



## DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS & HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES

### News Release

For Immediate Release: August 27, 2009

#### **DHHL and Hawaiian Electric Companies Announce Clean Energy Partnership Collaboration seeks to achieve critical energy objectives**

HONOLULU – The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), Hawaiian Electric Company, Maui Electric Company and Hawai'i Electric Light Company (Hawaiian Electric Companies) today signed a formal energy partnership charter that will benefit native Hawaiian homesteaders and support the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative through the development of affordable, energy self-sufficient and sustainable communities. The charter was signed at the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement's 8th Annual Native Hawaiian Convention being held at the Hawai'i Convention Center.

"This partnership is about fulfilling our obligation to native Hawaiians by developing affordable, energy self-sufficient and sustainable communities that also benefit all the people of Hawai'i," said Kaulana Park, chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and director of DHHL. "We have an obligation to be leaders in protecting our lands and we are stepping forward with great partners to improve the lives of not only native Hawaiians but, everyone in our state."

"These are ambitious goals for DHHL and Hawaiian Electric, but we are confident that we can achieve our objectives by working together," said Robbie Alm, Hawaiian Electric executive vice president. "This is a model for how we can and should build communities using the values that native Hawaiians practiced for generations in combination with modern technology. We are committed to working closely with DHHL to identify opportunities, programs and resources that support their projects and successfully accomplish the goals of the partnership."

"This is a great example of a partnership between the public and the private sector that supports the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative to reduce our dependency on imported oil by having 70 percent of our energy come from clean sources by 2030," said Governor Linda Lingle. "We are the world's most isolated set of islands and the most oil-dependent state in the country, and this partnership is an important step that will build on our efforts to achieve a clean energy future."

As an example, Hawaiian Electric is serving as a technical consultant on the department's upcoming Kaupuni Village subdivision, a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient residential project in Wai'anae that will feature the state's first net zero energy homes and serve as a model community for affordable, sustainable living. When completed in mid 2010, the three-acre site will feature 18 single-family homes and a community center that includes open space, aquaculture fish ponds, agriculture plots for farming and a story/meditation garden.

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The DHHL-Hawaiian Electric Companies Energy Partnership Charter stems from DHHL's recently adopted Energy Policy – Ho'omalūō – which outlines five key objectives to achieving healthy, self-sufficient and thriving communities. The DHHL-Hawaiian Electric Companies energy partnership further advances these objectives and sets a course of action to:

- Reinforce the focus on the environment and the preservation of values that restore balance, harmony and sustainability of Hawai'i's lands;
- Pursue opportunities for economic self-sufficiency and contribute to Hawai'i's Clean Energy Initiative through leasing of lands owned by DHHL for renewable energy projects;
- Build new, affordable, sustainable communities and promote energy initiatives;
- Incorporate renewable energy technologies into existing homesteads;
- Conduct outreach programs to educate and encourage the public to live a "green" lifestyle; and
- Market the state and utility's collaborative efforts to reduce Hawai'i's dependence on imported oil.

For a copy of the DHHL-Hawaiian Electric Companies energy partnership charter, please visit [www.hawaii.gov/dhhl](http://www.hawaii.gov/dhhl).

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