

**MINUTES
FOR THE MEETING OF THE
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2004
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: KALANIMOKU BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 132
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Peter Young called the meeting of the Commission on Water Resource Management to order at 9:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Mr. Peter Young
Ms. Meredith Ching
Mr. James Frazier

Dr. Lawrence Miike
Ms. Stephanie Whalen

STAFF

Deputy Director Yvonne Izu, Roy Hardy, Ed Sakoda, Dean Nakano, Glenn Bauer, Neal Fujii, Lenore Nakama

COUNSEL

Russell Tsuji, Esq.

OTHERS

Dr. Jonathan Scheuer, Rosemary Liu, Jane Lovell, Clifford Jamille, Donna Kiyosaki, Barry Usagawa, Glenn Oyama, Gordon Tribble

All written testimonies submitted at the meetings are filed in the Commission office and are available for review by interested parties.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: (Ching/Frazier)

To approve the minutes of the September 22, 2004 meeting as circulated.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

SUBMITTALS

A-1. Honolulu Board of Water Supply/Hawaii Community Development Authority, APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE PERMIT, Honolulu District Cooling Wells I & II (Well Nos. 1752-01 & 02), TMK 2-1-060:009, WUP No. 715, New (Industrial Cooling) Use for 10 mgd of Salt Water, Nuuanu Ground Water Management Area, Oahu

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTAL: Lenore Nakama

RECOMMENDATION:

Due to the applicant's ability to demonstrate consistency with the conditions for a water use permit, staff recommends that the Commission approve the issuance of Water Use Permit No. 715 to Honolulu Board of Water Supply/Hawaii Community Development Authority for the reasonable and beneficial use of 10 million gallons per day of salt water for industrial cooling from the Honolulu District Cooling Wells I & II (Well Nos. 1752-01 & 02), subject to the standard water use permit conditions listed in Attachment B and the following special conditions:

1. The Commission shall delegate to the Honolulu Board of Water Supply the authority to allocate the use of water for municipal purposes, in accordance with §174C-48(b) HRS.
2. Honolulu Board of Water Supply shall be exempt from the requirements of permit modifications as provided in §174C-57.
3. In the event that the tax map key at the location of the water use is changed, the permittee shall notify the Commission in writing of the tax map key change within thirty (30) days after the permittee receives notice of the tax map key change.

Standard Condition 16 is waived for salt water wells.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Whalen asked if temperature changes of the injection wells have been reviewed. Mr. Glenn Oyama of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply was present to answer any questions. Mr. Oyama stated that they have completed a CTD profile of the injection well and indicated that when injections are put into

the well at approximately 1,350 to 1850 ft, the temperature of the salt water was at 76°.

MOTION: (Whalen/Miike)
To approve as presented by staff
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

**B-1. Request to Provide State Cost-Share Towards a Research Proposal:
Updating and Publication of Climatological Rainfall Stations for Kauai
County**

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTAL: Neal Fujii

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission authorizes the Chairperson to approve a \$5,000 cost-share towards the project: Updating and Publication of Climatologic Rainfall Stations for Kauai County.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Whalen asked staff if they have looked into a compatible software that is user friendly. Staff indicated that they will encourage the use of a standardized platform for GIS.

Commissioner Miike asked if Dr. Pao Shin Chu would be using the same methodology as Kauai, to approach each of the county water departments with research proposals. Staff indicated that he would be.

Commissioner Frazier asked if other sources of funding were considered, for instance, Federal or private. Staff indicated that the City and State were approached.

MOTION: (Ching/Frazier)
To approve as presented by staff
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

NON-ACTION ITEM

C-1. Honolulu Board of Water Supply Wastewater Reuse Presentation

PRESENTATION OF NON-ACTION ITEM: Power Point presentation by Barry Usagawa & Donna Kiyosaki from the Board of Water Supply

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Miike asked whether the City planned to produce R-1 water from the Sand Island WTP. Mr. Usagawa indicated that salt-water intrusion into that system made it unlikely that treated water from Sand Island would be usable. Commissioner Miike then asked if there are any plans to fix the leakage from the sea into pipes. Mr. Usagawa indicated that the leakage is into the City's collection system and the City Environmental Services has jurisdiction.

Commissioner Whalen asked BWS if the Honouliuli plant has room for expansion if more land is needed. Ms. Kiyosaki indicated that there is. Commissioner Whalen asked if other energy resources were reviewed and included as part of their overall cost factor. Ms. Kiyosaki stated that BWS has stepped up their conservation awareness program, letting the public know that every dollar spent to conserve, saves in the long term. Ms. Kiyosaki also stated that energy conservation technology is improving. BWS is looking into alternate ways to answering the question of additional power use and one of the projects they are looking into is by taking the concept of ocean thermal energy conversion. The process would be by using the temperature differential of the deep ocean water and the warmer surface water to create portable drinking water and also create energy to run facilities of whatever they need to treat.

Commissioner Ching asked about the rates charged for recycled water in comparison to the potable water rates. Mr. Usagawa indicated that the potable water rates are \$1.77 per thousand gallons for residential and \$1.98 per thousand gallons for non-residential. For R-1 water, the government rate is \$1.23 per thousand gallons. The private golf courses have contracts with BWS for R-1 water; the contracts provide for an increasing ramp up in rates. Currently, the private golf courses pay an average about \$.40 per thousand gallons. BWS indicated that the cost of distribution lines are built into the rates as part of their capital improvement plan.

Commissioner Whalen asked BWS if the reason why rates for the recycled water is lower, is to cover the operating and capital cost or is it to subsidize the rest of the system. Ms. Kiyosaki stated that the R-0 water sells at a higher rate than what it costs for BWS to produce, which subsidizes some of the R-1 water users. The industrial clients are willing to pay \$5.00 per thousand gallons because to demineralize their own water would be more expensive than what BWS would charge them. Ms. Kiyosaki also stated that if BWS did not lower the cost to golf courses, the golf courses would not have wanted to switch from caprock water to recycled water. That it is an economic decision for the Golf Courses, and BWS understands that it causes some difficulties, as they know they are subsidizing the water they are providing to the private golf courses.

NON-ACTION ITEM

SUBMITTAL**B-2. Ewa Caprock Reuse Recharge Study**

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTAL: Dean Nakano

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Commission authorize the Chairperson to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services to jointly undertake the proposed Ewa Caprock Reuse Recharge Study.
2. That the study scope of work shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Health and initiation of the trench reuse recharge activity shall be contingent upon concurrence by DOH and BWS.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Miike asked if monitoring is conducted at the caprock by staff. Staff indicated that they conduct some monitoring and the City's Environmental Services has previously done some baseline studies, but the project has been put on hold.

Commissioner Whalen asked how long this study should be to determine the effect of putting 1.7mgd into the caprock. Staff indicated that there may not be enough monitor wells to conduct the study and that new wells may need to be drilled close to where the trench is and various distances out. Then they would need to see how long freshening would take place over time. Staff stated that the ground water gradient and the caprock is very low and at times, there is a reverse gradient. Commissioner Whalen questioned the number of monitor wells. Staff indicated that they were not sure how many the City had and that there was a study conducted a few years ago, whereas wells were put in near the Honouliuli and Coral Creek and therefore may be able to use the wells that are existing and may need to construct new wells.

Commissioner Miike stated that, in his opinion, if the caprock were recharged with R-1 water, it would be fine as long as there is no connection between the caprock and other [~~line-based~~] basal aquifers. Commissioner Miike continued by stating that as long as the study shows there are no adverse effects, using the trench as a backup system for disposal of R-1 water would minimize waste. Commissioner Miike indicated that this would appear to be an ongoing project and at some point in time, it may be desirable to obtain approval to use this as a storage facility.

MOTION: (Ching/Whalen)

To approve as presented by staff
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

NON-ACTION ITEM

C-2. Report on Iao Aquifer WUPA Public Hearing (10/28/04)

PRESENTATION OF NON-ACTION ITEM: Yvonne Izu

DISCUSSION:

Deputy Izu indicated that a subcommittee consisting of Commissioner Miike and Commissioner Frazier attended the public hearing and as planned, the public hearing was not closed. Deputy Izu continued by saying that staff is still gathering further information from the public. Deputy Izu stated that letters are being sent to participants from the public hearing, requesting information based on testimony and concerns that were brought up.

Commissioner Miike stated that it was a well-attended meeting and that although the meeting was held during a weekday, approximately 50 people attended. Commissioner Miike said that following the meeting, some suggested that the Commission consider holding evening meetings, as this will allow those to attend who may not have been able to attend during the day. Commissioner Miike mentioned that a representative from Living Waters was able let the community know what they were planning rather than what the community thought they were planning which helped in the conflict in this area. Commissioner Miike mentioned that the trust purpose of Native Hawaiian Traditional and Customary Rights was discussed at this meeting and a question was raised on who would have the burden of proving that right. Commissioner Miike felt it should be on the [applicant] person or party asserting the right and that it should not be up to the Commission. Commissioner Miike stated that the determination of Native Hawaiian rights is similar to the determination of appurtenant rights which the AG said, lies with the Circuit Court (prior to the statutory change). Commissioner Miike indicated that the Supreme Court's finding on domestic use for the general public was also discussed and that the court's opinion cites a couple of California and Minnesota statutes and a New Jersey case. Commissioner Miike looked into these statutes and case and found references to a municipal supply, but there was a distinction between drinking water versus industrial and commercial use and therefore, there are a lot of things that needs to be clarified.

Dr. Jonathan Scheuer stated that he agreed with Commissioner Miike that the meeting was well attended; that the community appreciated having the meeting held on Maui and thinks it would be a good idea to have the meeting held at a different time to capture a different audience.

NON-ACTION ITEM

NEXT COMMISSION MEETINGS (TENTATIVE)

- 1. December 15, 2004**
- 2. January 18, 2005**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:27 am.

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN STAHL
Secretary

Approved as submitted:

YVONNE Y. IZU
Deputy Director-Water