



William A. Bonnet
Vice President
Government and Community Affairs

August 12, 2004

PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

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FILED

The Honorable Chairman and Members
of the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
465 South King Street, First Floor
Kekuanaoa Building
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Commissioners:

Subject: East Oahu Transmission Project (Docket No. 03-0417)

Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. ("HECO") requested (in its Application filed December 18, 2003, pages 2, 46), and the Commission agreed (in Order No. 20968, filed May 10, 2004; pages 5, 6) that the Commission be the accepting agency for an environmental assessment of the proposed project to be voluntarily prepared by HECO and submitted to the Commission in accordance with the Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes process. Therefore, in accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules Section 11-200-9(b)(4), HECO respectfully encloses the following documents:

- (1) Letter for Submittal of Draft Environmental Assessment to the Office of Environmental Quality Control. This letter was prepared based on the form provided by the Office of Environmental Quality Control, which can be found on its website and in its Guidebook for the Hawaii State Environmental Review Process ("Guidebook") at page 80.
- (2) Completed Office of Environmental Quality Control Publication Form. This form was prepared based on the form provided by the Office of Environmental Quality Control, which can be found on its website and in its Guidebook at page 94. This form is to be sent with the letter for submittal described above. The electronic file for this form is on the enclosed diskette.
- (3) Four copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment. These four copies are the copies to be sent with the letter for submittal described above.
- (4) Project Summary. This is a summary description of the project. A hard copy is attached and the electronic file for the summary is on the enclosed diskette, along with the electronic file for the publication form. This diskette is to be sent with the letter for submittal described above.

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The letter for submittal requests that the Office of Environmental Quality Control publish notice of the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment in its September 8, 2004 Environmental Notice. In order to be published in the September 8, 2004 Environmental Notice, the Office of Environmental Quality Control must receive the documents and Project Summary disk listed above no later than August 27, 2004. If the notice of availability is published in the September 8, 2004 Environmental Notice, the public will have through October 8, 2004 to submit comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment.

We are providing the Commission with nine copies of this transmittal, including the attachments that are to be submitted to the OEQC (except only one copy of the diskette is being provided), and a CD containing the Draft Environmental Assessment. We have also mailed or hand delivered copies of the documents, the diskette and the CD to the parties and participants in this proceeding.

Please advise Patsy Nanbu at 543-4702 when the above documents are submitted to the Office of Environmental Quality Control. At that time, in accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules Section 11-200-9(b)(5), HECO will distribute the Draft Environmental Assessment "to other agencies having jurisdiction or expertise as well as citizen groups and individuals which the approving agency reasonably believes to be affected." We will provide a copy of our distribution list to you shortly.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Attachments

cc: Division of Consumer Advocacy (3 copies)
Henry Q Curtis, Life of the Land (3 copies)
Scott K. Saiki (3 copies)
Karen H. Iwamoto, Palolo Community Council (1 copy)
Traver Carroll, Hoolaulima O Palolo (1 copy)
Corey Y.S. Park, Esq./Pamela W. Bunn, Esq., Malama O Manoa (1 copy)
Daisy M. Murai, Kapahulu Neighbors (1 copy)



[Public Utilities Commission letterhead]

[Date]

Ms. Genevieve Salmonson, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702
Honolulu, Hawaii 95813

Dear Ms. Salmonson:

Subject: East Oahu Transmission Project 46kV Phased Project Draft
Environmental Assessment, TMK Zone 2 (various plats and parcels),
Honolulu, Oahu

The State of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has reviewed the draft environmental assessment (EA) for the EOTP 46kV Phased Project being proposed by Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., and anticipates a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination. Please publish notice of availability for this project in the next *Environmental Notice*.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Publication Form, four copies of the draft EA, and a diskette containing the project summary. Please call [contact person at XXX-XXXX or Ms. Lesley Matsumoto at Belt Collins Hawaii Ltd. at 521-5361], if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[PUC official]

OEQC BULLETIN PUBLICATION FORM (See instructions that follow)

1. Project Name: EAST O'AHU TRANSMISSION PROJECT 46 KV PHASED PROJECT

Type of Document (*check one*): Draft EA Final EA EIS prep notice draft EIS final EIS NEPA Other (explain):

check if applicable: revised document supplemental document

Legal Authority (*check one*): chapter 343 HRS Oahu SMA NEPA

Agency determination: Anticipated FONSI FONSI FEIS acceptance

Applicable sections (*check all that apply*):

- use of state or county lands or funds use of land in the Waikiki district
 use of conservation district lands amendment to county general plan
 use within shoreline setback area reclassification of conservation lands
 use of historic site or district construction or modification of helicopter facilities
 wastewater facility, waste-to-energy facility, landfill, oil refinery, or power-generating facility

2. Island: O'ahu
Judicial District: Honolulu
Tax Map Key Number: Zone 2, various plats and parcels

3. Applicant or proposing agency: Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (HECO)
Address: P.O. Box 2750
Honolulu, Hawaii 96840-0001
Contact: Mr. Kerstan J. Wong, Project Manager
Phone: (808) 543-7059

Note for EAs: when the applicant is a state or county agency ("proposing agency"), the proposing agency and the approving agency are the same.

4. Approving Agency (EAs) or Accepting Authority (EISs):
State of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (PUC)
Address: 465 South King Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Contact: Mr. Carlito Caliboso, Chairman
Phone: (808) 586-2020

5. Consultant: Belt Collins Hawaii Ltd.
Address: 2153 North King Street, Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Contact: Ms. Lesley A. Matsumoto
Phone: (808) 521-5361

6. Public Comment Deadline: TBD

7. Permits required prior to implementation: Noise; Noise Variance; Conditional Use - Minor; Excavation; Grading, and Stockpiling

8. Project Summary (*name of file*): OEQC_HECO EOTP DEA.doc
(*not required for final documents if no change from the draft*)

9. Public Library Copy: State Main Library, McCully-Mō'ili'ili Library, Waikīkī-Kapahulu Library
(*not required for final EAs*)

10. Please publish notice of (*check all that apply*): Safe Harbor Agreement Accreted land Habitat conservation plan Incidental take license

11 This form was prepared by: Maura C. Mastriani
Phone: (808) 521-5361

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING OEQC BULLETIN PUBLICATION FORM

To ensure timely publication of notice, please follow these instructions.

1) Project Name: *Begin a with place, person or organization name. Keep the project name brief. (e.g. Kailua Baseyard)*

Type of Document: *(e.g. Draft EA, Final EA, Draft EIS, Final EIS)*

Legal Authority: *(e.g. Chapter 343 HRS, NEPA)*

Determination: *(e.g. Anticipated FONSI, FONSI, FEIS acceptance)*

2) District: *List Judicial District(s), e.g. Honolulu, Koolauoko, Ewa (call OEQC at 586-4185 for assistance)*

4) Approving Agency: *Note that for state and county EA submissions, the proposing agency and approving agency are the same.*

7) List of Permits: *(e.g. NPDES, Building, CDUA, SMA, Grading)*

8) Project Summary: *The summary must be on disk or by email and in hardcopy. The summary should be brief (250 words or less) and should convey the full impact of the proposed action. List neighborhood name, describe project, and disclose major impacts and mitigation measures. Also on disk include items 1 through 7 (Project Name etc.). The project summary may be e-mailed to <oeqc@mail.health.state.hi.us>. (If the project summary is the same as in the draft document, a submission is not required.)*

9) Library Copy: *Draft EAs must be deposited at the public library nearest to the project site. Indicate the library name and date of deposit. This is not required for final EAs.*

10) *Published notice required per 2003 amendment to HRS 343-3(c).*

11) Prepared by: *Indicate the name and phone number of the preparer of this form.*

Rev.05/2004

Project Summary

Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (HECO) is proposing to reconfigure and connect existing 46 kilovolt (kV) circuits from Pukele Substation at the end of HECO's Northern 138kV Transmission Corridor with existing and new 46kV circuits at Archer and Kamoku Substations in HECO's Southern 138kV Transmission Corridor. The project is comprised of two independent phases. Phase 1 involves the installation of 0.5 mile of new underground ductline for 46kV subtransmission lines and related work at eight substations. Underground 46kV lines would be installed in the Ala Moana, McCully, Moiliili, and Kapahulu areas in the new ductline and in approximately 0.4 mile of existing underground 46kV and 12kV lines would be removed from the existing ductline.

Phase 2 involves the installation of 1.9 miles of new underground ductline for 46kV subtransmission lines and related work at one substation. Three underground 46kV lines would be installed in the new ductline in the Kakaako, Makiki, and McCully areas, predominantly along King Street.

HECO's voluntary Draft Environmental Assessment evaluates land use, infrastructure, roads and traffic, public health and safety (including noise, emergency response, and schools), soils, water resources, air quality, cultural resources, visual resources, biological resources, socioeconomics, and electric and magnetic fields (EMF). No substantial direct, secondary, or cumulative impacts were identified.