



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

GWEN S. YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

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Testimony of
**Gwen Yamamoto Lau, Executive Director
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
Friday, April 9, 2021 at 3:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in consideration of
GM NO. 527
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure
Authority, gubernatorial nominee
RICHARD WALLSGROVE, for a term to expire 6-30-2022**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Members of the Committee:

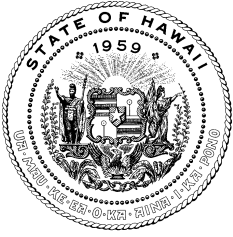
Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message 527, for gubernatorial nominee, Richard Wallsgrove, to serve as a Board Member of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority ("HGIA").

Mr. Wallsgrove's credentials and experience in clean energy, the environment and policy matters, speaks for itself. Currently an Assistant Professor for the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law, Mr. Wallsgrove also served as Policy Director with the Blue Planet Foundation and as Project Specialist for the Center for Climate Change Adaptation & Policy at the East West Center's Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences & Assessment Program. He also has almost a dozen publications on a variety of clean energy, social equity and environmental topics.

Mr. Wallsgrove was an integral member of HGIA's Permitted Interaction Group formed in 2019. After completing its due diligence, the group recommended that all remaining GEMS loan capital be allocated to underserved low and moderate-income homeowners, renters, nonprofits, small business and multifamily rental project rate payers.

We are fortunate to have Mr. Wallsgrove join our HGIA team as his legal, policy and clean energy technical expertise complements the economic development and finance skills of our other HGIA board members.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer strong support and comments for Governor's Message 527.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5TH Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | energy.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 587-3807

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Friday, April 9, 2021, 3:00 PM
Via Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 527, RICHARD WALLSGROVE
TO THE HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY
(Written Testimony Only)**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in support of the appointment of Mr. Wallsgrove to serve on the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA).

As evidenced by his resume, Mr. Wallsgrove is clearly qualified to serve as a board member of the HGIA. He brings legal, financial, policy, and technical expertise to the board. Mr. Wallsgrove has direct experience working with the HGIA to improve its operations and better achieve its mission. He served as an integral member of HGIA's Permitted Interaction Group in 2019, which recommended that all remaining GEMS loan capital be allocated to underserved low and moderate-income homeowners, renters, nonprofits, small business and multifamily rental project rate payers. Moreover, Mr. Wallsgrove, in his acting member capacity, has already demonstrated a forward thinking approach to opportunities for HGIA to further its mission and a willingness to assist the executive director in realizing these opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Testimony of The Hawaii Solar Energy Association Regarding GM527, Considering the Confirmation of Richard Wallsgrove to the Board of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority, Before the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Friday, April 9, 2021

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and members of the Committee, my name is Rocky Mould and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA). I am writing on behalf of HSEA in **strong support of Richard Wallsgrove's nomination and confirmation to the Board of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA).**

With over 100 members, HSEA includes the majority of locally owned and operated renewable energy companies in the State of Hawaii. We employ directly and indirectly thousands of local individuals in a diverse set of well-paying jobs including, but not limited to, contractors, designers, electricians, engineers, financiers, installers, salespeople, and service technicians. We advocate on behalf of our member companies and for policies supporting sustainability, resiliency, and Hawaii's renewable energy transition.

Mr. Wallsgrove's qualifications for the HGIA Board are impeccable. With his track record as a tireless advocate for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and equity; and his deep well of experience as a subject matter expert on technical and programmatic matters related to Hawaii's decarbonization and energy system transformation, he will be a valuable asset to the HGIA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf HSEA in strong support of Mr. Wallsgrove's confirmation.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

**Governor's Message 527
Consideration and Confirmation of to the Hawaii Green
Infrastructure Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee
RICHARD WALLSGROVE, for a term to expire 6-30-2022**

Friday, April 9, 2021
3:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Shelee Kimura
Senior Vice President Customer Service and Public Affairs
Hawaiian Electric Company

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Committee members,

My name is Shelee Kimura and I am testifying **in support of Governor's Message (GM) 527**, in consideration and confirmation of Richard Wallsgrove to serve on the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority for a term to expire June 30, 2022.

Over several years, I worked with Mr. Wallsgrove on our common pursuit of a clean energy future for Hawaii, including clean transportation. We aligned on the importance of government, private and community stakeholders working collaboratively and cohesively to achieve our state's clean energy goals. To that end, Mr. Wallsgrove was an important leader and collaborative team member in our formation of Drive Electric Hawaii, established in 2015 by a coalition of local government, private, and non-profit stakeholders that had a common vision of powering ground transportation with renewable energy in support of Hawaii's goal of 100% renewable energy. These founding organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Rocky Mountain Institute to formalize this partnership and reinforce the relationships that would help create impact as a coalition. Mr. Wallsgrove's initiative and foresight seeded this effort and his commitment to the coalition and ability to bridge across many stakeholders was critical in setting the path for the coalition in its early years. This coalition has been instrumental in the

enhanced electric vehicle advocacy in Hawaii over the last five years, and the organization has since grown to include 13 organizations that are educating, supporting, or advocating on behalf of electric vehicles:

- Blue Planet Foundation
- City & County of Honolulu
- County of Hawaii
- County of Kauai
- County of Maui
- Hawaii Energy
- Hawaiian Electric Company
- Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
- Rocky Mountain Institute
- State of Hawaii, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
- State of Hawaii, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
- State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation
- Ulupono Initiative

I also appreciate that Mr. Wallsgrove has been involved in many important dockets in front of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. As a result, he is familiar with the history, is well-versed in many clean energy issues in Hawaii and is familiar with the many stakeholders that impact and are impacted by these issues.

Accordingly, I support Richard Wallsgrove in **support of Governor's Message 527** to serve on the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

GM-527

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 11:04:05 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/9/2021 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sandie Wong | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Wallsgrove.

GM-527

Submitted on: 4/7/2021 12:08:39 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/9/2021 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Denise E Antolini | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Members of the Committee:

I write in **strong support** of the appointment of my colleague **Richard Wallsgrove** to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority.

I have known Professor Wallsgrove since he was a law student at the William S. Richardson School of Law, where I started teaching in 1996. Richard was an outstanding student and since graduation has become a first-rate lawyer and colleague. I was delighted when -- after his many years of experience in the field of energy law -- he joined the Environmental Law Program faculty at the Law School in 2018. He is an invaluable member of our faculty, strong dedicated to public service and helping Hawai'i achieve its clean energy goals in an equitable way.

Richard is an expert in energy law and policy, widely recognized in Hawaii and elsewhere in the US for his expertise in clean energy and energy justice. He also has unique technical expertise and science credentials that make his service on this GIA a real asset to the State.

Please support his appointment.

Mahalo nui loa,

Denise Antolini

Professor of Law, Environmental Law Program

William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at MÄ• noa

GM-527

Submitted on: 4/8/2021 3:20:58 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/9/2021 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lorraine Akiba | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Senator Wakai and members of the committee, I am submitting testimony in strong support of the nomination of Richard Wallsgrove as a member of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA). Professor Wallsgrove is a qualified candidate for this position and has extensive experience and knowledge about the energy sector and energy financing in Hawaii. He also has expertise and background in regulatory law matters and is familiar with the GEMs program and the Hawaii PUC.

I first came to know Professor Wallsgrove from his work at Blue Planet Foundation and his active role in proceedings at the Hawaii PUC when I was a commissioner. He is well respected in the legal and regulatory community.

I urge your confirmation of his appointment to the HGIA. He will bring added value with his skill sets and leadership capabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Professor Wallsgrove's nomination.

Very truly yours,

Lorraine H. Akiba, Presidnet/CEO LHA Ventures and Former Comrossioner, Hawaii PUC

TESTIMONY OF GERALD A. SUMIDA, ESQ.
CARLSMITH BALL LLP
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
THE SENATE
ON GM 527
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
RICHARD WALLSGROVE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2022

Chair Glenn Wakai and Members of the Committee:

I am Gerald A. Sumida, a partner of the Hawai'i-based law firm of Carlsmith Ball LLP, and I am very pleased to present this testimony in very strong support of the confirmation of Richard Wallsgrove to The Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority of the State of Hawai'i.

I became familiar with Richard when he was the Policy Director of the Blue Planet Foundation, a nonprofit organization devoted to promoting clean energy in the State of Hawai'i, and interacted with him extensively on various statewide energy planning and development matters. These included working with him and others in several Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") proceedings, including developing the Community-Based Renewable Energy ("CBRE") tariff and related implementing documentation for Phase 1 of the CBRE initiative, and developing the Microgrid Services tariff. Complementing those activities, he also worked with numerous stakeholder groups in which I was, and am, involved, and he contributed recommendations on behalf of the Blue Planet Foundation in several renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy conservation efforts. He was an active and valued participant in several stakeholder groups comprised of representatives from the State and County governments, the private sector and industry associations, community organizations and other nonprofit energy and environmental organizations, and the general public. Much of this work involved collaborative efforts with the Hawaiian Electric Companies.

He has continued this interest in, and dedication to, issues, programs and initiatives involving the future of Hawai'i's energy ecosystem through his work and teaching at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. His current teaching, research and publications center on clean energy initiatives, environmental law, and energy law and policy. Beyond his current work at the Law School, he also brings the added important skills from his time in private law practice in Hawai'i, which involved many of the skills and experience that would be valuable to The Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (the "HGIA"). These include business organization, real estate, permitting, regulatory and related legal issues, which are inherent dimensions of infrastructure development, operations and maintenance. Moreover, the fact that his academic background and studies involved the hard sciences, as well as ocean and earth sciences in pursuing this Master's Degree at the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology ("SOEST") at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, give him a unique and valuable background and perspective that will enhance his contribution to the HGIA.

Of special interest where Richard's past experience and expertise and present work and scholarship, are especially relevant are the PUC's innovative, extensive, and urgent initiatives in seeking to encourage the development of renewable energy and related infrastructure in furtherance of Hawai'i's Clean Energy Goals. These infrastructural needs are now clearly recognized to extend beyond solely the purview and work of the Hawaiian Electric Companies, but to encompass the project development and operations of and by renewable energy developers, efficiency and conservation programs, electrification of transportation, and more, especially as technology continues to evolve and provide more opportunities and resources toward the achievement of a Clean Energy future. The HGIA's role in this rapidly transforming field can be a critical one, and Richard will bring the intellectual and experiential resources and leadership to contribute to HGIA's work and hopeful accomplishments.

For all of these reasons, I strongly urge that Richard Wallsgrove be confirmed for a term on the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Thanks you for your favorable consideration in this matter.

Gerald A. Sumida, Esq.
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LATE



SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

April 9, 2021, 3:00 P.M.

Video Conference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 527

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Committee members:

Blue Planet Foundation is pleased to **support the nomination of Richard Wallsgrove to serve on the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA).**

Blue Planet Foundation is a Hawai'i-based nonprofit organization. We work to clear the path for local, clean, renewable power. Through our advocacy for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation, we seek to make our communities stronger, our energy more secure, our environment healthier, and our economy more robust.

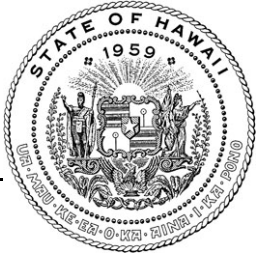
Before he joined the faculty at the William S. Richardson School of Law, Mr. Wallsgrove worked as Blue Planet's Policy Director, overseeing the nonprofit organization's policy initiatives and managing program staff. Over the course of his career, he has made significant contributions to clean energy policy in Hawai'i through his work before the Public Utilities Commission and the state legislature, as a program manager developing initiatives to help individuals and businesses understand and reduce their energy use, and now in his current role as a professor of law with a focus on energy law and policy.

Mr. Wallsgrove is not only an incredible thought leader and legal scholar, he is an exceptional human being that approaches his work and life with curiosity, humility, patience, persistence, and heart. By actively seeking community partnerships and pursuing innovative approaches to foster strong connections between clean energy stakeholders and the community at large, his work exemplifies the values that he holds near and dear: a just and prosperous future is one driven by purpose and guided by service. We are confident that he will bring these values to his service with HGIA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of Richard Wallsgrove's nomination to HGIA.**

info@blueplanetfoundation.org

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

CHUNG I. CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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LATE

Testimony of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Friday, April 9, 2021

3:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in consideration of

GM 527

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure
Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee,
RICHARD WALLSGROVE, for a term to expire 6-30-2022**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and Members of the Committee:

As Chair of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (“Authority”), I am pleased to testify in **strong support** of Governor’s Message 527, for Gubernatorial Nominee, Richard Wallsgrove, to serve as a Board Member of the Authority.

Mr. Wallsgrove has extensive experience in clean energy and the environment. Prior to his appointment as an Assistant Professor for the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law in 2018, Mr. Wallsgrove served as Policy Director with Blue Planet Foundation from 2012 to 2017; and Project Specialist for the Center for Climate Change Adaption & Policy at the East West Center’s Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences & Assessment Program from 2012 to 2018.

Additionally, in 2019, Mr. Wallsgrove served on the Authority’s Permitted Interaction Group to investigate and make a recommendation regarding the allocation of remaining GEMS funds available.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer strong support and comments for Richard Wallsgrove.