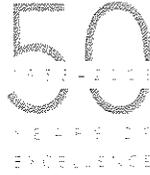




BeltCollins



March 16, 2004
2004.33.0800/04EP-038

Catherine Awakuni, Esq.
Commission Counsel
Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
465 South King Street, First Floor
Kekuanaoa Building
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FILED
2004 MAR 16 P 12:44
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Awakuni:

Docket No. 03-0417 East Oahu Transmission Project

In support of its application for the East Oahu Transmission Project (EOTP), Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) has elected to prepare an environmental assessment. HECO has retained Belt Collins Hawaii Ltd. (BCH) to prepare the environmental assessment. For your future reference, the BCH team consists of myself, Project Manager and Director of Environmental Consulting at BCH; Ms. Susan A. Sakai, Technical Advisor and Director of Planning at BCH; Mr. Lee W. Sichter, Technical Advisor and Principal Planner at BCH; and more than 10 environmental scientists, engineers, planners, and specialty subconsultants. The team we have assembled has many years of experience with Federal and State environmental assessments and environmental impact statements. We look forward to applying this experience to this project, and working with you and your staff.

Honolulu
Guam
Hong Kong
Philippines
Seattle
Singapore
Thailand

As stated in its application, HECO plans to follow the procedures of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 343, Environmental Impact Statements, and its implementing rules, which are found at Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 11-200. According to these procedures, before preparing an environmental assessment, the applicant is directed to consult with certain parties. This pre-assessment consultation requirement is found in HAR §11-200-9(b)(1), which provides that the approving agency, here the Public Utilities Commission, shall:

- (1) Require the applicant, at the earliest practical time, to seek the advice and input of the lead county agency responsible for implementing the county's general plan for each county in which the proposed action is to occur, and consult with other agencies having jurisdiction or expertise as well as those citizen groups and individuals which the approving agency reasonably believes to be affected.

To address this provision, on behalf of HECO, we are in the process of consulting with the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting, as it is the lead county agency as directed by the rule. We also are in the process of consulting with other agencies having jurisdiction or pertinent expertise. The list of agencies is set forth in Attachment 1.

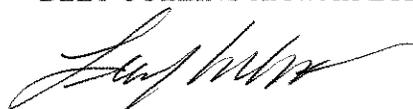
Catherine Awakuni, Esq.
Commission Counsel
Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
March 16, 2004 – 04EP-038
Page 2

Normally, the pre-assessment consultation process for state or county infrastructure work in roadways would be limited to agency consultations. In this case, however, we also plan to consult with the potential interveners as listed in Attachment 1. (While we understand that you have not made a decision on the intervention applications, we need to begin the pre-assessment consultation “at the earliest practical time.”)

On behalf of HECO, we have begun the process of meeting with those listed in Attachment 1. Please let us know by the end of this week if you have any concerns with this approach to the pre-assessment process. If you have any questions, please contact me at 521-5361.

Very truly yours,

BELT COLLINS HAWAII LTD.



Lesley A. Matsumoto
Vice President
Director of Environmental Consulting

LAM:ajk

Attachment

cc: Division of Consumer Advocacy

ATTACHMENT 1

Pre-Assessment Consultation List

FEDERAL AGENCIES					
(none)					
STATE AGENCIES					
Ms.	Mary Lou	Kobayashi	Acting Director	State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism	Office of Planning
Ms.	Cheryl	Kikuta	Acting Executive Director	State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs	Division of Consumer Advocacy
Mr.	Laurence	Lau, Esq.	Deputy Director	State of Hawaii	Environmental Health Administration
Ms.	P. Holly	McEldowney	Administrator (acting)	State of Hawaii	State Historic Preservation Division, DLNR
Mr.	Glenn	Yasui	Highways Administrator	State of Hawaii	Department of Transportation, Highways Division
Mr.	Clyde	Namu'o	Administrator	State of Hawaii Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Support Services
CITY AND COUNTY AGENCIES					
Mr.	William	Balfour, Jr.	Director	City and County of Honolulu	Department of Parks and Recreation
Mr.	Lee	Donohue	Chief	City and County of Honolulu	Honolulu Police Department
Mr.	Tim	Steinberger, P.E.		City and County of Honolulu	Department of Design & Construction
Mr.	Clifford	Jamile	Manager & Chief Engineer	City and County of Honolulu	Board of Water Supply
Mr.	Attilio	Leonardi	Fire Chief	City and County of Honolulu	Honolulu Fire Department
Mr.	Larry	Leopardi, P.E.	Director	City and County of Honolulu	Facility Maintenance Department
Ms.	Cheryl	Soon	Director	City and County of Honolulu	Transportation Services Department
Mr.	Frank	Doyle, P.E.	Director	City and County of Honolulu	Environmental Services Department
Mr.	Eric	Crispin, AIA	Director	City and County of Honolulu	Department of Planning & Permitting
POTENTIAL INTERVENERS					
Ms.	Carolyn	Walther			
Ms.	Daisy	Murai	Secretary	Kapahulu Neighbors	
Ms.	Michelle	Matson			
Dr.	Jeremy	Lam	President	Malama o Manoa	
Mr.	Henry	Curtis	Vice President for Consumer Issues	Life of the Land	
Ms.	Darlene	Nakayama		Hoolaulima o Palolo	
Senator	Carol	Fukunaga		Hawaii State Legislature	District 11
Rep.	Scott	Saiki		Hawaii State Legislature	District 22
Councilmember	Ann	Kobayashi		Honolulu City Council	District 5
Ms.	Karen	Iwamoto	President	Palolo Community Council	