

February 1, 2016

TO: COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

FR: ROGER AND KEVIN YAMAOKA

RE: OPENING BRIEF – SWUPA NO. 2339

Since the application submittal of the SWUPA-E back in April 2009, we have maintained our water usage at 1950 GPD. This valuable commodity nourishes our apple bananas field, vegetables and fruits gardens, and a patch of taro (kalo), all of which sustains our livelihood. Vegetables include basil and lemon grass herbs, green onions, tomatoes, Japanese radish (daikon), string beans, and corn. Additional fruits include papayas, tangerines, lemons, mangoes, avocados, and breadfruits. We depend on growing our own foods, as we attempt to live healthy. We are 3rd generation farmers. We are also full time employees working for a living; therefore part-time farmers. Farming has always been in our blood, and we do not take receiving water for granted. At the same time, we pride ourselves in growing great foods for our dinner table and share with family and friends our apple bananas, taro, and various herbs that we grow.

We would appreciate continued usage of “kuleana” water, as we continue farming abundant vegetables and fruits for our family. While we keep our land whole and be eventually passed down to our next generation, we are teaching our future children to be self-sustaining in growing their own foods. That is what our past generations did for us.