
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY AND KALAELOA DESALCO LLC TO INCREASE THE FINAL INITIAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF THE KALAELOA SEAWATER DESALINATION FACILITY PROJECT AND BE ACTIVATED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

1 WHEREAS, desalination is a known solution to alleviate
2 stress on natural ecosystems by reducing the extraction of
3 freshwater from the local environment; and
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5 WHEREAS, desalination offers a long-term answer to water
6 scarcity and freshwater resource management, particularly in
7 regions facing increasing water demand, population growth, and
8 urbanization; and
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10 WHEREAS, Israel has demonstrated the immense successes
11 possible by this process, with 80% of their water supply coming
12 from desalination and leading to the country producing more
13 water than it needs; and
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15 Whereas, the 2021 Red Hill fuel crisis exposed Hawaii's
16 vulnerability and lack of alternatives for potable water supply;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, ninety-nine percent of Hawaii's domestic water
20 usage is supplied by finite groundwater which is replenished by
21 rainfall; and
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23 WHEREAS, ninety percent of Hawaii is receiving less
24 rainfall than it did in the previous century and there have been
25 no rainy seasons with above-average precipitation since 2006;
26 and
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28 Whereas, as of January 2024 the Hawai'i Drought Monitor
29 shows abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions through west
30 O'ahu; and
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1 WHEREAS, a 2019 evaluation by the American Society of Civil
2 Engineers revealed several vulnerabilities to Hawaii's water
3 supply, including aging infrastructure, lack of funding, and sea
4 level rise; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 2023 the Board of Water supply awarded a \$204
7 million contract to Kalaeloa Desalco LLC to construct and open a
8 desalination plant in Kapolei at Campbell Industrial Park with a
9 targeted operational start date in 2027; and

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11 Whereas, the Kalaeola Seawater Desalination Facility
12 Project is currently set to produce 1.7 million gallons of fresh
13 water daily to support the needs of the 'Ewa district, with
14 additional expandable future phases; and

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16 Whereas, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply pumps between
17 110 and 160 million gallons per day of potable water for the
18 island of O'ahu; and

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20 Whereas, the Red Hill fuel crisis resulted in a 17.5
21 million gallon per day capacity loss due to permanent well
22 closures, comprising 20% of the water supply from Halawa to
23 Hawaii Kai; and

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25 Whereas, it is clear the impact of the Kalaeloa Seawater
26 Desalination Facility Project will be minor relative to the
27 substantial needs of O'ahu's residents; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
31 Session of 2024, that the Kalaeola Seawater Desalination
32 Facility Project expand its initial final production capacity
33 and be activated as soon as practicable; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Honolulu Board of Water Supply,
37 Kalaeloa Desalco LLC, Nordic PCL Construction, PERC Water
38 Corporation, Consolidated Water Co. Ltd., Pacific Advanced Civil
39 Engineering, Bowers + Kubota, and members of the Honolulu City
40 Council.



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OFFERED BY: *Dan*

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