strongly supports** the confirmation of Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission.

Ms. Potter is well qualified in her work on energy policy and utility concerns. As a former employee of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Lab managed by the University of California, and now at the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) at the University of Hawaii, she is familiar with the concerns of utility and energy issues. We have worked with her on HNEI's Pathways to an Open Grid: Oahu, as well as share interests in the value and importance of data as the foundation for good policy and decision making.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Ms. Potter's nomination.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



TODD NACAPUY  
CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER

**STATE OF HAWAI'I**  
**OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

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Testimony of  
**TODD NACAPUY**  
Chief Information Officer, State of Hawai'i

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH  
THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018  
9:30 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 652**  
**RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE JENNIFER POTTER**  
**TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda and members of the committee:

I am Todd Nacapuy, Chief Information Officer of the State of Hawai'i and head of the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), testifying in **support** of Governor's Message 652, Relating to Gubernatorial Nominee Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission.

Ms. Potter brings a wealth of experience to the Public Utilities Commission. She has worked in the utility industry since 2006 in a variety of roles which provides her a depth of knowledge in areas, such as advance metering infrastructure, smart grid and load demands, just to name a few. Ms. Potter is an experienced analyst and project manager and is dedicated to making informed decisions using data. We believe her strong analytical skills and leadership will serve the Public Utilities Commission well.

Thank you for your consideration of ETS' support of Ms. Potter to the Public Utilities Commission.



Before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Thursday, April 12, 2018, 9:30 a.m, Room 229  
GM 652: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to Public Utilities Commission,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii (“DER Council”), I would like to testify in strong support for the confirmation of Jennifer Potter as commissioner for the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. The DER Council is a nonprofit trade organization formed to assist with the development of distributed energy resources and smart grid technologies which will support an affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply for Hawaii.

We support the confirmation of Ms. Potter’s nomination for several reasons. First, Ms. Potter has demonstrated a thorough understanding of distributed energy resources and demand response technologies and policies as evidenced by her extensive record of pertinent and timely publications. Ms. Potter should easily integrate into the fast-moving energy dockets currently before the commission and provide a well-informed and up-to-date perspective on current practices and strategies.

In addition, we believe that Ms. Potter will bring a fair and balanced voice to the commission. Although Ms. Potter has extensive experience with DERs and associated technologies and policies, Ms. Potter also has considerable experience with electric utilities, starting with Roseville Electric in California, and then moving onto the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. We therefore believe that Ms. Potter has the experience to work with the increasing complexity of Hawaii’s energy systems, such that the utility, ratepayers, and clean energy stakeholders will benefit from a fair, informed, and balanced approach.

Finally, we support Ms. Potter’s confirmation because we believe that her experience will allow her to make a graceful transition into the many dockets currently before the commission. As a nonprofit trade organization with intervener status in several energy dockets currently before the commission, we have a keen interest in ensuring that the commission operates as effectively and efficiently as possible to provide timely and well-informed decisions, and we believe that Ms. Potter’s confirmation will ensure a smooth transition

Thank you for the opportunity to testify  
Leslie Cole-Brooks  
Executive Director  
Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii



**TESTIMONY REGARDING NOMINATION OF JENNIFER POTTER TO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**being heard by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 9:30 AM**

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Jennifer Potter's nomination to serve as a Commissioner on the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

The Commission plays a critical role in the State's ground-breaking efforts to address the challenge of climate change through the deployment of advanced, clean energy technologies, while simultaneously overseeing and regulating public utilities to ensure that they provide reliable and affordable service, including for electricity customers. As new technologies and business models emerge, it is vital that the Commission's leadership continue to draw on deep knowledge and expertise to address the growing complexity of the energy system, and the opportunities and challenges that come with that additional complexity.

Tesla's mission is to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy. Through the electric vehicles, solar, and energy storage products we deploy in Hawaii to help meet our shared clean transportation, clean energy, and climate goals, Tesla is directly impacted by the regulatory activities and policies of the PUC.

Tesla believes that Ms. Potter is eminently qualified to fulfill the responsibilities of a Commissioner in the current environment. Her experience, spanning research institutions, utilities, and with customer-side programs, is well-suited to this role. The role of the energy customer is evolving, from passive consumer of energy to active participant in the energy system, empowered by an increasingly broad array of technologies including solar, energy storage, advanced inverters, electric vehicles, and smart appliances. Tesla believes that Ms. Potter will bring substantial insight and perspective on these and other issues before the PUC.

For these reasons we strongly encourage this Committee to recommend Ms. Potter's confirmation to the full the Senate.





April 9, 2018  
CGS&OO 18-009

The Honorable Chair Baker,  
The Honorable Vice Chair Tokuda and  
Members of the Committee

**RE: Testimony on Governor's Message No. 652 – Jennifer Potter**

Dear Honorable Chair Baker, Honorable Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting for consideration and confirmation as a Member of the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jennifer Potter, for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

As the Chief Grid Strategy and Operations Officer at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), I am writing to express my support of the appointment of Jennifer Potter to serve as a member of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"), for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

From working directly with Ms. Potter at SMUD and from following her career since, I'm certain she has the skills, integrity and practical experience to serve the people of Hawaii on the Public Utilities Commission with great distinction.

With Hawaii standing at the forefront of the distributed energy revolution, I'd like to briefly share my thoughts about the work Ms. Potter performed on our \$308 million SmartSacramento project from 2011 through 2014. She was responsible for the planning, implementation and project management of SMUD's SmartPricing Options, a pilot program that examined customer acceptance and consumption behavior to different time-variant electricity rates. In just seven months, Ms. Potter oversaw the recruitment of more than 10,000 residential customers and coordinated the work of more than 100 SMUD employees in the two-year pilot that became known throughout the industry for being the most accurate and innovative pricing project ever conducted. In fact, the SmartPricing pilot was instrumental in SMUD's decision to make Time-of-Day Rates the standard for all residential customers beginning later this year – the first utility in California to take such a dramatic step.

Following her salutary work on the time-based pricing pilot, Ms. Potter was responsible for the development of SMUD's Data Governance Strategy, identifying the resource needs and organizational changes necessary for us to put massive amounts of smart-meter data to the best use of both SMUD and our 620,000 customers.

After leaving SMUD in 2015, Ms. Potter worked two years as senior engineering associate at the world-renowned Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, serving as project lead on the California Demand Response Potential Study commissioned by the California Public Utilities Commission. Late last year, she accepted a research and project lead position with the Hawaii Natural Energy Commission.

Along with her deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities confronting utilities in the inexorable move toward a low-carbon future, Ms. Potter brings a passion and energy to her work each day that inspires others to do their best. She will be a valued member of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Lau".

Paul Lau  
Chief Grid Strategy and Operations Officer  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District



# ELEMENTAL EXCELERATOR

Written Statement of  
**Elemental Excelerator**  
before the  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
Thursday, April 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of  
**GM652: Nomination of Jennifer Potter for Public Utilities Commissioner**

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Elemental Excelerator respectfully submits our strong support for the confirmation of Jennifer Potter as a Public Utility Commissioner.

Elemental Excelerator is a Honolulu-based growth accelerator program based in Hawaii. Each year, we select 15-20 companies and fund each company up to \$1 million. We recruit entrepreneurs to work on our agriculture, water, energy, and transportation challenges to help achieve our 100% clean energy goals. Many of the companies Elemental Excelerator works with intersect with the utility and with the regulatory framework, and one of our roles as an accelerator is to bridge the gap between regulators and entrepreneurs. We see the pilot projects as tools to test new technologies and business models – and ensure broad system benefits – before they come into the mainstream. This requires knowledgeable public utility commissioners who are open to embracing innovation and new thinking.

Hawaii is on the leading edge of various distributed energy issues and Ms. Potter's ten years of experience in the electric utility industry in various roles makes her an especially qualified candidate. In our work with Ms. Potter, we have been impressed with her integrity and ability to be a leader who values independent thinking to reach the best results.

Ms. Potter understands that research and continued learning are fundamental to good policy decisions. Because the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative has set a goal to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2045 and the State has signed legislation to implement the goals of the Paris Climate Accord, more distributed energy resources (DER) will need to be added to the grid to support the clean energy transformation. Ms. Potter can take a leading role in designing this transition, given her experience in DER technologies, time-based pricing, and energy efficiency.

Further, Ms. Potter has worked alongside start-up companies innovating for Hawaii's clean energy future. Ms. Potter supported an Elemental Excelerator portfolio company, Kevala, through its Pathways to an Open Grid (POG) project. Ms. Potter served an integral role on the

POG project by promoting and organizing stakeholder engagement. Ms. Potter understands that expertise is gained and the right solutions are reached by soliciting feedback from practitioners who interact with real-world challenges on a daily basis.

Elemental Excelerator's core organizational values are humility and curiosity. Humility means assuming others' best intentions, recognizing our own weaknesses, and listening and learning with intention. Curiosity means that we will seek to understand new people and new ideas, challenge "traditional" thinking, and work with a bias toward saying "how can" rather than "no can." Elemental Excelerator has seen these same values in Ms. Potter through her professional career and her work with our organization.

Elemental Excelerator strongly supports Ms. Potter's nomination to serve on the Public Utilities Commission to help navigate our transition to clean energy as a fair, humble, and curious Commissioner.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this nomination.



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**

*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION  
IN REGARD TO GM 652, RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION AND  
CONSIDERATION**

**OF**

**JENNIFER M. POTTER**

**FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**AT THE**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND  
HEALTH**

**ON**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the committee, my name is Will Giese and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Inc. (HSEA)

HSEA **supports** the nomination of Ms. Jennifer M. Potter as Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission.

Founded in 1977, the Hawaii Solar Energy Association is a non-profit organization comprised of installers, contractors, distributors, manufacturers, auditors, and financiers of solar water heating and photovoltaic systems. The majority of our member companies are locally owned and operated, making HSEA the leading voice of Hawaii's solar industry. The HSEA has been involved as a policy maker and technical advisor on a variety of issues regarding solar energy in the state for decades.

Ms. Potter has spent the bulk of her academic and professional career evaluating and creating policies that deal with increased renewable energy, renewable energy generation economic and market impacts, integrated demand side management techniques, establishing energy efficiency measures, and integrating smart grid technology. She has served in several policy and analytical positions at the City of Roseville electric utility, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Most recently she serves as a research specialist at the Hawai'i Natural Energy institute, researching scenarios for Hawai'i's future renewable energy mix. Ms. Potter is a graduate of Southern Oregon University and holds a Master's of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University.

Ms. Potter is an excellent choice for PUC Commissioner. Her body of professional work speaks for itself and the collection of academic white papers that she has authored or co-authored are a further boon for Hawai'i's energy policy. As Hawai'i transitions into a 100% renewable future, Ms. Potter's extensive experience in advanced techniques and methods for integrating a variety of renewable and energy efficient technologies on to the grid will prove invaluable. For example, April's approved Power Supply Improvement Plan had *three* separate energy resource mixes to get us to 100% renewable. Ms. Potter



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**

*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

has proven that not only will she be able to thoroughly understand these types of scenarios, but she will be able to implement them through dynamic policy formation.

The HSEA fully supports Ms. Jennifer Potter's nomination and we are honored to recommend her to a full term with the Commission.

We urge this Committee and the Senate to confirm Ms. Potter's nomination as Commissioner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





April 10, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
State Capitol, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: GM 652, consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024 (GM 652).**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM 652. I have had the pleasure of collaborating with Ms. Potter since 2014. In 2014 we worked together to complete a groundbreaking assessment of the potential for demand response to meet California's future energy needs. Building on this experience, we are now collaborating to complete a stakeholder, data-driven mapping of the Oahu electric grid. During both of these projects, Ms. Potter has demonstrated considerable expertise, grit, integrity and independence.

With an admirable gusto, Hawaii has forged to the front of American states pushing for clean energy. The progress made to date is laudable, but much remains to be done. In the coming years the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission will face significant challenges, requiring experienced Commissioners who are both technical and strategic. Further, pressures for Hawaii to retrench and slow its clean energy transformation will undoubtedly increase, challenging the vision and commitment of the Commission. I have complete confidence Ms. Potter's character and capabilities will match and exceed these challenges.

Hawaii has had a stroke of good luck in Ms. Potter's availability and willingness to assume this post. I urge the Senate to take advantage of this opportunity with a speedy and enthusiastic confirmation.

Sincerely,

x/

Matthew Tisdale  
Executive Director, Gridworks  
Oakland, California



Before the State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Thursday, April 12, 2018, 9:30 AM, Room 229

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Members of the State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony. On behalf of the Hawai'i Energy program, we would like to testify in strong **support** of the confirmation of Ms. Jennifer Potter as a Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Commissioner.

Hawai'i Energy works to empower island families and businesses on behalf of the PUC to make smart energy choices in order to reduce energy consumption, save money, and pursue a 100% clean energy future for our state.

Ms. Potter's experience working for utilities such as Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Roseville Electric, combined with her work in research and policy at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) make her well-qualified for the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The Hawai'i Energy program has had the pleasure of working with Ms. Potter both in her time with LBNL and with HNEI. Ms. Potter's work in Integrated Demand Side Management (iDSM) has made her a national expert in the area. Earlier this year LBNL published "Barriers and Opportunities to Broader Adoption of Integrated Demand Side Management at Electric Utilities: A Scoping Study" which Ms. Potter played a large role in working with utilities and energy efficiency implementers across the country, including Hawaiian Electric Company and Hawai'i Energy, to identify barriers and solutions in this important area.

Ms. Potter understands the importance of energy efficiency and its continued evolution in order for Hawai'i to reach 100% clean energy. Ms. Potter's experience in knowledge goes far beyond energy efficiency and iDSM. She is also well versed in renewable energy, energy system planning, and utility regulation and business models. This knowledge and experience make her uniquely qualified to serve as a PUC Commissioner.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify and **support** Ms. Potter's nomination.

Brian Kealoha  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Energy

Yvette Maskrey  
Residential Program Director  
Hawai'i Energy



# Testimony of Carl Freedman, Haiku Design and Analysis

4234 Hana Hwy., Haiku, HI 96708

To the

**COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH**

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 229

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**Regarding: GM 652**

Consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2024:

**JENNIFER POTTER,**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION**

My name is Carl Freedman. I live on Maui and currently work actively as a consultant to the Public Utilities Commission and the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum. I currently directly advise the PUC Commissioners and staff on a range of subjects, including resource planning and procurement, ratemaking mechanisms, and policy matters generally.

I am testifying today in support of Jennifer Potter's confirmation.

Jennifer Potter has valuable experience regarding the technical and institutional challenges that face Hawaii's electrical power industry. Her work and experience on "demand response" in particular, are particularly relevant and timely for the needs of Hawaii's utility systems. Her work and published papers show a fluent understanding of the technical, economic, institutional and policy issues that are important aspects of decisions that come before the Public Utilities Commission.

Importantly, this nomination is based on merit.

In my observation, Jennifer is interested in doing what is in the best public interest, without any pre-existing agenda or political attachments. She is energetic and very smart. I think she will be able to promptly make good contributions to the work and decisions of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carl Freedman, Haiku Design & Analysis



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I  
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION & HEALTH

Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:30AM Conference Room 229

### SUPPORT GM652

#### Nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission

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Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the CPH Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the **Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly supports the confirmation of Ms. Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC)**. Ms. Potter has the experience and expertise to serve the people of Hawai'i well during this important phase in the evolution of utility management.

The body of Ms. Potter's professional and academic work makes her a strong advocate for the concept that renewable energy resources should be shared equally by all people. This is especially important with regard to current and future PUC dockets dealing with issues such as a power supply improvement plan, integrating a variety of renewable energy resources on all islands for all people, and getting the State of Hawai'i to a sustainable, resilient, renewable energy future. Ms. Potter has dedicated her professional career to grappling with these issues in the best interests of the public. That is why we strongly support her confirmation to the PUC.

Ms. Potter has spent the bulk of her academic and professional career evaluating and creating policies that our PUC is currently confronting. She has extensive experience in making public policies to manage increased renewable energy production and its impact on markets and the economy overall, as well as employing demand-side management techniques, establishing energy efficiency measures, and integrating smart grid technology into utility management. She has served in several policy and analytical positions at the City of Roseville electric utility, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. She currently serves as a research specialist at the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute, researching scenarios for Hawai'i's future renewable energy mix. Ms. Potter is a graduate of Southern Oregon University and holds a Master's of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University.

Given her academic achievement, professional experience, commitment to the public interest, and direct expertise in the energy issues Hawai'i is confronting, we believe Ms. Potter is the right choice for the people of Hawai'i. Thank you for considering Ms. Potter's nomination to the PUC.

Sincerely,

Marti Townsend  
Director

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 6:54:27 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Turner	Testifying for Turner Engineering Corporation	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [mortphyl@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:mortphyl@hawaii.rr.com)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for Jennifer Potter  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 10:49:18 AM

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Testimony of Governor's Message No. 652  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as a Member of the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial  
Nominee Jennifer Potter, for a Term to Expire on June 30,2024.

To the Honorable Chair Rosalyn Baker,  
The Honorable Vice Chair Jill Tokuda,  
and members of the Committee.

Dear Committee Members:

This letter is written in strong support of Jennifer Potter (hereinafter known as Jennie) as an excellent choice to  
serve our state as a member of the Public Utilities Commission.

Since our relationship with Jennie is not a professional one, but as a neighbor and dear friend for several years, we  
can speak only to her character and her enthusiasm for making Hawaii a place where energy can be delivered in a  
forward thinking, safe, and cost effective manner.

Although her field of expertise is far from ours, Jennie has the ability to explain technical information in ways that  
even we can understand. We consider this to be an important strength for a Commissioner, especially when dealing  
with people of varying backgrounds and skills.

Another strength is her ability to naturally draw people to her. We've observed that others feel valued by her and  
"catch" her positive outlook. Even more important is her ability to listen, really listen, in thoughtful and respectful  
ways.

Finally, we are extremely moved by her life story and the obstacles she has overcome as a scholar and single parent.

We hope we have clearly expressed the respect and admiration we have for this woman, and how well qualified we  
believe she is. We are confident that that her technical competence, character, drive, and ability to connect with  
people will help her perform with distinction as a Commissioner.

Sincerely,  
Phyllis Levy and Morton J. Hausner  
127 Punohu Lane Apt.1  
Lahaina, Hi 96761

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 3/24/2018 7:05:28 PM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jim Lazar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write in support of the confirmation of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii PUC. I have known Ms. Potter for about five years now. Our professional careers have intersected many times. I've grown to have great appreciation for her insight, her creativity, and her integrity.

I have worked extensively on Hawaii energy policy since 1990. I was an expert for the Consumer Advocate for many years, a consultant to the County of Maui, and a co-author of the book Hawaii Energy Regulation and Taxation, published by the Hawaii Energy Forum in 2003. That report details many of the challenges that existed then; I know well that many of those same challenges exist today. It is available on the UH website at:

[http://www.hawaiienergypolicy.hawaii.edu/working-groups/regulatory-reform/\\_downloads/wg-rr-freedman.pdf](http://www.hawaiienergypolicy.hawaii.edu/working-groups/regulatory-reform/_downloads/wg-rr-freedman.pdf)

I was the keynote speaker for Hawaii Clean Energy Day a few years ago. At that time, I noted that we must all paddle the canoe in the same direction to get where we need to go. This requires leadership at the state level. Jennifer can provide this leadership.

Ms. Potter led the evaluation of one of the most important electricity pricing experiments in U.S. history. It was unique in how it approached the question of customer response to prices: they actually asked people what they did differently. The results were surprising to many in our industry: in response to clearly communicated prices, people turned off lights, changed thermostat settings, and delayed doing laundry and dishes during key hours of the day. We learned a lot from her work.

As Hawaii brings more solar, wind, and other renewable energy into its resource mix, Hawaii will need the kind of customer response that Jennifer's evaluation work uncovered. The days of shaping electricity production to match consumption patterns must give way to a world where at least some of our consumption is shaped to the nature of the sun, the wind, the tides, and the tides.

I have worked over my 40-year career with utility regulators from across the United States, from Asia, Europe, Africa, and South America. In 2003, when we drafted Hawaii Energy Regulation and Taxation, the State of Hawaii had a poorly performing regulatory

agency. Only a few of the hundreds of regulators I have met over the years of my career have the intelligence, the creativity, and the stamina needed to face the challenges we have before us today. Jennifer Potter is one of these rare people.

Hawaii has embarked on a very courageous and important mission: to move in an orderly fashion to full reliance on renewable energy. To achieve that goal will require vision, integrity, and commitment. Jennifer Potter has those characteristics.

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 3/26/2018 8:01:28 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug McLeod	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Baker:

Please accept this as my testimony in support of the nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

I have first hand experience working with Jennie, and in my experience she is extremely diligent and hard working. In addition she has valuable first hand experience working for a utility (SMUD in Sacramento) and has an extremely deep understanding of the electrical markets on the Mainland. By bringing her experience to Hawaii and to the Commission she can benefit all of us.

Jennie recently moderated a panel for us at the Maui Energy Conference that discussed energy efficiency. She did a great job and was able to show the audience a connection between energy efficiency and carbon emissions.

She also worked with me on a consulting project in 2017 for the County of Maui that explored what can be done within the confines of the current Hawaii Electricity Reliability Administrator (HERA) legislation in Hawaii. This work required analyzing how the HERA structure differs from what is known as an Independent System Operator (ISO) on the Mainland. I can think of very few people that could have contributed meaningfully to that discussion. Not only did Jennie contribute, she set an example by her hard work and ability to meet tight deadlines.

For the record my involvement in the energy sector has included work as an attorney, an energy consultant (DKK Energy Services LLC), as the Conference Chair for the Maui Energy Conference, and as Energy Commissioner for the County of Maui.

Doug McLeod

Maui, HI

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Terry Surlles. I am currently Senior Advisor at the California Institute for Energy and Environment (CIEE). I am writing to provide testimony on behalf of Jennifer Potter who is under consideration as a gubernatorial nominee for Commissioner at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

By way of background, I have known Jennifer (Jenny) since 2016. Early that year, I was asked by the CIEE Executive Director to take over the management of the Automated Demand Response (ADR) work that we were leading for the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC). Our lead contractor was Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). Jenny was the project lead for that effort. I have worked closely with her since that time.

While it was important to have a national laboratory, such as LBNL, as the lead contractor, it was Jenny's efforts that made the project successful. When I took over the overall leadership, there were a number of issues related to project deliveries and status created by other contractors. The only one who was effectively working on these issues was Jenny Potter. Her efforts led to the successful outcome of the project. She was the primary co-author of two reports that were delivered to the CPUC Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), who was responsible for ADR proceedings. The impact of these reports led the ALJ to determine that additional funding for ADR analysis was necessary in order to develop mechanisms for pricing ADR services for both the Commission and for the California Independent System Operator. She ruled that an additional \$5 million was necessary to properly capture ADR benefits for the state of California. Specific benefits include more efficient operation of distribution networks and reduced curtailment of renewable resource electricity generation.

During part of the time that I was working with Jenny, I was also the Interim Administrator for the Hawaii State Energy Office. One of my activities were to support the Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF). While helping NEAEF develop a program for their annual energy meeting in Honolulu last year, there was a request to have someone from the national laboratory system make a presentation. Jenny was an excellent choice to do so as the projects that she discussed were of great interest to participants for Hawaii public and private organizations, as well as participants for China, Japan, and Korea. It was during this time that she was initially approached by HNEI about the possibility of working there.

Jenny is enjoyable to work with due to her strong understanding of technical issues and personable nature. Others on the project at the CPUC, LBNL, the investor owned utilities, and other consulting groups would agree. Specifically, she is excellent in her understanding of distributed systems technologies and policies for the electricity grid. Her knowledge of distributed systems will be invaluable in helping the State of Hawaii move forward with grid modernization plans and initiatives. Further, her background in working with various public-sector organizations, such as the Sacramento Municipal Utility district (SMUD), provides her with additional understanding of utility issues. SMUD, in particular, is seen as a leader in developing programs for customers that enhance the use of energy efficiency and distributed renewable energy systems. Jenny's experience is leading some of SMUD's pilot projects in these areas will be invaluable to the state. This experience will also allow her to understand the grid stability and resiliency issues facing the Hawaii electric utilities.

I stayed in contact with Jenny after she went to HNEI as she has an extremely knowledgeable perspective on grid technology. I should add that the overall ADR project



suffered a bit after Jenny left. Her spirit, diligence, and willingness to do whatever it took to work hard and achieve the goals the project had set were sorely missed. Jenny is also a very likeable person. As pointed out previously, she works well with others and is willing to share ideas and accept other professionals' ideas and opinions.

In summary, I strongly recommend that Jennifer (Jenny) Potter be confirmed as a Public Utilities Commission Commissioner. Her educational and professional background for such a position is excellent. Her ability for handling a position in which competing interests must be fairly considered is also excellent, as Jenny is an extremely fair and honorable person. Thus, her combination of attributes that include expertise, experience, knowledge, and temperament make her an excellent choice.

I will be happy to follow up with any questions that you may have of me. I can best be reached at 510-506-1932.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terrence Surles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T".

Terry Surles

March 26, 2018

March 28, 2018

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,  
And Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

Re: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee  
Jennifer Potter, to the Public Utilities Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of GM652, "Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jennifer Potter, for a term to expire 06-30-2024." I had the opportunity to hire and work with Ms. Potter from 2006 through 2011 as her direct supervisor with the City of Roseville Electric Utility, I can personally attest to her impeccable work ethic and integrity, and I believe Ms. Potter to be well-qualified and capable of exercising the duties of the nominated position. During her time here, she gained valuable expertise concerning the inner workings of a small utility, spearheaded numerous research and statistical projects, and was entrusted with handling confidential and sensitive customer data.

As Hawaii is perched on the forefront of the influx of distributed generation, specifically solar energy, I am certain that the experience gleaned not only during Ms. Potter's tenure with Roseville Electric Utility, but thereafter with subsequent positions, will aid her in capably handling any and all issues that may arise.

Jennifer Potter's background, experience, and character make her exceptionally qualified candidate, and she would be a valuable addition to the Commission.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Jennifer Potter's confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission.

Respectfully,



Philip J. McAvoy

Assistant Electric Utility Director

City of Roseville

311 Vernon St.

Roseville, CA 95678



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<http://certs.lbl.gov/>

29 March 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee

RE: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee  
Jennifer Potter, to the Public Utilities Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of the nomination of  
Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission GM652.

I am a staff scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) where I am a senior advisor for both the Electricity Markets and Policy Group and the Energy Storage and Demand Resources Department. My principal research activity is leadership for a national laboratory-university-industry R&D consortium that conducts public interest research and technology development focused on electricity reliability. I have also directly supported the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability by serving on the US-Canada investigation of the Aug 14, 2003 blackout, and assisting in the preparation of DOE's National Electric Transmission Congestion Studies.

I have also been a long-time contributor to state PUC activities. In 1988, I co-authored NARUC's Handbook on Least Cost Utility Planning and in the 1990's I organized yearly training seminars for state PUC staff on integrated resource planning. Also, in the 1990's, I participated in DSM training seminars co-sponsored by DOE and DBEDT for Hawaii.

From a national perspective, Hawaii is on the cutting edge of distributed renewable electricity development. The policies under development and experiences being gained in Hawaii are and will continue to be followed closely on the mainland for the path-breaking precedents they will establish.

Ms. Potter's highly relevant work experience, intelligence, and sound judgement will make valuable contributions to Hawaii as the PUC shapes and guides these developments.

While at LBNL, Ms. Potter served as lead analyst for research we conducted for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on the impacts of demand response on, among other things, electric utility distribution system planning and operation. Ms. Potter role on the team rose quickly from leading analysis to representing the team's research findings to the client, the CPUC.

It became clear to all that Ms. Potter is uniquely qualified in her ability to assess, organize, and then clearly communicate and discuss complicated technical concepts and issues with regulatory decision makers.

I fully expect that her clear-eyed and level-headed approach to these matters, coupled with her strong work ethic, will make her a great asset to the state in making the critical regulatory energy policy decisions that Hawaii has no choice but to make in the coming years.

In summary, I have no reservations in endorsing and offer my strongest support for Ms. Potter's nomination to the Public Utilities Commission.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Eto', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph Eto  
Staff Scientist

March 31, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Members of Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

**Re: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission**

I am writing in my personal capacity in support of the appointment of Ms. Potter. I am honored to make this recommendation based on my experience working with Ms. Potter at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), and my experience working with state utility commissioners in Hawai'i and a dozen other states. Knowing her and having advised commissioners around the country on a wide range of clean energy topics for decades, I know she has the expertise to be an excellent commissioner and furthermore that Ms. Potter will bring cooperative, energetic, and expert knowledge and leadership to the Commission.

Because Hawai'i's energy goals are impressive, yet challenging, Hawai'i needs members of the Commission who have the experience and expertise that Ms. Potter possess; as well as her 'works well with others' attitude. In particular, her experience will be valuable as Hawai'i is on the leading edge of a wide range of distributed energy issues for reliably and cost-effectively integrating a 100% renewables electricity portfolio. Her industry leading applied research and publications on this topic demonstrate this experience. An example of this is her lead authorship of LBNL report "Barriers and Opportunities to Broader Adoption of Integrated Demand Side Management at Electric Utilities."

I also want to note, most importantly, that I know she understands and appreciates the importance of the independence of each commissioner and the integrity of the Commission.

Accordingly, I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination and confirmation of Jennifer Potter as a PUC commissioner.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Schiller, P.E.

President, Schiller Consulting, Inc.  
Senior Advisor, Electricity Markets and Policy Group, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
(included for identification purposes only)  
510.655.8668  
steve@schiller.com



## Energy Technologies Area

March 28, 2018

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President, and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

**RE: Governor's Message 652** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024

My name is Mary Ann Piette and I am writing to support the appointment of Jennifer Potter to serve as a member of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

I have worked with Jennifer Potter for about three years in my capacity as a Senior Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). I am the Director of the Building Technology and Urban Systems Division at LBNL as well as the Director of the Demand Response Research Center.

Ms. Potter was a major contributor to a two-year project I led for the California Public Utility Commission to estimate the potential for demand response in California. She is an extremely talented energy technology and policy expert. In conducting the study, Ms. Potter worked with the LBNL team and a stakeholder group including investor owned utilities, electricity customers, demand response aggregators, and technology providers. She has excellent knowledge of customer electricity use issues and she has broad knowledge about electricity markets and policy.

Hawaii, like California, has aggressive goals for the use of distributed energy resources. Ms. Potter is well positioned to help guide advanced practices and policies to make optimal use of these resources for a fair, clean, and equitable energy landscape. Hawaii's needs members of the Commission who are familiar with regulated utilities, Commission procedures, utility technical challenges, and policies needed to support emerging DER systems. Ms. Potter has all of those qualifications and is a recognized leader in her field.

I can also add that Ms. Potter has a great level of professional integrity and is an independent thinker. In our work in California she navigated complex stakeholder positions and technology advocates to create fair and equitable policy analysis that is greatly influencing the direction new policies in California.

I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination and confirmation of Ms. Jennifer Potter as a PUC Commissioner for the State of Hawaii. I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Piette  
Director, Building Technology and Urban System Division  
Director, Demand Response Research Center

## Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

One Cyclotron Road / Berkeley, California 94720 / **phone** 510-486-6286 / **fax** 510-486-4089

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 3:19:34 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephen S. George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support of the Appointment of Jennifer Potter  
as Commissioner to the State Of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (GM652)

I am Dr. Stephen S. George and I am pleased to be able to submit this testimony in support of Jennifer Potter for appointment as Commissioner to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. I have a Ph.D. in Economics and I am a Senior Vice President at Nexant, Inc., a leading consulting firm working in the areas of time-based pricing, demand response, energy efficiency, renewable resources and others. I have worked in the industry for more than 40 years, focusing on understanding consumer behavior in response to utility and regulatory initiatives. I have testified frequently before regulatory agencies in North America.

I met Ms. Potter in 2012 when our firm was selected to conduct the impact evaluation for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's (SMUD) SmartPricing Options pilot, which is widely recognized as one of the best pricing pilots ever conducted in the electricity industry. Ms. Potter worked in key positions on the design, implementation and evaluation of this seminal pilot. We worked closely together as client and consultant for more than two years. During this time, I was extremely impressed with Ms. Potter's integrity, boundless energy, technical knowledge, organizational and management skills, and grasp of not only the details of the pilot and evaluation but also the big picture concerning how the results would impact SMUD's long term pricing strategy.

Over the course of the project, Ms. Potter and I made a number of presentations to SMUD's Executive Committee and to the Board. Ms. Potter was at ease dealing with the often diverse interests of SMUD's executives and external board members as well as with the public participants who attended the board meetings. In these meetings, she always displayed the kind of sensitivity to and understanding of different stakeholder perspectives that would serve her well as a Commissioner. I also frequently interacted with Ms. Potter during internal project meetings as well as in other external settings, such as industry conferences. In all my interactions with her, Ms. Potter always displayed strong listening and communication skills, capabilities that are essential to the role of a utility commissioner.

Ms. Potter's strong technical skills, industry experience and quick mind will allow her to understand and objectively assess the often complex and challenging issues that are

brought before the Commission as Hawaii continues its leading role with the integration of energy efficiency, demand response and renewable resources into electricity operations. I have no doubt that she will do an excellent job as a Commissioner and will work effectively and collegially with her fellow Commissioners and staff to keep Hawaii in the forefront of the evolution of the electricity industry from one fully reliant on centralized fossil and nuclear generation to one much more reliant on distributed resources. The challenges faced during this evolution are even more pronounced in Hawaii, with no interconnection to other supply sources and where the operational challenges of integrating highly variable resources such as wind are paramount. I am confident that Ms. Potter has all of the skills and capabilities necessary to understand the technical and political challenges that lie ahead and to help the Commission make effective, pragmatic policy decisions that will balance diverse stakeholder perspectives.

Sincerely,



Dr. Stephen S. George  
Senior Vice President  
Nexant, Inc.



Testimony of Michael Sullivan

Before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER  
PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Tuesday, April 12, 2018

10:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of GM 652


RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION OF JENNIFER POTTER TO THE  
HAWAII PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee, I strongly support the confirmation of the appointment of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

I am a part time resident of the island of Hawaii, a current Senior Vice President Emeritus of Nexant Inc. and former Chairman of the Board of Freeman, Sullivan and Company. I have known Jennifer for 5 years and have worked with her on energy policy issues while she was project manager for Sacramento Municipal Utility District's seminal Consumer Behavior Study, and while she was a part of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory's Energy and Environmental Section. I have read most of her work concerning the design and implementation of time varying rates and the integration of DR and renewable resources into utility business environments; and I have participated with her in professional meetings and in meetings with senior officials at various utilities and the US Department of Energy. In my 35 years experience in the energy policy arena, I have encountered only a handful of people with her unique combination of analytical skills and high level policy focus.

As I'm sure you are aware, the state of Hawaii faces a number of critical technical and institutional challenges in attempting to achieve its 100% renewable portfolio standard in the coming years. The ability to understand the perspectives of the various stakeholders in this process (i.e., consumers,

utilities and third party suppliers of equipment) will be crucial in successfully accomplishing this important policy objective. Because of her experience working with utilities (Roseville and SMUD) and consumers; and her deep understanding of the technical issues surrounding the integration of Demand Response, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Resources, Jennifer is uniquely qualified to provide guidance to Commission staff as well as fair and informed treatment of parties coming before the Commission in these critical next few years.

Should you have any questions for me I would be happy to talk with you by telephone at  305-4009 or in person on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Regards,

Michael Sullivan  
Vice President Emeritus, Nexant Inc.  
Lecturer, University of California, Riverside, School of Public Policy

**Testimony of Sherilyn Wee**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,  
AND HEALTH**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:30am**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM652  
Nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission**

My name is Sherilyn Wee and I am an economist employed by the State Division of Consumer Advocacy. I also teach an undergraduate energy economics course at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and am an Affiliate Researcher at the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization. I am testifying today as an individual in support of Jennifer Potter as a commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission.

I first met Jennifer in June 2017 in her capacity as a researcher and data scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Energy Markets and Policy Group. From our initial discussions around data and survey work, I learned of her prior experience at Sacramento Municipal Utility District and her intimate knowledge of the decision-making process at the California Public Utilities Commission. It was clear that Jennifer could offer her expertise and much needed guidance here in Hawaii. Being based in Maui, she was keenly aware of the challenges facing Hawaii.

I work with Jennifer in her current position at the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, where she leads the Pathways to an Open Grid project, a collaborative stakeholder process forecasting and analyzing distributed energy resources. I also interact with her as it relates to energy efficiency and demand response. Her work on integrated demand side management is critical to holistically plan for integrating higher levels of renewable energy cost-effectively. Jennifer's extensive research background, coupled with her prior experience in California and innate ability to communicate with and bring together a diverse set of stakeholders, has made her a key player in helping Hawaii transition to a clean energy future.

In my opinion, Hawaii is very fortunate to have Jennifer. She is an independent, articulate thinker, as well as great listener, committed to and passionate about the work and people. I urge the committee to favorably consider her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Sherilyn Wee, Ph.D.

Mark B. Glick

Testimony of Mark B. Glick  
before the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Thursday, April 12, 2018

9:30 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of

GM 652

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public  
Utilities Commission, gubernatorial nominee, JENNIFER  
POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee,

I support the confirmation of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

While I have known Ms. Potter a short time, my support is based on her analytical work for the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) since December of 2017 and the review of her previous work conducted by HNEI during the vetting process prior to engaging her at the Institute. My colleagues and I have been impressed with her knowledge of and direct experience in developing and deploying demand side energy management measures and her skills in data mining and analysis.

Ms. Potter excels at one of the most important aspects of electricity sector transformations in Hawaii and other leading jurisdictions like California and Massachusetts— how advanced techniques and technologies can be employed for reducing and shifting energy demand throughout the day. Doing this well means lower rates for energy consumers and the ability to reliably integrate higher rates of renewable penetration into our electrical grid networks, which also ultimately results in mitigating the harmful economic impacts of petroleum price volatility. Her work at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and prior to that at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District placed her at the center of the most innovative demand response applications, including efforts to demonstrate time of use pricing and associated ratemaking structures.

Page Two  
GM 652 Testimony  
April 12, 2018

The Public Utilities Commission would be well served by having a commissioner with a concentration in demand response at a policy and deployment level – and the analytical skills and experience with proven applications to help guide replication of those in Hawaii where applicable.

One of Ms. Potter's more significant assignments at Lawrence Berkeley was to lead a study group in the development of the *2025 California DR Potential Study*. While it initially followed a conventional approach of exploring the existing needs of the grid to determine what bulk power services could offset anticipated load, it yielded the unexpected finding that new demand response resources were more valuable than conventional ones. With the rapid changes in technology and policy approaches in every phase of Hawaii's integrated energy business system, the ability to accurately interpret data when the results differ from strongly set expectations is a valuable attribute. Accordingly, Ms. Potter's experience would appear to be well-suited to offer guidance on the definition and valuation of the emerging market for grid services, which is expected to be a central element of Hawaii's developing interactive, two-way electricity grid network.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Jennifer Potter's confirmation to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.



TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH THE  
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE SESSION OF 2018 THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

TESTIMONY ON: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Throughout her career, Jennifer Potter has been serving the public interest with electric utility regulation both in California and at the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute. She demonstrated her depth of experience in understanding regulatory issues facing public utility commissions and how to view them from multiple perspectives. Ms. Potter's previous work with the City of Roseville Electric and Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) has established her deep knowledge of both utility and customer perspectives in modernizing the electricity grid, as increasing renewable sources become generation assets.

Ms. Potter exemplifies integrity and independent thought in all her work. She continually provided strong leadership and ultimate fairness in listening to all sides when managing highly contentious stakeholder forums at the California Public Utilities Commission. As a result, she has earned the respect of Commissioners, Administrative Law Judges, industry stakeholders, her co-workers and superiors.

As I'm sure the committee is already aware, Ms. Potter currently works at the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute where her work supports Hawai'i in being on the leading edge related to various distributed energy issues and electricity grid modernization.

Her work conducting analysis and research on future scenarios for Hawai'i's energy mix in order to identify realistic pathways towards meeting the state's renewable energy goals of 100% renewable and has been a direct outgrowth of her ground-breaking efforts performed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) completed for the California Public Utility Commission. At LBNL, she led LBNL's multi-year research in determining the demand response potential to address accelerated renewable energy growth in California.

Ms. Potter has significant energy and regulatory experience and, if confirmed, I am positive that she will employ her extensive experience and knowledge to help Hawai'i and Hawai'i's regulated utility and transportation consumers to move towards Hawai'i's clean energy transition. Ms. Potter's expertise will also undoubtedly help Hawai'i with its objective of striving towards 100% renewable energy as well as meeting the existing energy-efficiency portfolio standard.

With Hawai'i's Public Utilities Commission's role in the State's economic health growing over time, it is increasingly important to ensure that serving commissioners are properly qualified and have the foundational knowledge to best represent Hawai'i's ratepayers. I believe that Ms. Potter is well qualified and brings significant professional experience to the position. Thus, I support her nomination and urge the committee to confirm Ms. Potter to be the next commissioner serving the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter M. Schwartz".

**Peter M. Schwartz**

Building Technology and Urban Systems Department  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
Office: (510) 486-6926  
[PMSchwartz@lbl.gov](mailto:PMSchwartz@lbl.gov)



April 7, 2018

To: Members of the Senate CPH Committee

From: Marco Mangelsdorf, President, ProVision Solar, Director, Hawaii Island Energy Cooperative

Re: Nomination of Jennifer Potter to the State Public Utilities Commission

I am writing in strong support of Ms. Potter's nomination to the PUC.

Ms. Potter is the right person at the right time as the commission and our state grapple with unprecedented opportunities and challenges in the regulatory environment.

Ms. Potter brings a broad and deep understanding of the issues and subject matters brought before the PUC and will be an excellent addition.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marco C. Mangelsdorf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

**69 Railroad Avenue, A-7, Hilo, HI 96720**  
**phone (808) 969-3281 fax (808) 934-7462**

**TESTIMONY OF**

**Andre M. Ramirez**

**TO THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:30 A.M.**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR IGE'S**

**Nomination of Jennifer Potter**

**To The Hawaii Public Utilities Commission**

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIR BAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE

My name is Andre Ramirez, and I congratulate this committee and the State of Hawaii for the opportunity to appoint Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

In my professional capacity as a lead to transition over 3M residential customers to time-based electric rates in Southern California Edison's territory, I and others have looked to Ms. Potter's guidance as the previous program manager of Sacramento Public Utilities District's (SMUD) Time-of-Use (TOU) pilot. The SMUD pilot is considered a landmark pilot that ultimately influenced the California Public Utilities Commission to direct Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric and San Diego Gas and Electric to prepare millions of residential customers for TOU rates on a default basis.

Subsequent to Ms. Potter's work with SMUD, she participated as a consultant to help develop an initial pilot structure for the California utilities to test TOU rates on over 60,000 residential customers. Once Ms. Potter's engagement with the project ended, she was always willing to continue to communicate and offer her perspective regarding our unique experiences and first-of-their-kind challenges. Not unlike Hawaii, California continues to face numerous policy trade-offs on the path to integrating more renewables onto its system, encouraging and managing customer participation in a new energy future, while keeping rates affordable.

In my experience, Ms. Potter is an individual who is always willing to help, and connect resources and individuals to help pursue new objectives. Her work at SMUD and follow-up work as an official and unofficial consultant on our project demonstrates her ability to think through practical challenges, which can sometimes stand in the way of unique policy goals. I have found her to be an important sounding-board, who has always ensured we focus on customers, which should always be the primary consideration of any new project or policy.

Many in California and around the world recognize that Hawaii is on the leading edge of numerous energy issues, where challenges, objectives, and opportunities are unique, requiring first-of-their-kind thinking. However, despite the needs to rapidly adapt to system issues, policy objectives or opportunities, Ms. Potter will always keep your constituents, the citizens of Hawaii and utility customers, at the forefront of any discussion as ultimately, they are the critical actors, which are necessary to help achieve any new objectives.

I am confident Ms. Potter's confirmation will help the State of Hawaii achieve its energy related goals. I would be happy to provide more information upon request.

Respectfully,



Andre Ramirez



March 31, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Members of Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

**Re: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission**

I am writing in my personal capacity in support of the appointment of Ms. Potter. I am honored to make this recommendation based on my experience working with Ms. Potter at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), and my experience working with state utility commissioners in Hawai'i and a dozen other states. Knowing her and having advised commissioners around the country on a wide range of clean energy topics for decades, I know she has the expertise to be an excellent commissioner and furthermore that Ms. Potter will bring cooperative, energetic, and expert knowledge and leadership to the Commission.

Because Hawai'i's energy goals are impressive, yet challenging, Hawai'i needs members of the Commission who have the experience and expertise that Ms. Potter possess; as well as her 'works well with others' attitude. In particular, her experience will be valuable as Hawai'i is on the leading edge of a wide range of distributed energy issues for reliably and cost-effectively integrating a 100% renewables electricity portfolio. Her industry leading applied research and publications on this topic demonstrate this experience. An example of this is her lead authorship of LBNL report "Barriers and Opportunities to Broader Adoption of Integrated Demand Side Management at Electric Utilities."

I also want to note, most importantly, that I know she understands and appreciates the importance of the independence of each commissioner and the integrity of the Commission.

Accordingly, I urge your favorable consideration of the nomination and confirmation of Jennifer Potter as a PUC commissioner.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Schiller, P.E.

President, Schiller Consulting, Inc.  
Senior Advisor, Electricity Markets and Policy Group, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
(included for identification purposes only)  
510.655.8668  
steve@schiller.com

**TESTIMONY OF**

**Andre M. Ramirez**

**TO THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:30 A.M.**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR IGE'S**

**Nomination of Jennifer Potter**

**To The Hawaii Public Utilities Commission**

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIR BAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE

My name is Andre Ramirez, and I congratulate this committee and the State of Hawaii for the opportunity to appoint Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

In my professional capacity as a lead to transition over 3M residential customers to time-based electric rates in Southern California Edison's territory, I and others have looked to Ms. Potter's guidance as the previous program manager of Sacramento Public Utilities District's (SMUD) Time-of-Use (TOU) pilot. The SMUD pilot is considered a landmark pilot that ultimately influenced the California Public Utilities Commission to direct Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric and San Diego Gas and Electric to prepare millions of residential customers for TOU rates on a default basis.

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In my experience, Ms. Potter is an individual who is always willing to help, and connect resources and individuals to help pursue new objectives. Her work at SMUD and follow-up work as an official and unofficial consultant on our project demonstrates her ability to think through practical challenges, which can sometimes stand in the way of unique policy goals. I have found her to be an important sounding-board, who has always ensured we focus on customers, which should always be the primary consideration of any new project or policy.

Many in California and around the world recognize that Hawaii is on the leading edge of numerous energy issues, where challenges, objectives, and opportunities are unique, requiring first-of-their-kind thinking. However, despite the needs to rapidly adapt to system issues, policy objectives or opportunities, Ms. Potter will always keep your constituents, the citizens of Hawaii and utility customers, at the forefront of any discussion as ultimately, they are the critical actors, which are necessary to help achieve any new objectives.

I am confident Ms. Potter's confirmation will help the State of Hawaii achieve its energy related goals. I would be happy to provide more information upon request.

Respectfully,



Andre Ramirez

**PAM MARSH**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 5  
SOUTHERN JACKSON COUNTY



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

April 8, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
State Capitol, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Re: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee  
Jennifer Potter, to the Public Utilities Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the appointment of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2022.

As an Oregon state legislator, I'm acutely aware that our state governments are setting the pace for innovative energy policy. Hawaii is already ahead of many of us, exemplified by the state's renewable energy goals and focused support for distributed energy systems. With the appointment of Jennifer Potter to the PUC, you have an excellent opportunity to build institutional capacity to manage and incentivize your energy system as it transitions. Jennifer understands energy trends and has researched and evaluated transmission grid services, demand response, and distributed energy. Her extensive experience with data-driven analysis and decision-making will ensure that innovation is rooted in sound science and designed to serve the public good.

On a personal level, I have known Jennifer since she was a student at Southern Oregon University in my home community of Ashland, Oregon. Even then she demonstrated tremendous integrity and objectivity. I have no doubt that Jennifer will be an independent and principled commissioner, able to take on hard decisions in an evenhanded and non prejudicial manner. High ethical and moral standards have always been a hallmark of her character.

Hawaii's PUC will be well served with the addition of Jennifer Potter. I strongly encourage you to affirm her appointment.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pam Marsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pam Marsh  
Oregon Representative House District 05  
Southern Jackson County

In regard to GM652, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jennifer Potter for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,  
And Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senate President Kouchi and members of the Senate:

My name is Ookie Ma, and I am a project manager and physical scientist with the United States Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. With great enthusiasm, I would like to submit this statement of support on behalf of nominee Jennifer Potter for Commissioner of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission. While I draw upon my professional experiences with Ms. Potter for this testimony, I am submitting it in my personal capacity.

The State of Hawai'i is at the leading edge of clean energy transformation. It leads the United States with the nation's most aggressive renewable portfolio standard and highest per capita deployments of distributed photovoltaic capacity. As the United States charts its path forward, we often look to the example of Hawai'i for its innovative technical and policy approaches to managing a rapidly changing energy landscape.

Unlike the continental United States where there are large grid interconnections, distributed energy resources play a much more central role in Hawai'i. While deployment of distributed energy resources challenge utility business models and stress the grid, intelligent management of them offer new opportunities to operate the system more efficiently, reduce customer costs, and increase service reliability and quality. Ms. Potter would be a unique and invaluable addition to the Commission. I have worked with her for the past two years on research projects focused on distributed energy resources, where she was the principle investigator. Through her research projects, she has brought greater industry transparency to demand response advanced control technology costs and provided new insights from the implementation experiences of integrated demand-side management.

I believe that Ms. Potter has the strong technical capacity to fulfill her potential new responsibilities, a forward-looking viewpoint to help lead Hawai'i toward its clean energy goals, and a balanced perspective for meeting the needs of a wide range of stakeholders. Accordingly, I fully support the nomination of Jennifer Potter for Commissioner and respectfully ask for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Seungwook (Ookie) Ma, PhD

[seungwook.ma@ee.doe.gov](mailto:seungwook.ma@ee.doe.gov)

**Sandra-Ann Y.H. Wong**

*Attorney at Law*

*A Law Corporation*

*1050 Bishop Street, #514*

*Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

*Telephone: (808) 537-2598 email: [sawonglaw@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:sawonglaw@hawaii.rr.com)*

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Testimony in Support of  
GM 652: Gubernatorial Nominee Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission  
April 12, 2018 at 9:30a.m. in Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sandra-Ann Y.H. Wong. I am an attorney that has practiced before the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) for the past 26 years. Recently, I had the pleasure to meet with Ms. Potter and found her to be knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the issues that she will have to deal with as a PUC Commissioner.

I am confident that Ms. Potter, as a Commissioner, will be an independent and collaborative voice at the PUC. Therefore, I respectfully request that the Committee support his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this nominee.

April 3, 2018

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair, and  
And Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

Re: Testimony in Support of GM652: Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Ms. Jennifer Potter, to the Public Utilities Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM652. My name is Peter Cappers and I strongly support the nomination of Ms. Jennifer Potter to the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission.

I have known Ms. Potter for over 5 years, having worked directly with her at Berkeley Lab since 2015. She and I have written several research papers together and jointly provided technical assistance to a number of state public utility commissions, including in Hawai'i, over the past 3 years. Throughout my time working with her, I have always been struck by her integrity, uncompromising work ethic, and depth of knowledge of both technical and policy issues. Ms. Potter is an expert in many areas of the electric utility industry, but she is also humble and self-aware enough to recognize where her knowledge is limited. As a researcher, she appreciates the importance of gathering all the necessary information to construct a well-informed but independent position on any given issue. Ms. Potter is also a pragmatist, who seeks to find the best solution given the existing set of constraints, without being dogmatic or strident in her positions.

With Hawai'i being on the bleeding edge of so many technical and policy issues for which there is little experience elsewhere to draw from, I believe Ms. Potter's background and skill set uniquely qualify her for being a highly successful public utility commissioner. Her many years working at a utility have provided her with a unique appreciation of the internal operations of such organizations and given her a window into what motivates them to act. Furthermore, her time at Berkeley Lab as a researcher have developed an appreciation for intellectual rigor in decision making. Both should serve her well as she seeks to align the myriad policy goals of the State of Hawai'i with the personal interests of its citizenry and the commercial goals of its investor-owned utilities.

Ms. Potter is committed to the state of Hawai'i, as well as its residents. If approved, she would make an excellent Commissioner. I strongly urge you to favorably consider her nomination.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Cappers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter A. Cappers

TESTIMONY OF JENNIFER M. POTTER

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

APRIL 12, 2017

9:30 AM

G.M. 652

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER, for a term to expire 6-30-2024.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
HONORABLE JILL N. TOKUDA, VICE CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

I gratefully and humbly submit testimony in support of my nomination to Commissioner of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you to discuss how I can be of service to the people of Hawaii, our visitors, and businesses. I would like to thank Governor Ige for nominating me to the Public Utilities Commission (HPUC). I am deeply honored by this extraordinary opportunity to serve Hawaii's residents and businesses while working diligently to advance our State's clean energy initiatives, economic development goals and minimizing the impacts of climate change.

I have extensive skills, knowledge, and accomplishments in the emerging utility business, forged in my career work as a broadly published research leader at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Hawaii Natural Energy Institute; as a planner and manager in many advanced and renewal energy operations and programs at two California municipal utility companies; and from my master's degree in public policy and management. I am a recognized team leader and team player, analyst and researcher, manager and worker, practitioner and innovator.

I will bring my utility and research experience to the HPUC, coupled with my strong commitment to develop and implement short and long-term energy projects that balance economic efficiency and innovation. With State leadership, I will apply these skills to achieve the State's policy objectives for safe, cost competitive, and reliable energy portfolios.

While my professional background has focused on the electric industry, I acknowledge that the HPUC regulates over 1,700 public utilities and service providers that deliver electricity, private water and sewage, gas, telecommunications, and motor carrier and maritime transportation services. I understand the importance of these entities in delivering services to the people of Hawaii and its visitors. Commission decisions regarding these entities have far reaching impacts on individuals' quality of life in counties and communities throughout Hawaii, and I will not take that responsibility lightly. I will work diligently to learn about these industries, the new responsibilities, and gain the necessary information to become a strong asset to the Commission quickly.

Hawaii's aggressive energy policy goals and the unprecedented level of distributed generation have raised substantial grid reliability concerns here in the Hawaiian Islands. These conditions and concerns heighten the impact of HPUC's work and make it important that you confirm the right individual for Commissioner. I would like to highlight some of the recent decisions that the Commission has issued and then specifically detail how my experience and expertise can be an asset to the Commission over the next six years.

In addition to Hawaii's aggressive 100% RPS by 2045, policymakers are focused on managing energy costs for consumers. Hawaii's Legislators are developing innovative policies in response to market developments. The policy focus in recent years has been on grid reliability and resiliency given the high penetration of rooftop solar systems throughout the state. One out of every eight homes in Hawaii has solar, which is leading to overvoltage and utility restrictions on further PV deployment. In response, Hawaii's Public Utility Commission (HPUC) issued four orders, including Order No. 32052 that requires utilities to file distributed generation interconnection plans (DGIPs) to upgrade distribution circuits and to integrate more PV using demand side resources, namely Energy Efficiency (EE) and Demand Response (DR). It is Orders such as No. 32052 where my skill set is especially well matched for providing regulatory oversight, as I am widely considered an expert in demand side energy resources and the integration of those resources onto the electrical grid.

In July 2017, the Commission issued a final decision and order accepting the Hawaiian Electric Companies ("HECO Companies") Power Supply Improvement Plans ("PSIPs"). The decision included the HECO Companies' strategic plans that will direct their resources and investments the over the next four and a half years. Shortly after this decision, in August 2017, Hawaiian Electric Companies' filed a Grid Modernization Plan that requested funding for customer-sited storage, targeted deployment of smart meters, advanced demand response technologies, and distribution automation, amongst others. The HPUC approved the plan in February of 2018 as a path towards building a more resilient grid while meeting the state's 100% renewables mandate. The rate cases that currently sit before the Commission involve combined annual revenues of over \$2 billion, and the anticipated investment for modernizing our electric grids is estimated at over \$200 million over the next five years. These decisions will affect the cost of electricity and gas for the majority of Hawaii's residents and businesses and the gravity of these pending decisions are of the utmost importance.

My utility background and research experience has uniquely prepared me for this role as Commissioner, especially at this moment in time. The current energy dockets in front of the Commission fall within my areas of expertise, which include transmission and distribution grid operations, conventional and renewable sources, distributed energy resources (DER), integration of demand side resources, time-based pricing and demand response (DR). I am optimistic and excited about the opportunity to focus my energy and expertise on these decisions to ensure that we make significant progress towards our clean energy future.

The research that I have conducted over the last several years, which includes cutting edge work on market potential and economic analysis research on demand response, time-based pricing, DERs, and energy efficiency is highly relevant to a number of current dockets before the Commission. Much of my previous work is currently driving utility, state and federal policies. For example:

- I was a lead researcher on the 2025 California Demand Response Potential Study for the California Public Utilities Commission, a three-year project that investigates the technical, market and economic potential for DR to provide service to the bulk power system. This work is



currently being used by the California PUC to establish new markets for different demand response services, (a.k.a Shape, Shed, Shift, and Shimmy DR service types).

- I was Project Manager on SMUD's SmartSacramento team, implementing the Department of Energy's ARRA grant funded Consumer Behavior Study. This is one of the nation's most renowned experimentally designed demand response and time of use pricing pilots. The pilot's results have heavily influenced regulators throughout California to adopt "opt-out" time of use rates for all residential customers. Almost all of California's ~13 million ratepayers will be on time-of-use rates by 2020.
- My published work and reputation have been leveraged for a number of webinars and conference appearances, as well as presentations to state policymakers around frameworks and considerations for demand response and integrated demand-side management. I have provided technical assistance to state policymakers and regulators, on the behalf of the Department of Energy, to Hawaii, California, Nevada, Michigan, New York, Massachusetts, and Oregon.

I have had several formative experiences as a project manager, lead analyst, and principal load and revenue forecaster at Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and City of Roseville, Roseville Electric, that will contribute to my role as Commissioner. I had hands-on responsibility to assess, plan and execute programs, and to assess their effectiveness in financial and customer impact dimensions. Among these formative experiences:

- I was the customer strategy planner for residential and small commercial energy efficiency and incentive programs, where I planned, budgeted and coordinated all SMUD programs in energy efficiency and demand response. This experience is particularly relevant to Hawaii Energy's strategic goals and HECO Companies' demand response "grid services" docket.
- I was the principal load and revenue forecaster, load researcher, and business analyst at the City of Roseville. I also was the project manager for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) business case. This unique responsibility and experience can be leverage in the various upcoming proceedings with HECO Companies regarding Grid Modernization.

I am aware that the Commission has a central role in achieving the State's clean energy goals, via regulation of the electric and gas utilities and responsibility for the Hawaii Energy program. I understand that it will be my responsibility to make independent decisions on complex dockets in a timely manner, and I will succeed. I believe my credentials, track record, performance, and determination ideally position me to strengthen the HPUC and advance Hawaii toward its crucial goals of sustainable and dependable energy operations. It is my goal to assist in the development of policies that enable a healthy, resilient, economy and energy infrastructure that aligns with Hawaii's 100% RPS goals. I would specifically like to see the enactment of time-based rates, robust integrated demand side management programs and initiatives, and increased access for market participants to bring innovate technologies to the Hawaii economy, energy sector, and water resources.

In summary, my professional career has provided me with exceptionally challenging and rewarding projects where I have gained extensive subject matter expertise in the various topics currently before the Commission. I cannot think of a more honorable and important position for someone with my background and expertise; this is an opportunity of a lifetime to serve as a Commissioner for the people of Hawaii.

**Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you and provide this testimony.**

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 9:21:19 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Neda Oreizy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY OF

Neda Oreizy

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 652

Nomination of Jennifer Potter

to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

My name is Neda Oreizy, and I am writing in my personal capacity to strongly support the nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. I met Ms. Potter when I served on the Technical Advisory Group of the California Demand Response Potential Study, in which she was the project lead on the economic and market potential sections while at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. I can attest to her extensive knowledge of the energy sector, particularly in the critical nexus of balancing customer and grid needs, which I believe is imperative to her success as a commissioner in Hawaii.

Ms. Potter has developed a strong and nuanced understanding of the economic, market, and technical capabilities of customers to utilize demand response, distributed energy resources, and time-based pricing. Her ability to translate this to value for the electric grid's safety and reliability provides her the experience she needs to enable Hawaii's clean energy future. While her quantitative and qualitative research skills were a key aspect to the study, I also witnessed her ability to collaborate with regulators, regulated utilities, environmental groups, and other energy providers, even when the results of the study indicated a new framework would be necessary to meet the grid's future needs. I believe Ms. Potter's ability to clearly articulate complex topics enabled the state to move forward with a more critical evaluation of the market and regulatory policy changes necessary to support new models of demand response.

This unique combination of technical experience, dedication to enabling a clean energy future, and ability to thoughtfully navigate competing policy needs demonstrates to me that Ms. Potter has the experience necessary to not only be an effective commissioner, but to do so with integrity and independence.

Respectfully submitted,

Neda Oreizy

TESTIMONY OF  
John E. Cole

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,  
AND HEALTH

THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2018  
Thursday, April 12, 2018  
9:30 A.M.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 652  
Nomination of Jennifer Potter  
to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

My name is John Cole, and I strongly support the nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

I have worked with Ms. Potter at the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) since November of last year. In that time, she has displayed a deep technical knowledge of utility systems and an understanding that policy must evolve along with technology advances in order to efficiently and effectively move our utility systems toward a 100% renewable future. Ms. Potter's extensive background in planning, forecasting, pricing, and demand response analysis is a perfect fit for the Commission as it navigates us through the challenges of the state's energy transformation.

Working with Jennifer, I have seen first-hand that she is an amazing data analyst, thinker, and writer. But even more important, I have never worked with anyone that is more enthusiastic, positive and driven than Jennifer. She is a joy to work with and the Commission will be lucky to have her. I believe Jennifer will do her considerable best to make a better future for all the residents of Hawaii.

I strongly urge you to favorably consider Jennifer Potter's nomination to the Commission.

**Before the State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Thursday, April 12, 2018, 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

Re: Testimony in **support** for GM 652: Consideration and confirmation to the **Public Utilities Commission** of Gubernatorial Nominee, **Jennifer Potter**, for a Term to Expire on June 30, 2024

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tokuda and Members of the State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

My name is Caroline Carl and I am writing in my personal capacity in **support** of the appointment of Jennifer Potter to serve on the Public Utilities Commission.

For the last two years, I have worked closely with Ms. Potter in various capacities within the energy industry in Hawai'i. We have coordinated on both research and communications around critical energy issues in the state.

The State of Hawai'i is at the forefront of the nation's clean energy efforts. Our aggressive efficiency and renewable portfolio standards bring with them complexities that require planning and coordination between individual customers, communities and the utilities. Decisions made in the next six years will have significant influence on our ability to reach these important clean energy commitments and Ms. Potter's experience will prove invaluable during this time.

Having worked at Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), Roseville Electric, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI), Ms. Potter brings both implementation and the policy expertise. She has a broad range of experience in generation, transmission and distribution, demand side management, and the economics of the energy market.

Additionally, as a Maui resident, Ms. Potter brings a valuable perspective to the Commission. Having recently spoke on a panel she moderated at the Maui Energy Conference, I was incredibly impressed with her ability to synthesis key energy issues facing our communities.

I am very pleased to offer this letter in **support** of Jennifer Potter's nomination. I know her both personally and professionally, and her integrity is second to none. She is deeply committed to Hawai'i's resiliency and embodies all the qualities of an excellent Commissioner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am happy to answer any additional questions.

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND  
HEALTH

THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018  
9:30 A.M.

TESTIMONY OF DEAN NISHINA TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

GM 652 – RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF JENNIFER M. POTTER TO BE  
CONFIRMED AS A COMMISSIONER ON THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

I strongly support the confirmation of Jennifer Potter as a commissioner on the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

I have participated in the regulation of utilities and transportation companies before the Commission for many years in a number of different roles while employed at the Division of Consumer Advocacy. In that capacity, I have a well-informed understanding of the role that the Commission plays in the regulated services that Hawaii, its residents, and its businesses rely upon in their daily lives and operations. Due to the importance of the Commission's role, it is important that the commissioners are qualified individuals with the ability to objectively consider disparate viewpoints, evaluate increasingly complex issues, and reach a decision in the public interest.

Jennifer is relatively new to Hawaii but she has an impressive resume that demonstrates her significant background and experience in the energy industry. Based on her experience with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and Roseville Electric, it is clear that Jennifer's experience is not just limited to the academia or utility perspective; her experience reflects a wider breadth that, if confirmed as a commissioner, would allow her to bring a richer perspective to the deliberations at the Commission. I also have had the pleasure of having conversations with her regarding the issues that Hawaii faces and discussing our respective thoughts on critical issues and possible solutions. Based on that interaction, I think Jennifer is an individual who is keenly interested and able to provide valuable contributions to the discussions that are ongoing before the Commission as it relates to the complex issues in the energy industry and believe that her intelligence will allow her to quickly bring herself up to speed on the other regulated industries as well. I think Jennifer will make an excellent commissioner that can help Hawaii deal with its regulated utility and transportation issues. I look forward to working with Jennifer on an ongoing basis and recommend that the committee act favorably on her nomination to serve as a member on the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**GM-652**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 9:24:27 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marcia Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Presentation to the Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018

Thursday, April 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m.

Testimony on **Governor's Message No. 652**, Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as a Member of the **Public Utilities Commission**, Gubernatorial Nominee, **Jennifer Potter**, for a Term to Expire on June 30, 2024

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair,  
The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair,  
and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am writing in my personal capacity in **support** of the appointment of Jennifer Potter to serve as a member of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"), for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

While I only met Ms. Potter earlier this year, I am hopeful that her previous work experience at the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, and Sacramento Municipal Utility District will provide her with the opportunity to "hit the ground, running" in working on Hawaii utility regulation. I found Ms. Potter to be collegial, knowledgeable, and willing to share her expertise with and learn from others. Ms. Potter's experience with rate regulation will readily translate to other utilities supervised by the Commission, enabling her to further assist the Commission and the community it serves.

Because Hawaii's energy goals are impressive, important, and challenging, we especially need members of the Commission who are familiar with electric utilities, energy efficiency, demand response, the utilities' technical challenges, and the policy behind decisions will be made by the Commission. Ms. Potter's experience will no doubt prove invaluable as the Commission provides guidance to the electric utilities as they work toward meeting our Renewable Portfolio Standards.

I believe Ms. Potter will be a valued and highly productive member of the Commission, and respectfully request that you recommend approval of her nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to support GM No. 652. I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have.



**GM-652**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 12:26:31 PM

Testimony for CPH on 4/12/2018 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frederick Redell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The County of Maui supports the nomination of Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission. Her experience in energy markets, distributed energy resources, and data analytics will serve the ratepayers well.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROY CATALANI  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

April 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 229

**G.M. 652**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities**  
**Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JENNIFER POTTER,**  
**for a term to expire 06-30-2024**

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC)

Ms. Potter is an exemplary choice to serve on the PUC. Her research and vast experience in energy where she authored 10 reports as an expert on this subject make her eminently qualified to serve. A graduate of distinction from Carnegie Mellon University with a heart in public service, DOT believes she will protect consumers, uphold public trust, and approach her responsibilities with humility. Ms. Potter recognizes what is required of the PUC and understands the big picture and the need to have balanced, measured, and responsible approach to the most complicated and challenging actions by the PUC. Her intellect is deep, her breadth of knowledge is remarkable and her commitment to public service is notable. We cannot think of a better combination of qualities that will serve the PUC and the people of Hawaii well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND  
HEALTH**

April 12, 2018, 9:30 a.m.  
*(Testimony is 1 page long)*

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 652**

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Alliance for Solar Choice (TASC) respectfully supports GM 652, requesting the Senate confirm Jennifer Potter to the Public Utilities Commission.

Hawai'i is in the middle of an exciting transformation to a new, clean energy future. Visionary legislative commitments to 100% renewable energy, reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, mandatory energy efficiency standards; electric grid modernization, and large-scale rooftop solar adoption means Hawai'i is showing the world how to transform the power sector. This transformation has already producing significant benefits, like adding \$350 to \$600 million to Hawai'i's economy and lowering the average ratepayer bill by more than 10% on Maui, O'ahu, and the island of Hawai'i.

This era of significant change requires strong leadership, particularly at the Commission in charge of regulating Hawai'i's electrical grid. We need individuals who understand the complex economic, technical, social, and environmental issues involved in providing electricity to Hawai'i's people.

We believe Jennifer Potter can provide that leadership. Her strong background at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District — a utility that consistently receives national recognition for highest customer satisfaction — and at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is uniquely qualified for Hawaii's dynamic energy transformation. Her focus on demand side management will aid the Commission in ensuring customers are a key part of Hawaii's clean energy future. If confirmed, she also has the technical and research experience to hit the ground running.

Ms. Potter would be a welcome voice to the Public Utilities Commission. We urge this Committee to confirm Ms. Potter's nomination to the Public Utilities Commission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit these comments.