

**COLIN A. YOST**  
**GM593 – PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC)?**

There is broad consensus in Hawaii on the escalating threat of climate change and the need to act with urgency to adapt to and mitigate its harmful effects. Important progress has been made to transform the provision of public necessities like electricity, water, telecommunications and inter-island transportation of goods. However, much more needs to be done, and solutions will grow more complex as we get closer to 100% renewable energy. Further, droughts are likely to worsen, and natural disasters are projected to increase in frequency and severity. I wish to contribute to the success of the essential work that lies ahead and to perform my duties in a way that respects communities, improves utility performance, reduces costs and upgrades the resilience of our local workforce and infrastructure.

**(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Public Utilities Commission?**

A Commissioner's fundamental responsibility is to evaluate the performance of public utilities and to take appropriate action to ensure the public interest is served. Commissioners must also strive to regulate in a transparent, inclusive and predictable manner and to timely respond to applications and concerns filed by utilities and the public.

**(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Public Utilities Commission, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Public Utilities Commission.**

Following my graduation from Lewis & Clark Law School in 1998, I practiced law for 25 years in various roles including financial fraud prosecutor, private practice trial and administrative law attorney and corporate counsel for renewable energy companies and industry in Hawaii.

My first work related to the regulation of utilities occurred during my service as an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for the Oregon Department of Justice Financial Fraud/Consumer Protection Section from 1998-2003. There I led complex investigations and prosecutions of telecommunications giants like MCI and energy companies Enron, Williams Energy and Duke Energy. As an AAG I also gained a strong appreciation for public service and the importance of exercising the authority of my position in a

responsible, fair and timely manner. Most cases were resolved by my preparation and negotiation of an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance, which resembled in many structural ways the Decisions & Orders I've approved at the PUC since November 1, 2022.

When my family moved to Oahu in 2003, part of my work as an attorney with the firm Paul Johnson Park & Niles involved telecommunications dockets before the PUC. Upon my co-founding of Cruise & Yost in 2006, I began a 16-year practice of advising renewable energy companies and industry on policy and regulatory matters, including numerous filings with the PUC.

In my role of Chief Operating Officer at RevoluSun for eight years, I learned how to manage and mentor a team of up to 150 professional employees while resolving a steady stream of challenges and deadlines inherent to running a business. I further gained an in-depth technical and practical understanding of solar and battery storage project development, construction and interconnection (small industrial, commercial and residential).

Although I faced a steep learning curve as a new Commissioner in November 2022, I adapted quickly and developed a good working relationship with my fellow Commissioners and staff. Chair Asuncion, Commissioner Kuwaye and I have complementary backgrounds and skills, and it has not been difficult for us to achieve consensus on the Orders we've issued in the past five months.

**(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

I hope to help accelerate and improve the ongoing transformation of our electricity and water infrastructure with a focus on community driven solutions, affordability, reliability and resilience. The Equity Docket recently initiated by the PUC is of particular importance to me because it offers the potential of near-term remedies for communities that bear undue infrastructure burdens and/or have not been able to participate in the energy savings enjoyed by residents and businesses who install rooftop solar.

**(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Public Utilities Commission?**

Collaborative, result-driven and innovative. My experience at the PUC during the last five months is that it works best as a cohesive team that combines the skills and experience of the staff attorneys, utility analysts, engineers and auditors into draft recommendations that initiate another round of collaboration involving the three

Commissioners. I'm comfortable with this approach, and I also value how the team is able to adjust to leadership by individual Commissioners when needed.

My result-driven mindset strengthened during my time in the private sector where the importance of meeting deadlines and solving problems was critical to the viability of the business. At the PUC, time is of the essence in many dockets to meet project development and PUC imposed milestones. In some cases, a utility's eligibility for special federal funding may depend on accelerated decision-making by the PUC.

Finally, innovation will be essential to the achievement of the technology-focused infrastructure upgrades that are in process and planned for the next 5-10 years.

**(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Public Utilities Commission?**

Together with my former partners at RevoluSun, I realized after the closure of the Net-Energy-Metering program that smaller, distributed solar systems needed to be more "grid-friendly" to resolve utility concerns and enhance their value for consumers. I therefore negotiated some of the earliest deals in the nation with Tesla and other battery manufacturers and then worked with permitting authorities and HECO to facilitate the interconnection of this new technology. In a short period of time, RevoluSun transitioned to install batteries with nearly 100% of its residential PV systems, which greatly reduced HECO's apprehension about variable exported energy and also opened the door for new grid-services from thousands of distributed sources.

This experience reflects how I approach challenges through collaboration, innovation and result-driven methods, all of which I believe will be beneficial to the PUC.

**(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Public Utilities Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?**

On or before October 31, 2022, I fully divested, financially and organizationally from all RevoluSun entities, as well as from the non-profit organizations with which I was associated, including the Blue Planet Foundation, the Hawaii PV Coalition and the Hawaii Solar Energy Association. I also filed letters in all active PUC dockets in which such organizations/parties were participating that explained my decision to voluntarily recuse myself for six months. Going forward, I will continue to evaluate each docket on its own merit and be objective in my decision-making. I will also continue consult with PUC counsel and recuse myself if it is determined that a conflict exists.

# BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843  
www.boardofwatersupply.com



April 14, 2023

RICK BLANGIARDI, MAYOR

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ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

ERWIN M. KAWATA  
Deputy Manager

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
and Members  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keohokalole and Members

**SUBJECT: GM No. 593: Submitted for Consideration and Confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Colin A. Yost, for a term to expire 06-30-2024**

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Colin A. Yost to serve on the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a term expiring June 30, 2024.

Mr. Yost has nearly 25 years' experience as an attorney and litigator in the field of consumer protection, energy marketing, environmental protection, risk management and commercial project development. Mr. Yost professional and community involvement is quite impressive and indicates his interest in clean energy, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and paving a path for a healthier future. For the past 12 years, Mr. Yost served as the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel to *RevoluSun LLC*, headquartered in Honolulu, HI. *RevoluSun* is a residential photovoltaic installer with offices in Hawaii, and franchises in Massachusetts and Idaho. Today, Mr. Yost is one of the principals *RevoluSun*. He managed the legal affairs, human resources and led in the development of over 25 megawatts of commercial solar projects. Mr. Yost filed an unprecedented document in PUC Docket No. 2018-0088, disclosing relationships to parties or participants on his participation in various PUC dockets relating to distributed energy resources as pro bono counsel for certain renewable energy stakeholders, including the Hawaii Solar Energy Association and the Hawaii PV Coalition.<sup>1</sup> He established working utility relations with HECO, and understands permitting and policy matters that will serve him well as a Commissioner.

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<sup>1</sup> Parties and Intervenors in PUC Docket No. 2018-0088; Disclosure of Relationships to Parties or Participants Pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules § 16-601-28. November 14, 2022. Iililani Media - Posted by Henry Curtis on November 16, 2022.

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
and Members  
April 14, 2023  
Page 2

I respectfully request members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection vote favorably on his nomination and advancing GM 593 for full Senate confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM 593, Colin A. Yost to serve as a Commissioner on the PUC.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ernest Y. W. Lau', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

A small, handwritten mark or signature, possibly initials, located below the printed name.



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1260 EMPOWERING THE PACIFIC

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

HEARING DATE: Friday, April 14, 2023  
TIME: 9:30 a.m.  
PLACE: State Capitol  
Conference Room 229

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 593

Aloha Honorable Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee;

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) and its Business Manager and Financial Secretary, Leroy Chincio, Jr. would like to offer the following testimony in support of Governor's Message 593 ("GM 593").

IBEW 1260, is comprised of nearly 3,500 hardworking union members made up of a diverse workforce that consists of highly skilled and trained individuals working in electrical utility generation, transmission, distribution, and outside construction, as well as government, professional, and broadcast service contracts throughout the State of Hawai'i, in Guam and Wake Island.

IBEW 1260 supports GM 593 which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Hawai'i continues to battle one of the highest costs of living in the nation, an ongoing affordable housing crisis, and a growing number of homeless on its streets. To offset these challenges, IBEW 1260 trains and maintains a workforce that not only provides for living wage jobs, but family-sustaining *careers* that allow our local-residents to buy homes, raise families, retire with a quality of life and continue to call Hawai'i their home.

IBEW 1260 has had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Yost and in our conversations, he has conveyed a genuine understanding and concern for Hawai'i's energy future and the delicate balance between the desire to transition to clean renewable energy with the need to ensure a reliable and resilient energy resource and viable workforce.

We believe that Mr. Yost's diverse experience and background in both the public and private sectors in law and alternative energy production, equips him with the unique skill set required to tackle the complex and often controversial issues that come before the commission and we look forward to working with Mr. Yost and the commission to ensure that workforce development, maintenance, and other labor-related issues are given due consideration on matters before the commission.

For these reasons, IBEW 1260 stands in support of GM 593. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Statement of  
LEO R. ASUNCION, JR.  
before the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Friday, April 14, 2023  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of

**Governor's Message (GM) 593**

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

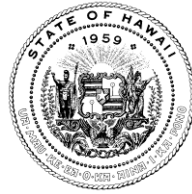
I strongly support the nomination of Colin Yost to serve as a Commissioner on the Public Utilities Commission.

While I have only worked with Mr. Yost for 6 months, he has been a welcome addition to the Public Utilities Commission. His experience in the private sector, as well as a practicing attorney have given Mr. Yost a solid foundation in the work of the PUC and the varying topics related to the 1600+ entities that the Commission regulates.

It is my opinion that Mr. Yost possesses the right demeanor and collaborative nature that a PUC Commissioner should have in working with staff, regulated entities, stakeholders, and the public, and he is well suited to assist and contribute to achieving the PUC's mission and goals. I have the utmost confidence that he will serve our State well.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to advise and consent to the nomination of Colin Yost as a Commissioner on the Public Utilities Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on GM 593.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA  
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310  
P.O. BOX 541  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850  
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JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO  
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I HAZAMA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Friday, April 14, 2023  
9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
G.M. 593, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, COLIN YOST,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024**

**WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY**

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Nadine Ando, and I am the Director for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports the confirmation of the appointment of Colin Yost to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission).

Mr. Yost has served as an interim Commissioner for the PUC since November 1, 2022 and was an owner of the Oahu-based renewable energy company, RevoluSun, and served as their Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel during his time there. He also founded the law firm of Cruise & Yost and he also worked as an attorney for the Honolulu firm, Paul Johnson Park & Niles. Mr. Yost has worked in areas of energy and environmental law, civil litigation, business law, consumer law, civil rights, Native Hawaiian rights, real estate matters and administrative proceedings before coming to the PUC.



Testimony of the DCCA

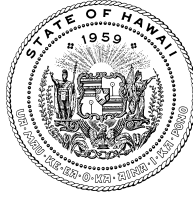
G.M.593

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He earned his juris doctorate from Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law and his Bachelor of Arts in English and Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Yost has participated as a member in numerous professional and community groups.

The Department believes that Mr. Yost's continued desire to serve on the PUC will continue to enhance the Commission's effectiveness.

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



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of  
**Josh Green, M.D.**  
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**

Friday, April 14, 2023  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of  
**Governor's Message No. 593**

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 593, the appointment of Colin Yost as a Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Mr. Yost was originally appointed by Governor David Ige in October 2022 as an interim Commissioner, and I would like to honor Governor Ige's appointment to the PUC.

Prior to his appointment to the PUC, Colin served for eight years as the Chief Operating Officer and for four years as General Counsel for O'ahu-based renewable company RevoluSun LLC. During his time at RevoluSun, Colin was responsible for general company management, directing the commercial projects division and oversaw human resources and regulatory matters. Additionally, he also helped to guide RevoluSun's through an ever-changing political landscape to become one of our nation's leading residential photovoltaic installers.

Colin also served from 1998 to 2003 as the Assistant Attorney General in the Financial Fraud/Consumer Protection Section of the Oregon Department of Justice. In this capacity, Colin helped to lead the State of Oregon's investigation and prosecution of western energy companies in relation to the west coast electricity crisis of 200-2001

With his proven experience and knowledge in the energy sector, I am confident that Colin Yost will continue to serve as a valuable member of the Public Utilities Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

## HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

GWEN S. YAMAMOTO LAU  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, Suite 501, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3868  
Web site: gems.hawaii.gov

**Testimony of**  
**Gwen Yamamoto Lau**  
Executive Director  
**Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**  
before the  
**Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
Friday, April 14, 2023, 9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229  
in consideration of  
**GM No. 593**  
**Confirmation of Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission,**  
**Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST**

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Governor's Message 593 for Gubernatorial Nominee Colin Yost, as Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

I have known Mr. Yost for the last six years and believe he is uniquely qualified for this position. With an impressive twenty-five year career in public and private practice with a focus on energy and environmental issues and a former small business owner who understands the challenges small businesses face in Hawaii, Mr. Yost is well suited to serve as PUC Commissioner.

An experienced and knowledgeable professional, Mr. Yost is well respected in the energy industry and the community at large. Additionally, through his volunteer work with the Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Mr. Yost has helped to advance the industry for all stakeholders.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer support and comments for Governor's Message 593.

# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

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Testimony of  
**Michael A. Dahilig**  
Managing Director, County of Kaua'i

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
April 14, 2023 at 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of  
**GM 593 – Colin Yost**  
**Gubernatorial Nominee for**  
**Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission**

Honorable Chair Keohokalole, Honorable Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Mr. Colin Yost's nomination to the Public Utilities Commission. As a nominee, he is well qualified to fulfill this responsibility given his professional and life experiences, his temperament, and desire to serve. I was very pleased with the Governor Green's vote of confidence in his skills with this nomination.

I have known Mr. Yost in various community capacities for over a decade, particularly with his work in environmental law, community groups, and previously in private industry as a leader in solar energy. I can attest to his cooperative and collaborative style, intellect, and good character. His experience in understanding how Hawai'i works from these areas of expertise makes his unique skill set in energy production, federal and state laws, and environmental management an asset to this critical agency that is entrusted with establishing utility operation and pricing fairness for Hawai'i's people.

Personally, I consider Mr. Yost a friend. Our paths have crossed in many professional settings that go beyond what I can count. Not many individuals have the diversity of experiences as him, and while he may come across as well-mannered and professional, he also has a side to him that doesn't take himself too seriously. His candor and humor make him a perfect fit to communicate with people from all walks of life. He also understands the depth of being charged with a fiduciary responsibility, and I can trust his judgment as he weighs the dining room impact of decisions with the long-term impact of needing to move our state forward in energy innovation and independence.

The State will undoubtedly be enriched by his service on the PUC. I have confidence in Mr. Yost's ability to make sound and deliberative choices in the adjudication of what is a fair price for Hawai'i's people to pay for utility services, and respectfully ask this honorable committee to **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to his nomination. Mahalo for your consideration.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

April 14, 2023, 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 229

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 593**

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Committee members:

Blue Planet Foundation is pleased to **support the nomination of Colin Yost to the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission.**

Blue Planet Foundation is a Hawai'i-based nonprofit organization. We are committed to helping Hawai'i achieve its climate goals and accelerate progress towards a more just and sustainable clean energy future. Through our advocacy for clean energy, sustainable transportation, and energy efficiency, we seek to make our communities stronger, our energy more secure, our environment healthier, and our economy more robust.

Mr. Yost's professional experience across the energy industry and private law practice, educational background in environmental studies and law, and community involvement in Hawai'i-based nonprofit organizations like Blue Planet Foundation and others all make him uniquely suited for this position as a Public Utilities Commissioner. Notably, Mr. Yost served as a trial attorney in Honolulu between 2003-2010, before transitioning as the General Counsel and Chief Operating Officer for RevoluSun from 2010-2022. Throughout this career, he has developed direct knowledge and experience working in Public Utilities Commission dockets, in particular those relating to solar, battery storage, and other renewable energy projects at both the commercial and utility-scale levels.

The Public Utilities Commission plays a key role in ensuring public interests are protected as Hawai'i advances towards 100% renewable energy by 2045. We believe Mr. Yost has the expertise and commitment to thoughtfully contribute to moving Hawai'i closer to this shared vision of a sustainable and resilient energy future. As we collectively rise to the challenge of addressing climate change, Mr. Yost is a demonstrated leader who values inclusivity, collaboration, and thoughtful consideration of the complex energy issues facing our state.

We hope you will support his confirmation. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of GM 593.**

[info@blueplanetfoundation.org](mailto:info@blueplanetfoundation.org)

126 Queen Street, Suite 204 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 • 808-954-6161 • [blueplanetfoundation.org](http://blueplanetfoundation.org)



Before the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Friday, April 14, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Testimony in Support of GM593: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Colin Yost, for a term to expire 06-30-2024

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support and provide comments on Governor's Message No. 593, which proposes to confirm to the Public Utilities Commission, Colin Yost, for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Hawai'i Energy works to empower island families and businesses on behalf of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission to make smart energy choices to reduce energy consumption, save money, and pursue a 100% clean energy future. Energy efficiency – the energy we do not use – is the cheapest option to help us achieve our 100% clean energy goal by eliminating waste and being more efficient.

As the energy efficiency program administrator for the Commission, we are confident that the dynamic between the Commission and Hawai'i Energy will continue to thrive with Mr. Yost's confirmation. Mr. Yost's commitment to Hawai'i's clean energy future is evidenced by his experience to date. Having served as Chief Operating Officer at the Oahu-based renewable energy company RevoluSun for eight years, Mr. Yost has a deep understanding of the intricacies of clean energy projects. This expertise has already and will continue to prove invaluable to Hawai'i Energy as we design and implement energy efficiency programs to support the pursuit of our state's energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and offer support for Mr. Yost's nomination to serve on the Public Utilities Commission. We look forward to continuing to work with him and the rest of the Commission to make utility services more affordable, resilient, and environmentally beneficial.

Sincerely,  
Caroline Carl  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Energy



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**Testimony of The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding GM593, the Nomination of COLIN YOST to the Public Utilities Commission, before the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**

**Friday, April 14th, 2023**

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and committee members:

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **strongly supports** the nomination of Colin Yost to the Public Utilities Commission and urges he be confirmed.

HSEA members include the majority of locally owned and operated renewable energy companies doing business in the state of Hawaii along with leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers that invest and sell in our market. We employ thousands of residents in diverse green economy jobs that are innovating, designing, and building Hawaii's pathway to a renewable energy future. We advocate for policies that help Hawaii achieve critical climate and resilience goals by enabling residents and businesses to invest in and benefit from the transition to clean energy.

Colin Yost has played an integral and critical leadership role in Hawaii's transition to clean energy. His expertise, experience, and judgement will serve the people of Hawaii well as we pursue our goal of building a resilient, affordable, and sustainable energy system for the benefit of all residents, businesses, and ratepayers. In addition to his legal *bona fides*, Colin brings unique perspective to the regulatory arena. He helped build a thriving local solar business through various business-cycles that has been at the vanguard of clean energy innovation and expanded its unique model beyond our shores. He has also been deeply involved in environmental justice and climate advocacy efforts. As a member of HSEA who took on various leadership roles throughout the last decade, including serving on our Board of Directors, Colin brought his valued insights and well-developed opinions to our policy discussions, and he always sought consensus and was guided by his duty to represent broad collective interests. We have no doubt that he will bring this same good-spirited intellect, openness, and fair-mindedness to his role at the PUC.

Thank you for allowing HSEA to testify in strong support of his confirmation.

Respectfully,

**/s/ Rocky Mould**, Executive Director



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

April 14, 2023

9:30 AM

CCR229

### In SUPPORT of GM593

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

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Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers the following testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the nomination of Colin Yost to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC").

The PUC plays a critical role in ensuring that companies and industries providing vital societal services equitably balance their drive for profits with the needs, interests, and rights of the public. Appropriate PUC oversight over renewable energy development is particularly crucial in this regard, given our islands' legal, environmental, and economic need to transition to locally based renewable energy resources, and such resources' public trust character, which requires their equitable development and distribution. **Accordingly, PUC commissioners should not only have familiarity with or the ability to understand the subject matter areas and laws within the jurisdiction of the PUC - including and particularly with respect to renewable energy development - but must also have a firm commitment to the public interest, and the public trust.** Mr. Yost exemplifies both of these necessary traits.

First, Mr. Yost has extensive experience and expertise of particular relevance to the PUC's jurisdiction and legal mandates. His decade of highly successful work in the renewable energy sector demonstrates his intimate familiarity with a critically important and highly technical area of focus for the PUC – one that is arguably more relevant to the future of our islands than ever before. Moreover, his legal training and varied legal background will further inform his ability to quickly understand and thoughtfully apply the myriad laws, regulations, and policies that inform the PUC and its work.

Second, Mr. Yost also possesses years of community service demonstrating a longtime commitment to the public interest. This includes his extensive service on numerous



community organizations – including on the Sierra Club of Hawai'i Chapter's executive committee, where he played a key role in facilitating our efforts to uplift the intersection between equity, justice, and a resilient future for our islands. The Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly believes that by bringing this latter understanding to the PUC – along with his deep commitment to public service and the public trust – Mr. Yost will be able to both inform and enhance the PUC's role in navigating our public utilities towards a better, more just, and more livable future for our islands and communities.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committee to recommend that the Senate **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to the nomination of Colin Yost.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.

# **ProVision Solar, Inc.**



**Electrical Contractor C-26351**

April 3, 2023

Dear members of the CPN committee,

I am writing in great and enthusiastic support of Colin Yost to complete the term of former PUC commissioner Jennifer Potter.

I have known Colin since the early days of the solar electric movement in the state and have always been impressed by his dedication, akamai nature and humility. There is no one better qualified than Colin to perform this essential service of PUC commissioner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marco C. Mangelsdorf". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue shadowed area.

Marco Mangelsdorf  
Responsible Managing Employee

Subject: Testimonial for Gubernatorial Nominee Colin Yost – Public Utilities Commission

Dear Hawaii Legislators,

I am writing this testimonial in strong support of Colin Yost, the gubernatorial nominee for a term on the Public Utilities Commission, set to expire on June 30th, 2024. As someone who has had the privilege of working closely with Colin over the past few years, I can personally attest to his exceptional qualifications, commitment, and dedication to the public interest.

Colin's background in policies regarding energy conservation initiatives and his involvement and knowledge of Hawaii's solar industry makes him an excellent candidate for the Commission. He brings new ideas and strategies to help move toward Hawaii's goal of becoming energy self-sufficient.

As chair and founder of the AIA (American Institute of Architects) Honolulu's Design for Risk and Resiliency committee, I am keenly aware of the energy predicament we as a community are in. My personal talks with Colin indicate to me that there will be lot's of creative and far more equitable initiatives coming onto the PUC table for the benefit of Hawaii residents. I hope that the rest of the Commission will see the incredible diversity of ideas that Colin will bring. I hope that we will have the courage to implement them.

Colin's involvement in energy policy and moving Hawaii toward independence in a sustainable and equitable manner is a huge plus for Hawaii's tip-of-the-spear thinking as we lead the globe in energy and utility self-sufficiency. Hawaii is the perfect environment, because of its isolation, to test and prove new exciting policies that can dramatically affect the future of the planet.

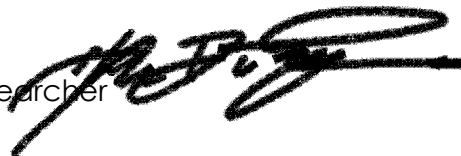
In conclusion, I wholeheartedly recommend Colin Yost for the position of Commissioner on the Public Utilities Commission. I am confident that his expertise, leadership, and passion for serving the public will make him an outstanding addition to the Commission.

Sincerely,

Hale Takazawa, Architect & Researcher

Ferraro Choi & Associates

Cell: 808-392-0398

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hale Takazawa', is positioned over the typed name and affiliation.

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/3/2023 1:07:57 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Steven Mazur	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha CPN committee and stakeholders assisting in the decision to confirm Colin Yost on his first term with the PUC,

I had the privilege of working with Colin at RevoluSun since 2010. He was my direct supervisor starting in 2018 until he left the company to join the PUC in late 2022. We were all sad to see him go but also very happy to see someone with his integrity, work ethic, values, and skillset accept the responsibility and devote his time and efforts to the government for the benefit of those that the PUC serves. If anyone ever had an ethical question, he was certainly the person to go to and gave me a feeling of security working for an organization where honesty came first. It really shows in the reputation we have as a local company and the retention rate of so many of our employees and customers. Colin always did right by his employees and the clients who chose us for their solar projects just like he will do whatever is right for the rate payers and other stakeholders of the PUC.

I recall from my earlier years working with Colin how skilled he was at reviewing lengthy legal documents from the utility, legislative measures, business contracts, and everything else that was on his plate. These activities required someone who understands complex legal issues and couple that with doing what is right for all. He endured through the fast paced and immense pressures to succeed in his role as general counsel and eventually running the entire operations for a fast growing and rapidly changing company and industry. We don't know how he kept up with his duties, but we are thankful he did as he left a great legacy of putting our customers first, the same communities and businesses that he ultimately will serve on the PUC.

His vast knowledge of the technical challenges, policies, and utility programs in Hawaii from his 13+ years in the energy industry will come as a great and timely resource to the PUC and the state as we move towards our state's goals to transition to 100% clean energy and transportation.

Mahalo for reviewing my comments and for helping the people of Hawaii.

Steve Mazur

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/4/2023 1:33:31 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mark Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination of COLIN YOST to the Public Utilities Commission for a term to expire 06-30-2024. I have known Colin for many years and I find him to be a highly ethical and intelligent person.

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/5/2023 7:33:19 AM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cory Alexander Beall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I've known Colin Yost for fifteen years, having raised our kids together and also working with him in the private sector. I can attest to Colin's high level of integrity, reliability, hard work, and likeability. Colin is a pleasure to work with, and a great friend. I wholeheartedly support Colin's nomination to the Public Utility Commission.

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 12:00:31 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jared Watumull	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Colin for many years and believe him to be of sound judgment and good character. I believe he will do an excellent job at the PUC for our community and he understands the issues that our state is facing and is willing to commit to helping fix our issues and make the future a brighter place for us all.

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 2:59:26 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Bernstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Keohokalole and Members of the CPN Committee:

I'm writing in support of confirming Colin Yost for the Public Utilities Commission. I have known Colin for over ten years and have always found him to be personable, thoughtful, and smart. He has helped me better understand the solar industry and Hawai'i's electricity market. Furthermore, his past work experience demonstrates his vast knowledge of the electric sector and his desire for and belief in fairness.

Respectfully,

Paul Bernstein



**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 4:55:34 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sandie Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of Colin Yost for Commissioner at the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. I have worked with Mr. Yost in the past and have found him to be smart, fair, and willing to listen. Also, because the Commission is quasi-judicial, I believe that Mr. Yost even temperament is ideal for this position. Thank you.

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/8/2023 1:20:36 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokolole, Chair  
The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

Aloha mai kākou:

RE: Governor's Message 593

I write in support of GM 593, nominating Colin Yost to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

I do not draw on direct experience in dealing with Mr. Yost, but I have observed his public involvement for about a decade now and have nothing but esteem for his willingness to serve and his capability, intellectually and socially.

While many know Mr. Yost or know of him through his involvement in the solar industry, I choose to highlight a different facet of his background. As one of the only observers or testifiers drawing on significant life experience in the state of Oregon, I can share that the Oregon Coast is a still surprisingly rural area, compared to its neighboring coastlines in California and Washington, and in fact an area of relatively high child poverty and great vulnerability to natural disasters, with a declining agricultural industry that was once dominant (forestry, and also fishing). In that and other aspects, the state of Hawai'i shares significant similarity to that of Oregon.

I have a unique insight into Mr. Yost's experience on the Oregon Coast (I spent much of my early life there) and in the Willamette Valley (the same), which enhances my appreciation for his nomination.

I believe and hope that, if confirmed by the Senate's advise and consent powers, Mr. Yost would well attempt to balance our statutory and administrative requirements against consumer utility needs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
D.P. Armstrong



**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 4:05:41 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jason Suapaia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Subject: Testimony in Support of Colin A. Yost for PUC Confirmation

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the confirmation of Colin A. Yost as a member of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC). I have had the pleasure of knowing Colin for over ten years, personally and professionally, and I am confident he is the ideal candidate to serve on the PUC.

Colin and I first met as participants in the Pacific Century Fellows program, where we both had the opportunity to engage in dialogue and learn about the challenges and opportunities facing our state. Through this program, I witnessed Colin's deep commitment to promoting clean and sustainable energy solutions firsthand and his ability to collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders. His extensive experience in energy and environmental policy aligns well with the objectives of the PUC, and his dedication to consumers is truly commendable.

I also worked with Colin and his company, RevoluSun, as a marketing vendor for several years. As a marketing and branding professional, I assisted Colin and his colleagues with various projects to promote sustainable energy solutions. This experience gave me additional insight into Colin's leadership skills, business acumen, and passion for renewable energy.

In addition to our professional relationship, Colin and I have had the privilege of being involved in a local Father-Daughter Club. This experience has allowed me to observe Colin's strong character and dedication up close. His commitment to his family and community, combined with his genuine interest in the welfare of others, has further convinced me of his suitability for the PUC.

Since he was appointed a Commissioner on November 1, 2022, Colin has already demonstrated his commitment to upholding the highest standards of ethical disclosure. His proactive approach to addressing potential conflicts of interest, evidenced by his decision to recuse himself from certain PUC decisions for the first six months of his term, is a testament to his integrity and impartiality.

Colin's passion for an energy-sustainable Hawai'i, his ability to understand and navigate complex regulatory frameworks, and his strong interpersonal skills make him an invaluable asset

to the PUC. His presence on the Commission will undoubtedly strengthen its ability to make informed decisions that reflect the state's and its citizens' best interests.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Colin Yost for the Public Utilities Commission. I am confident that his expertise, commitment, and integrity will be an asset to the Commission and the state as a whole. I strongly urge the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee to confirm Colin Yost's appointment to the PUC.

Mahalo,  
Jason Suapaia  
2152 Mason Place  
Honolulu, HI 96817

KRISTIN E. IZUMI-NITAO  
235 S. Beretania Street, Ste. 300  
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 593 – Consideration and Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Colin Yost,  
Public Utilities Commission, State of Hawaii

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Senate Committee on  
Commerce and Consumer Protection:

I am respectfully writing in strong support of gubernatorial nominee Colin Yost as a  
Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”), State of Hawaii.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Colin and his family for many years. I have found him to  
be extremely intelligent, civic-oriented, community based, personable, dedicated, and dependable.  
Prior to his PUC appointment, Colin was the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel for  
RevoluSun LLC for over 12 years. In this capacity, he has directed and managed operations of the  
largest solar and energy storage contractor in Hawaii and is well versed in PUC operations and  
procedures. As such, he has the expertise and experience to serve in this position well.

Beyond renewable energy, he has a diverse legal background in consumer law advocacy,  
Native Hawaiian rights, environmental protection, and financial fraud. Further, he has a  
demonstrated a strong commitment to our community based on his professional and community  
involvement with Blue Planet Foundation, Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Hawaii Sierra Club,  
and Partnership for Pacific Resilience (to name just a few).

Based on his varied background, experiences, and interests, I strongly believe that Colin has  
the knowledge, the strength of character, the legal and moral fortitude, and the ethical integrity to  
excel in this role, and therefore, appreciate the opportunity to write in support of his nomination.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/10/2023 9:00:54 PM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Sato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee Members,

I would like to offer my support for Colin Yost, being considered for the Public Utilities Commission. Colin is a calm, thoughtful, and knowledgeable individual who I have had the privilege of working with in various capacities for over a decade.

Colin possesses a unique background in both law and renewable energy and is well suited to the issues that will be considered by the PUC in the near future. I have always known Colin to have the highest of moral character and know that he will serve the citizens of Hawaii well if confirmed.

**Testimony of Catherine P. Awakuni Colón**  
**Before the Senate Committee on Government Operations**  
**Friday, April 14, 2023**  
**9:30 AM**  
**Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

On Governor's Message No. 593, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the  
Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón and I am testifying my personal capacity in **support** of the appointment of Colin Yost to serve as a member of Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

Mr. Yost has more than 25 years of experience in practicing law and served as chair of the Hawaii Sierra Club and as a board member for the Blue Planet Foundation and Hawaii Solar Energy Association. He was appointed to fill the remainder of Commissioner Jennifer Potter's term while I led the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, to which the PUC is administratively attached. During that brief period when our terms overlapped, I found Mr. Yost to have a genuine interest in public service and a desire to collaborate with Chair Asuncion and Commissioner Kuwaye to ensure that the public interest is served. Mr. Yost's training and experience as an attorney and as a former assistant attorney general is especially helpful, as the reach of the PUC, a quasi-judicial body, is immense and impactful upon every person in our community.

Mr. Yost has already demonstrated himself to be a highly productive and effective member of the PUC, and I respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination as Commissioner. Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 593.



April 11, 2023

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** for 593 GM. Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

My name is Dolan Eversole, I am a faculty member of the University of Hawaii Sea Grant Program but I am testifying today as an private individual IN SUPPORT of Colin Yost's nomination to the Public Utilities Commission.

Colin's experience, professionalism and demure are well-suited to serve as a Public Utilities Commissioner. I have known Colin for 20 years and have had the opportunity to witness his exceptional character, integrity, and leadership skills firsthand. Throughout our time together, Colin has always demonstrated a strong commitment to serving others and a genuine passion for making a positive impact in the community. Colin possess a unique ability to connect with individuals from all walks of life, and always approaches his interactions with empathy, respect, and a desire to understand others' perspectives.

Furthermore, Colin has shown an unwavering dedication to his responsibilities, whether it be in a personal or professional capacity. Colin consistently exhibits a strong work ethic, an ability to manage competing priorities, and a willingness to take on new challenges. His experience as an attorney and partner with Revolusun will serve him well as a Commissioner and provide specialized insight and understanding of the solar power industry. As an elected official, I have no doubt that Colin will bring the same level of dedication and professionalism to the position. He possess all the necessary skills and qualities needed to excel in the role, including strong communication skills, a deep understanding of the issues affecting the community, and a willingness to listen to and work with all constituents.

Given Colin's exceptional character and leadership skills, I have no doubt that he would excel as a Public Utilities Commissioner. I offer my full support, and I believe he would make a valuable contribution to the commission if given the opportunity to serve in this role.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this nomination.

Respectfully,  
Dolan Eversole  
dolaneversole@gmail.com

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 7:23:02 AM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matt White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support Colin Yost's confirmation to the PUC. I believe he will bring a wealth of knowledge to the PUC from being an attorney as well as being an innovator in the solar industry for years. I believe Colin will bring fair, fresh and inciteful ideas and decisions to the organization. Please confirm Colin to the PUC.

TESTIMONY OF  
NAOMI U KUWAYE

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Friday, April 14, 2023

9:30 AM

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 593

Nomination of **COLIN YOST**

To the HAWAII PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Colin Yost's nomination to the Public Utilities Commission.

Since November 2022, I have served with Mr. Yost on the Commission. His legal and business background has made him well-suited for the Commissioner position. He has provided invaluable insights in our deliberations, and I have found him well-prepared and professional in his approach to work. His collaborative style, skill, legal temperament, and empathy will serve the State of Hawaii well.

The Commission and the State will benefit from Mr. Yost's service. I have confidence in Mr. Yost's ability to make sound and deliberative choices and respectfully ask that this honorable committee to Advise and Consent to his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

# Testimony of Carl Freedman, Haiku Design and Analysis

4234 Hana Hwy., Haiku, HI 96708

To the

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Jarett Keohokalole, Chair

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

Friday, April 14, 2023 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 229

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

### **Regarding: GM 593**

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

**COLIN YOST,**

### **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. For over 30 years, I have worked on matters before the Hawaii PUC in various capacities: as a public interest stakeholder and as a consultant, at various times representing a spectrum of clients, including the Division of Consumer Advocacy, several large utility customers, Hawaii regulated utilities, the Rocky Mountain Institute, and most recently, directly advising the Commission. I have presented expert testimony, participated in evidentiary hearings or worked directly for the PUC under the tenure of eight of the ten Hawaii PUC chairs: Chairs Naito, Yamada, Kimura, Caliboso, Morita, Iwase, Griffin and currently Chair Asuncion. 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 Colin Yost's confirmation.**

I am unable to testify in person or by teleconference today due to commitments in other matters before the Commission.

My experience with Commissioner Yost as a Commissioner has, so far, been very positive. He is bright, knowledgeable, and most importantly, keeps the public interest and the welfare of State of Hawaii as the focus of his own interest, inquiries and contributions. His experience and background in Oregon and as a member of the Hawaii energy business community are valuable assets for service as a Hawaii PUC Commissioner.

Commissioner Yost has given up substantial interests, position and resources to accept a public service position as Commissioner for a relatively short appointment of less than two years. He has already gotten "up-to-speed" on many matters before the Commission. With the current heavy work-load of the Commission, his experience, gained even in the short time he has served, is valuable to the Commission.

I believe Commissioner Yost is and will continue to be fair-minded in matters that come before him. In the best interests of the Commission and our State, I hope he can continue as a Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Freedman, Haiku Design & Analysis

**LATE**

Testimony of Clarice Schafer

**On the Following Measure: GM 593 - Confirmation of Colin Yost as Commissioner of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission**

April 14, 2023

**Position: STRONG SUPPORT**

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Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee,

My name is Clarice Schafer, and I have been a Utility Analyst at the Hawaii PUC for the past eight years. I strongly support the confirmation of Colin Yost as Commissioner of the Hawaii PUC.

Mahalo for your time and consideration on this important matter.

**LATE**

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/13/2023 10:17:49 AM  
Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Likeke Scheuer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members:

My name is Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, and I am submitting this testimony in my personal capacity.

I had the pleasure of working with Colin Yost when he was serving as the volunteer chairperson of the Hawai`i Chapter Executive Committee of the Sierra Club. At the same time served as the Chair of the Chapter Political Committee. I had to work with, and rely on Colin whenever there were challenging and difficult decisions to be made.

I found Colin to have the highest ethical standards and commitment to fair and consistent processes. Temperamentally, he is even keeled and kind. He also brings great intelligence, and a deep moral commitment to the people of Hawai`i to his work. I believe we will be served well if he is confirmed to the Public Utilities Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**LATE**

**GM-593**

Submitted on: 4/13/2023 11:01:04 AM

Testimony for CPN on 4/14/2023 9:30:00 AM

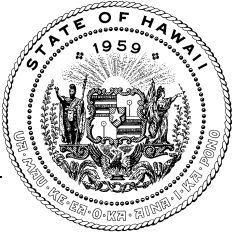
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the nomination of Colin Yost. Mr. Yost has extensive experience and expertise of particular relevance to the PUC's jurisdiction and legal mandates. His decade of highly successful work in the renewable energy sector demonstrates his intimate familiarity with a critically important and highly technical area of focus for the PUC – one that is arguably more relevant to the future of our islands than ever before. Moreover, his legal training and varied legal background will further inform his ability to quickly understand and thoughtfully apply the myriad laws, regulations, and policies that inform the PUC and its work.

Second, Mr. Yost also possesses years of community service demonstrating a longtime commitment to the public interest.

Mahalo from Volcano Hawai'i 96785



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

**LATE**

DOUG GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807  
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

Friday, April 14, 2023  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of  
**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 593**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.**

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Colin Yost to be a Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Mr. Yost has been an effective Commissioner since he was appointed by Governor David Y. Ige as an interim Commissioner. Also, as an experienced attorney and renewable energy industry leader, Commissioner Yost is highly qualified to serve as a Public Utilities Commissioner.

Commissioner Yost brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the position, having worked in the legal and renewable energy industries for over two decades. Prior to his appointment to the PUC, Commissioner Yost served as Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel for RevoluSun, a leading renewable energy company in Hawaii. At RevoluSun, Commissioner Yost managed the commercial projects division, directed human resources, legal and regulatory matters, and helped to steer the company through a rapidly changing policy landscape to become one of the leading residential photovoltaic installers in the nation.

Commissioner Yost's legal career has also been distinguished, with experience in energy and environmental law, civil litigation, business law, consumer law, civil rights, Native Hawaiian rights, real estate matters and administrative proceedings before the



PUC and other administrative agencies. From 1998-2003, Commissioner Yost served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Financial Fraud/Consumer Protection Section of the Oregon Department of Justice, where he led the State of Oregon's investigation and prosecution of western energy companies, including Enron, Duke Energy, and the Williams Energy Companies for matters relating to the west coast electricity crisis of 2000-2001 and secured settlement agreements worth \$32 million to the State of Oregon. Commissioner Yost also led and resolved the state's investigation of telecommunications company MCI, for which he received the Oregon Department of Justice's Outstanding Service Award in 2001.

Commissioner Yost is a graduate of Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law, where he earned his juris doctorate, and the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in English and Environmental Studies. His legal and renewable energy experience, combined with his proven leadership and problem-solving abilities, make him an ideal candidate for the Public Utilities Commission.

I believe that Commissioner Yost's knowledge and expertise in the renewable energy industry, as well as his experience as a lawyer, make him highly qualified to serve as a Public Utilities Commissioner. I urge the committee to confirm his appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

TESTIMONY OF  
AES

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
APRIL 14, 2023  
9:30 A.M.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 593

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLIN YOST, for a term to expire on 06-30-2024.

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

On behalf of AES, I would like to testify in support of the confirmation of Colin Yost as a Public Utilities Commissioner.

AES shares the state's vision for a 100% clean energy future, and is committed to helping the state responsibly transition to a carbon-free energy future with over 350 megawatts of renewable energy projects across the Hawaiian Islands.

Mr. Yost has extensive experience in the renewable energy industry, having been employed by RevoluSun since 2010 and serving as their Chief Operating Officer for the last eight years. His knowledge in solar and energy storage, as well as professional background in Hawai'i's energy industry will bring depth and expertise invaluable to the Public Utilities Commission.

His specialized experience and background will make him a valuable asset to the Public Utilities Commission, and we respectfully request that you support GM 593 and confirm his nomination.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sandra Larsen  
Hawai'i Market Business Leader  
AES

